

**Statement by Pakistan**  
**Ambassador Masood Khan, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN**  
on  
Agenda Item 107 "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism"  
in the Sixth Committee during 69th Session of the General Assembly

**New York, 7 October 2014**

*Mr. Chairman,*

I congratulate you on assuming the chairmanship of this Committee. We are confident that under your leadership this Committee will successfully accomplish tasks assigned to it. I also congratulate other members of the Bureau - Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iran and Italy.

Pakistan aligns itself with the statements of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

*Mr. Chairman,*

Pakistan denounces terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and condemns killings by terrorists anywhere in the world, committed for whatever purpose.

Nothing - no ideology, no religion, no creed, no cause - can justify or sanction the dastardly acts and heinous crimes committed under the banner of terrorism. Terrorists give a twisted interpretation to religions and ideologies to advance their nefarious agenda. But they have no ground to stand on.

Terrorists are criminals, plain and simple. Their crimes must be countered and deterred.

*Mr. Chairman,*

What is most worrying is that terrorism has become more sinister, more lethal, and more complex, as it sits on multiple and sensitive political, sectarian and ethnic fault lines, threatening to unravel delicate civilizational balance.

The United Nations is

yet, *Mr. Chairman,* the monster of

We know by now that terrorism would be fixed definitively only by pursuing a comprehensive approach and consistent implementation of agreed measures.

Pakistan has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to counter terrorism. The Government last year initiated a dialogue process to give terrorists a chance to lay down their arms

communities that act as incitement to hatred. A dialogue among civilizations is an absolute imperative to prevent divergences in attitudes and thoughts from becoming fodder for the terrorist ideologies.

At the same time, urgent and focused attention is required to address festering disputes and unresolved conflicts, unlawful use of force, aggression, foreign occupation and denial of the right of self-determination. The political and economic injustices create polarization and fuel animosities.

We must also ensure that the measures we take to counter terrorism remain within the framework of international law. It is important to maintain a distinction between the just and unjust causes; because injustice breeds hostility and violent reactions.

*Mr. Chairman,*

Pakistan fully supports the OIC position on a consensus-based Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT). The proposed Convention must be consistent with the International Humanitarian Law and it should clearly differentiate between acts of terrorism and the legitimate struggles for self-determination of people living under foreign occupation.

*Mr. Chairman,*

Pakistan remains committed to fully implementing the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to counter-terrorism, including the recently adopted Security Council resolution on 'Foreign Terrorist Fighters'.

The UN Centre of Counter Terrorism has made considerable progress in a short period. We assure it of our full cooperation. Pakistan also supports the laudable efforts being made by the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF).

Finally, Pakistan has demanded cessation of drone strikes in our border areas. These strikes violate our sovereignty and the established principles of international human rights and humanitarian law. The drone strikes are counter-productive for the efforts aimed at countering violent extremism. Moreover, the Government of Pakistan is already taking decisive action against terrorists in those areas.

*I thank you, Mr. Chairman.*