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**PRONUNCIADA POR EL EMBAJADOR
REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE ESPAÑA
EXCMO. SR. D. JUAN ANTONIO YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO**

**COMITÉ ESPECIAL ESTABLECIDO POR RESOLUCIÓN DE LA ASAMBLEA
GENERAL 51/210, DE 17 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1996
(MEDIDAS PARA ELIMINAR EL TERRORISMO INTERNACIONAL)**

**Naciones Unidas
Nueva York**

12 de abril 2010

- Cotejar con versión definitiva -

STATEMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

**BY THE AMBASSADOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SPAIN
HE MR. JUAN ANTONIO YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO**

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION
51/210 OF 17 DECEMBER 1996
(MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM)**

**United Nations
New York**

12 april 2010

- Check against delivery -

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia align themselves with this statement.

Let me first warmly welcome you, Mr. Chairman, and the other members of the Bureau. We are confident that you will guide the discussions of the Ad Hoc Committee, so relevant to the importance of its work, in a very competent and efficient manner.

We would also like to thank the facilitator, Maria Telalian, for her tireless efforts over the past years in organizing consultations among delegations towards reaching a consensus on the outstanding issues of negotiation.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism is one of the most serious concerns that the international community currently faces and constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, as well as to the development and functioning of democratic institutions. The EU categorically condemns all terrorist acts as criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. The international community needs to unequivocally state that there can be no justification for terrorism in any form.

The EU stresses that the fight against terrorism should be in compliance with international law, in particular, international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law and that all measures against terrorism should respect the rule of law.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism has developed into a global threat that will only be defeated by a collective response from the international community. The EU believes that we need to intensify efforts to reach a final agreement on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism or, at the very least, bring positions, which currently remain opposed, closer, with a view to reaching the agreement we are seeking. That is why we must resume genuine negotiations as soon as possible and address the core of the outstanding issues.

The EU firmly believes that the UN Conventions and protocols against terrorism, and their implementation and application, play a fundamental role in the fight against terrorism. The EU calls on all States to consider becoming parties without delay to the existing international conventions and protocols against terrorism. We highly commend the importance assistance provided by UNODC and its Terrorism Prevention Branch in this regard. The conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention would be an important addition to the activities of the UN aimed at combating terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

The EU has sided with active multilateralism as a means to counter terrorism and believes that the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy constitutes a valuable instrument against the global threat of terrorism. We congratulate the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force for its most valuable work and welcome the wide spread support for the Task Force and its institutionalization which led to the adoption by consensus of GA resolution 64/235 at the end of last year.

In the same spirit, we need to take a step forward to adopt the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in order to facilitate legal cooperation on a global level and we remain firmly committed to achieving consensus on this subject in the UN.

As to the issue of convening a high-level UN conference on counter-terrorism, our position remains unchanged. This issue should be tabled following the agreement on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.