



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SIERRA LEONE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

336 East 45th Street, New York NY 10017

BY

AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

1. The delegation of Sierra Leone congratulates you on your election as Chair of the Sixth Committee for this session. We equally congratulate you and your Bureau for the excellent job you are doing. We have no doubt that your extensive diplomatic experience will lead to a successful and profitable conclusion of our work during this session. I assure you of my delegation's fullest cooperation.
2. My delegation respectively associates this statement with the statements delivered earlier by the distinguished representatives of Nigeria on behalf of the African Group, the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.
3. We also thank the Secretary-General for his report contained in document . We have duly taken note of the content thereof.
4. We continue to emphasize our unequivocal condemnation of terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations wherever and by whomsoever committed.

7. In this regard, there was NO justification, and there CANNOT be any justification for the acts of terrorism and shocking violence that emanated from the unlawful demonstration that took place in Sierra Leone on the 10th of August 2022. We therefore, call for continued international cooperation to ensure accountability for the loss of the lives of several civilians and officers of the Sierra Leone Police, as well as the destruction of public and private properties. There is absolute need for international cooperation to address the problem of misuse of the internet and social media to incite acts of terrorism and dissemination of extremism and hate speech.
8. Sierra Leone expresses appreciation for the progress achieved during the 7th Review of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which tackled, amongst others, issues relating to the exacerbation of extremist narratives and hate speech, new and emerging threats such as the misuse of technology for terrorist purposes, the misuse of internet, including social media platforms for recruitment, as well as the importance of upholding Human Rights in the fight against terrorism.
9. As Sierra Leone looks forward to the 8th Review of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy to be held in 2023, we agree with the expressed view of the African Group that we must build on the progress achieved during the 7th Review.
10. In the bid to address critical aspects in the fight against terrorism, we have enacted the Cybersecurity and Crime Act 2021, which criminalizes both cyber terrorisms, i.e., accessing or cause to access a computer or computer system or network for purposes of terrorist acts, and racist and xenophobic offences. The use of "racist or xenophobic material" meaning, "any written or printed material, any image or any other representation of ideas or theories, which advocate, promote or incite hatred, discrimination or violence against any individual or group of individuals, based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, as well as religion if used as a pretext for any of these factors" are also criminal offences under the Cybersecurity and Crime Act 2021.
11. In addition to the recognition and protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms of the individuals as enshrined in Chapter III of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, the Cyber Security and Cyber Crime Act 2021 provides specific individual

