STATEMENT
BY
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PERMANENT MISSION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Mr Chairman

Thank you for affording South Africa the floor again, now, to say something in our national capacity. Let me start by associating this delegation's statement with the statement delivered yesterday by this
delegation speaking on behalf of the African Group and the statement
delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of
Iran speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr Chairman

My detegation wishes, once again, to place on record its abhorrence of
all forms of terrorism. Acts of terrorism constitute fundamental violations ake Tm 0 13.

which acts are to be excluded from a definition of terrorism and which acts are to be included.

Mr Chairman

During the Ad Hoe Committee meeting in April 2013, South Africa expressed concern at the seeming inability to make progress and suggested that after fourteen years the time has come to make a decision and that, from our perspective, there are three possible options. The first and preferable option was that we agree to adopt the Convention on the basis of the -2007 text. The second option was that, in order to preserve whatever progress has been made, we package a consolidated text including all proposals and recommend a "pause" in the process to the General Assembly. The final option was that we simply concede that there is no consensus and we abandon efforts to elaborate a Convention. The meeting opted for the second option which is a "pause". We hope that member states would have used the aforementioned "pause" to reflect on negotiations with a view to trying to reach consensus.

Mr Chairman

Allow me to reiterate the reason for our position. Continuous annual meetings without any substantive discussion or movement can no longer be justified. We are of the view that we cannot continue meeting in these various fora, at great expense, if there is no political will to adopt a Comprehensive Convention on Counter-terrorism. If delegations are not able to reach consensus despite what is currently happening, then difficult choices have to be made. We have reached the point where a decision, one way or the other, must be made. We either adopt a Convention or call it a day.

I thank you for your attention.