

**Statement by
Delegation of Sri Lanka
Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations
Before the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly 73rd Session
Agenda Item 111: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism
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Mr. Chairperson

Let me begin on behalf of my delegation, by warmly congratulating you and the bureau on your election. Be assured Mr. Chairperson, of Sri Lanka's full

In this regard it is important that media - especially with the rise in social media tools - helps disseminate the values that will foster a culture of peace and a forum for dialogue and understanding rather than a platform for hate and bigotry. We must actively seek to prevent the abuse of social media to promote the culture of racism, hate and intolerance.

As a country that suffered under the yoke of terrorism for nearly thirty years, we condemn unequivocally and in the strongest possible terms, terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. All acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, and wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. All such attacks are an attack on *all of us*, and it is indeed time for *all of us* to show solidarity and unity of purpose in combating this scourge.

Int

Sri Lanka reaffirms its commitment to the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, which serves as a rallying call to action, and presents a common strategic and operational framework to fight terrorism and protect the right to life.

Today we encounter many challenges as a result of the changing face of terrorism and violent extremism, not least of all due to the rapid advancement of technology, porous borders and large movements of humanity due to violence. Therefore, we have also to look at new and innovative ways to counter this growing threat.

Terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism is not exclusive to any one country or region, but spreads across national borders. This rising transnational phenomenon challenges existing borders, and threatens the very fabric of the principle of sovereign states upon which the international legal order is based.

We continue to be deeply concerned over the acute and growing threat of foreign terrorism.

the United Nations System that deal with Children, Minorities, Women and Girls.

While we must make every effort to prevent refugee and asylum status from being abused for purposes of perpetrating terror. We should not fail to protect the poor, weak and marginalized among us. We must at all times in this collective fight against terror, continue to fulfill our obligations under the UN charter, international law, international human rights law, and humanitarian law.

As noble as these objectives are, we must also avoid lapsing into bureaucratic and cyclical practices. States must demonstrate a requisite political will and commitment to close ranks, and make a determined and singular effort to overcome this challenge.

Sri Lanka is party to 13 Counter-Terrorism Conventions, and to the SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism. We remain an active participant in global efforts to counter the illegal movement of funds for

It is pertinent at this time to recall that the conclusion of a CCIT was one of the key components of the 2006 Plan of Action to combat Terrorism.

