Sixth Committee

Agenda Item: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

Speech of Sudan

October 5

SUDAN: ... this opportunity to express our congratulations to you for your election as a chairperson of this Committee and to other members of the Bureau. And we are confident that your experiences and ... skills will undoubtedly contribute enormously to the success and the completion of the work of the Committee.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished representative of Iran on behalf of NAM and by the distinguished representative of Syria on behalf of OIC and by the distinguished representative of Ghana on behalf of the African Group.

Madame Chair, my country unequivocally condemns all acts associated with terrorism including state-sponsored terrorism, methods and practices used to execute all form of terrorism regardless of nature of person or entity committing it. We therefore stand ready to support all international efforts and endeavors to fight, combat and eliminate terrorism.

Madame Chair, the heinous acts of terrorism violate all norms and internationally accepted code of ethics that governs the civilized world. Sudan so far signed 12 international treaties and protocols relating to combat of terrorism. Equally, my country is also studying all procedures and technicalities required in signing agreements concerning the elimination of nuclear terrorism.

In our continued efforts to fight and combat terrorism, both internationally and regionally, my country played a very crucial role in the region by hosting in September 2005 the Second African Regional Counterterrorism Conference which resulted in the declaration by which the regional countries committed themselves in combating terrorism.

Madame Chair, we call for a serious and constructive international dialogue among different civilizations, cultures and religions. This dialogue is of crucial importance given the contemporary increase in trends which we observe with deep concern that target some religious beliefs.

Madame Chair, terrorism cannot be effectively combated or eliminated without concise and precise legal definition. Although a lot of water has passed under the bridge and many years with it, my delegation feels that there is an urgent need and responsibility upon the international community to come to a consensus as to the legal definition of terrorism with an overall objective of making the global fights against terrorism effective and efficient.

Madame Chair, we believe that fighting terrorism must first begin by addressing its root causes *inter alia* such as religious xenophobia, political injustice, injustices and poverty. People's right to self-determination against foreign occupation should not be associated to the ugliness of terrorism as this basic and cardinal principle is well enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

Madame Chair, in the noble fight against terrorism principles of international law should be observed and adhered to. They should be no compromise in upholding the various international law conventions and instruments such as universal declarations of human rights, anti-torture conventions, international humanitarian law and international law of refugees to mention but a few. We support the initiative by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin-Abd al-Aziz, which call for the establishment of an international center under the auspices of the United Nations to combat terrorism. My delegation considers this initiative as constructive, strategic and deserves the full support of the international community as it will undoubtedly contribute to the effectiveness of fighting and combating terrorism.

Madame Chair, the fight against terrorism is not an easy fight nor is it an event, but rather a long process that requires collective and active efforts and coordination by all members of the international community. In this regard, the regional instruments and mechanisms are needed to complement international legal instruments for effective cooperation among member states in the fight against terrorism.

Madame Chair, in conclusion, Sudan is ready to support all international initiatives that aim to achieve comprehensive international agreements in combating the menace of terrorism. I thank you.