





In this regard, CARICOM urges acceleration of the protracted negotiations on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

The inability of the global community to agree on a definition of terrorism represents a major obstacle in the overall process. It is CARICOM's view that a universally accepted legal definition of terrorism is crucial for ending impunity for the perpetrators of these heinous crimes and is also critical for improving the response of the international community to these disruptive and criminal acts.

CARICOM joins others in calling for the convening of a high level conference on international terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations in order to harness the political will that is necessary to bring the negotiations on the Convention to a successful conclusion.

We recognize that through the United Nations and other global, regional and sub-regional organizations, the international community has mobilized a significant amount of resources and efforts toward the eradication of terrorism. This has included numerous thematic conventions and resolutions on the issue.

Nevertheless, prevailing evidence clearly demonstrates that these efforts remain inadequate.

Consequently, CARICOM calls for a greater level of coordination among all of the relevant agencies in the fight against this clear and present threat.

In this context, CARICOM reiterates its firm support for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy which was adopted under General Assembly Resolution 60/288 and welcomes additional assistance in implementing the four pillars of the Strategy from the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. As developing countries, CARICOM Member States view such support as an integral part of our efforts to implement the Strategy and participate meaningfully in the global fight against terrorism.

We salute the efforts of UN entities involved in capacity building on combating terrorism in our region. Through their efforts we are better able to fulfill our international obligations on this important issue.

CARICOM is of the view that any action taken in the fight against terrorism must be governed by respect for the rule of law and due observance of the principles of International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. As responsible members of the international community it is clear to us that any attempt to act outside of these principles could distort the distinction between measures taken to eradicate terrorism and those taken to promote it.

