



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

STATEMENT BY MR. JAMAL SHARIFUDDIN JOHAN, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ON AGENDA ITEM 109: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, NEW YORK, 3 OCTOBER 2011

Mr. Chairman,

As this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor in the Committee, allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and members of your bureau, on your appointment. We pledge our support to you and the bureau in the ensuring the smooth running of the work of the Sixth Committee. My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and by Kazakhstan on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Conference (OIC). Malaysia records its appreciation to the Secretariat for the Report of the Secretary-General on "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" [A/66/96]. Malaysia would like to record its appreciation to the Chairman of the Working Group, Ambassador Rohan Perera, and the Coordinator, Ms. Maria Telalian, for their continued efforts to resolve the outstanding issues in the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism (CCIT).

Mr. Chairman,

2. It is now a decade since the world re-energised its efforts to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations after the attacks of September 11, 2001 against the United States of America (USA). However despite all the outreach and capacity building training proffered, despite countless prosecutions around the world and despite recourse to the use of armed force, the world is still confronted by this deadly scourge that targets and victimizes innocent civilians. Even the United Nations (UN) is now being deliberately targeted, as demonstrated by the most recent attacks in Nigeria on 26 August 2011 and Afghanistan on 1 April 2011.

3. The innovative measures of 2001 to target terrorist financing have also achieved qualified success. As demonstrated by the 2004 Madrid and 2005 London bombings, only minimal sums are required to cause disproportional harm to people and property. Further, the terrorist groups have also learned to leverage lower risk-higher margin sources of revenue through kidnapping and hostage-taking for ransom, which is now increasingly prevalent in several regions.

4. Thus Malaysia reiterates that terrorism cannot be effectively countered by use of force alone, even in combination with prosecutions under the criminal justice system. The root or underlying causes must be adequately addressed, be it poverty, disenfranchisement, foreign occupation or others.

5. As part of its counter-terrorism efforts, Malaysia has consistently emphasised the need for preventive and rehabilitation programmes. In this regard, Malaysia is currently collaborating with the United Nations with a view to producing a documentary film on Malaysia's programme on the

prevention of radicalisation. In its own small part, Malaysia hopes that the documentary film would highlight the effectiveness of the preventive and rehabilitation programme for Malaysia and that it could also be viewed as a model for other interested Member States to develop their own programmes.

Mr. Chairman,

6. With reference to Paragraph 10(a) of General Assembly resolution A/RES/49/60, Malaysia has reported on the legislative action taken to enable its adherence to 9 of the 16 international counter-terrorism conventions, protocols and the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373, 1452 as well as other related resolutions. Further legislative action is currently being undertaken to enable Malaysia to accede to the remaining international counter-terrorism conventions which it has yet to become party to.

7. With regard to the elaboration of the draft CCIT and with a view to concluding it as soon as possible on a consensual basis, Malaysia encourages all States to seriously consider and decide on a way forward, taking into consideration the various options on the table.

8. Malaysia reiterates its support for Egypt's proposal to convene a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations as an important forum to address the current and emerging challenges to global counter terrorism efforts. Further and to the extent that such a high-level political discourse may resolve the outstanding non-legal issues in the draft CCIT, it should not hinge on the conclusion of the CCIT.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Countering terrorism and addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism require a global collaborative effort. In this regard, Malaysia emphasises that UN should lead the way in counter-terrorism initiatives. New initiatives, whether at the UN or otherwise nevertheless should not burden Member States with multiple reporting mechanisms. Sustainable success in defeating terrorism can only be achieved if the conditions conducive to terrorism, including unresolved conflicts, are addressed. To this end, the overriding principle is and always should be that measures against terrorism should not violate the sanctity of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.