



PAKISTAN

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STATEMENT BY

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**ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (OIC)**

ON

**AGENDA ITEM 108:
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM**

New York, 10 October 2007

OIC Group Statement on
Agenda Item 108: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism
(62nd UNGA, 10 October 2007)

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the members of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) on agenda item 108: "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

2. At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the Sixth Committee. I would also like to convey our felicitations to other members of the Bureau of the Sixth Committee on their election. We are confident that your outstanding capabilities will ensure the successful conclusion of the work of the Sixth Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

3. The OIC Group strongly condemns all acts and practices of terrorism and remains convinced that terrorism, irrespective of its motivation, objectives, forms and manifestations, committed by whomsoever and wherever, can never be justified.

4. I wish to draw the Committee's attention to resolution on Terrorism adopted by the 34th ICFM as well as the Joint Communiqué of the OIC – Annual Coordination Meeting held in New York on 2 October, 2007.

5. We are also convinced that terrorism must not be associated with any religion, race, faith, theology, values, culture, society or group. There is no religion or accepted religious doctrine which could be falsely portrayed as encouraging or inspiring acts of terrorism. Recent instances where other cultures and religions are maligned, including Islam, serve to reinforce political divisions. In this globalized world, we need more than ever, understanding, harmony and building of bridges among all cultures and people. This can be done through initiatives such as the Dialogue among Civilizations, the Alliance of Civilizations, Interfaith Dialogue and Enlightened Moderation.

Mr. Chairman,

6. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen mutual cooperation in the fight against terrorism. Only through a coordinated approach the international community's fight against terrorism will yield effective results. Full implementation of all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy can facilitate international cooperation. There is a need to elaborate timelines for the realization of the objectives set forth in the strategy. We attach pivotal importance to the full implementation of the strategy as well as to its review by the General Assembly. The strategy addresses the root causes of terrorism, which include foreign occupation, festering international

disputes, denial of people's right to self-determination, political and economic injustices, and political marginalization and alienation. The OIC looks forward to the Committee's deliberations in December on the Strategy. We wish to ensure that the strategy remains a "live" document and can be adjusted to respond both challenges and opportunities.

Mr. Chairman,

7. The OIC Group reiterates the call to hold a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to conclude an agreed definition of terrorism.

8. We also reiterate our full support to the decision of the International Conference on Combating Terrorism held in Riyadh on 5-8 February 2005 to establish an International Counter-Terrorism Center under the aegis of the United Nations which once established, will strengthen international cooperation and coordination in this sphere. The Group also reiterates its support to the efforts to develop an International Counter-terrorism Code of Conduct within the framework of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

9. The General Assembly remains seized to the pending issue of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT). The OIC Group reaffirms its commitment to the process of negotiations and underscores the need for progress in this process. We reiterate our previous proposal on the scope of the draft Convention. We also reaffirm our determination to make every effort to reach an agreement on and conclude the draft convention, including by resolving the outstanding issues related to the legal definition of terrorism, particularly on the distinction between terrorism and people's struggle for self-determination and against foreign occupation, and on the scope of the acts covered by the draft Convention.

10. We express our appreciation to the work done by the Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly through its resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996. The OIC Group also appreciates the efforts of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee to elaborate the draft convention.

Mr. Chairman,

11. Once again let me express our full support and cooperation for your work and for the success of the Committee's efforts during this Session.

I thank you.