

Agenda item 110: Measures To Eliminate International Terrorism

October,

Mr Chairman,

Since my delegation is taking the floor for the first time, let me congratulate you on your assumption of the Chair of the 19th Committee

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Iran on behalf of the NAM

Despite all our efforts to eliminate this scourge, terrorism continues to devastate communities after communities around the world. We express our heartfelt sympathies for the Kenyan people following the senseless massacre of innocents in the Nairobi shopping Mall two weeks ago. We stand in solidarity with

Iraq and the senseless attacks in Pakistan are also grim reminders that we must rededicate ourselves to enhance all efforts for greater international cooperation to eradicate this menace

believe with any other delegations, that the efforts of the Coordinator's Package constitutes a viable option to reach consensus. We need to take use of the opportunity provided by this debate to generate the necessary momentum to bring this process to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Chairman,

Terror groups fund their activities through linkages to international organized crime. These linkages mean that terror groups and their front organizations profit from human and arms trafficking, money laundering, credit card fraud, and cyber crime. Sri Lanka faced a decade-long terror campaign conducted by a brutal terrorist group, the LTTE. One of the main reasons for the LTTE's early success was its well-developed extensive international network, with links to other terror groups and organized crime. Our conflict is now ended. But even in the post-conflict phase, LTTE-related networks in transit and destination countries still continue to be active in a range of criminal activities.

Sri Lanka reaffirms its commitment to the Global Counterterrorism Strategy that consolidates the activities of the Member States and presents a common strategic and operational framework to fight terrorism and protect the right to life. Sri Lanka is a party to multilateral conventions countering terrorism and the AARC instruments on mutual assistance on criminal matters. Sri Lanka is an active participant in the global efforts to counter the illegal movement of funds. We support the General Assembly's coordination of counterterrorism efforts and encourage setting work. We note that the Security Council has also addressed this issue through various discussions and resolutions and by establishing several subsidiary bodies. We would like to extend our appreciation for the Counterterrorism Committee Executive Directorate for organizing several regional workshops on countering terrorism and on strengthening criminal justice that benefit Police Officers, Prosecutors, and Judges in South Asia.

We continue to support the United Nations as the primary body to spearhead the global campaign against terror.

Thank You Mr. Chairman