



Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations
19 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017
www.ghanamissionun.org

Please check against delivery

ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP

TERRORISM” AT THE 76TH SESSION OF THE

United Nations HQ,
New York

Madam Chairperson

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group. At the outset, allow me to congratulate you and the members of the bureau on your election to steer the work of the Sixth Committee. You can count on the African Group's strong cooperation and support throughout the Session.

The African Group associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The African Group would like to express its gratitude to the Secretary-General for his report on "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" contained in document A/76/201.

Madam Chairperson,

There is no justification for terrorism. This is the reason the African Group strongly and unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism where3(r)(c)-ds(a)-8 0 1 72.0245.37

the concern regarding the rising phenomenon of the transfer of foreign terrorist fighters to and between conflict zones, a phenomenon which we are suffering from in Africa. Such updates were in our view very pertinent and timely.

The African Group values the sincere engagement of the Secretary

adopted the Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in 1999 which entered into force in 2002.

The continued effort and commitment of the African Continent is further manifested through the establishment of the African Center for Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) in Algiers to guide, promote, sensitize, prevent, protect and Strengthen the capacity building of relevant stakeholders through the provision of operational and technical advice and support, as well as the delivery of trainings and other forms of capacity building, to address issues relating to terrorism and implement their obligations under the global and continental regime.

Madam Chairperson,

While expressing concern about the increased incidences of kidnappings and hostage-takings, the African Group considers that the financing of terrorism is a matter of grave concern as the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups constitutes one of the main sources of terrorism financing. In this regard, the African Group urges Member States to cooperate in addressing the issue of the payment of ransoms claimed by terrorist groups.

Moreover, the African Group calls upon Member States to prevent refugee status

Madam Chairperson,

The 7th GCTS review resolution clearly recognized the necessity of enhancing the capacities of Member States and their respective institutions, including law enforcement institutions, in countering terrorism in order to end the vacuum that is often misused by terrorist organizations. Fighting the scourge of terrorism requires national ownership as well as enhanced capacities, systemic coordination among Member States with substantial support from the international community. Measures to eliminate international terrorism must include building relevant, high-impact capacity to address this evolving threat.

The African group welcomes the establishment in Rabat, Morocco, of the UNOCT Program Office for Counter Terrorism and Training in Africa, which will make an important contribution in counter terrorism through capacity-building support to Member States of the region. It will serve as a training hub to build counter-terrorism capacities and cooperation in Africa, particularly in West Africa and the Sahel. This training hub will develop and deliver specialized counter-terrorism and law enforcement training programmes to requesting Member States in Africa.

We also welcome the establishment of the regional programme office of the Office of Counter-Terrorism in Nairobi, Kenya, to prevent and counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism in East Africa.

The African Group also welcomes the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Cooperation (SADC) to establish the Regional Counter-Terrorism Centre in Tanzania. It is expected that upon its establishment, it will seek to collaborate with the Rabat Programme Office

