



CHAIR OF
THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF
THE
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



Statement by H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Malmierca Díaz, Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, during the consideration in the Sixth Committee of agenda item 99: "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

New York, 8 October 2008.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 118 Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms that terrorism constitute a flagrant violation of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, in particular the right to life, leading to the lack of the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedom of peoples. Such acts endanger the territorial integrity and stability of States as well as national, regional and international security, destabilise legitimately constituted governments or the prevailing constitutional order and political unity of States, affect the stability of nations and the very basis of societies, create adverse consequences on the economic and social development and cause the destruction of the physical and economic infrastructure of States.

The Non-Aligned Movement unequivocally condemns, as criminal, and reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever, by whomever, against whomsoever committed, including those in which States are directly or indirectly involved, which are unjustifiable whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them, and in this context, NAM members reaffirm their support for the provisions contained in General Assembly resolution 46/51 of 27 January 1992 and other relevant UN resolutions.

Terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilisation or ethnic group, and these attributions should not be used to justify terrorism or counter-terrorism measures that include, *inter alia*, profiling of terrorists and intrusion on individual privacy.

Terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation. The brutalisation of people remaining under foreign occupation should continue to be denounced as the gravest form of terrorism, and the use of State power for the suppression and violence against peoples struggling against foreign occupation in exercising their inalienable right to self-determination should continue to be condemned.

Mr. Chairman,

Conscious of the need to take speedy and effective measures to eliminate international terrorism, the Movement urges all States, consistent with the UN Charter, to fulfil their obligations under international law and international humanitarian law combating terrorism, including by prosecuting or, where appropriate, extraditing the perpetrators of terrorist acts; by preventing the organisation, instigation or financing of terrorist acts against other States from within or outside their territories or by organisations based in their territories; by refraining from organising, instigating, assisting, financing or participating in terrorist acts in the territories of other States; by refraining from encouraging activities within their territories directed towards the commission of such acts; by refraining from allowing the use of their territories for planning, training or financing for such acts; or by refraining from supplying arms or other weapons that could be used for terrorist acts in other States.

NAM calls Member States to condemn any form of, and refrain from extending, political, diplomatic, moral or material support for terrorism, and urges all States, consistent with the UN Charter and in fulfilling their obligations under international law, to ensure that refugee status or any other legal status is not abused by the perpetrators, organisers or facilitators of terrorist acts and that claims of political motivation by them are not recognised as grounds for refusing requests for their extradition.

The Non-Aligned Movement also encourages all States, which have not yet done so, to consider ratifying or acceding to the thirteen international and UN conventions and the three protocols relating to combating terrorism. We also call Member States to observe and implement the provisions of all international conventions as well as regional and bilateral instruments relating to terrorism to which their countries are party, taking into account the recommendations of the Final Document of the UN Conference on the Prevention of Crime and Criminal Justice held in Cairo, Egypt in 1995.

The Movement also calls upon all states to respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and to reaffirm their commitment in this respect to prevent human rights violations in consistency with the rule of law and their obligation under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, and in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

NAM reiterates its call for an International Summit Conference under the auspices of the UN to formulate a joint organised response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations including identifying its root causes.

We further reiterate the importance of the conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention for Combating International Terrorism, noting the negotiations in the Ad Hoc Committee on Terrorism established by General Assembly Resolution 51/210, for elaboration of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism and the continuing efforts to that end, and we call upon all States to cooperate in resolving the outstanding issues.

The Movement reaffirms the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy as well as the Member States' primary responsibility to implement it and welcomes the Strategy's review. In this connection, the Movement praises the efforts made by the Permanent Representative of Guatemala, Ambassador Gert Rosenthal, in his capacity as Facilitator of the informal consultations for the negotiations of the resolution on the review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

NAM supports the initiative to elaborate by consensus an International Code of Conduct within the framework of the UN aimed at reinforcing co-ordination and multilateral efforts for the prevention of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed, in conformity with international law and the UN Charter, pending the conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

The Non-Aligned Movement rejects actions and measures, the use or threat of use of force in particular by armed forces, imposed or threatened to be imposed by any State against any Non-Aligned Country under the pretext of combating terrorism or to pursue its political aims, including by directly or indirectly categorising them as terrorism sponsoring States. We call upon the Security Council sanction committees to streamline their listing and delisting procedures to address the concerns of due process and transparency.

NAM reaffirms its support to the proposal of establishing the International Centre to combat terrorism adopted by the International Conference to combat terrorism held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in February 2005.

Thank you.