Sixth Committee

Agenda Item: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

Speech of Bahrain

October 6

BAHRAIN: In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate, Madame Chair, allow me from the outset to thank you and to congratulate you upon assuming the chairmanship of this Committee and, in turn, to congratulate the other members of the Bureau. We believe that given your wisdom and your experience our work will be crowned with success. I would also like to thank the outgoing chairman of the work of this Committee and Bahrain would like to support the statement made by Syria on behalf of the OIC, as well as by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Madame Chair, terrorism is a scourge that recognizes neither religion nor nationality. We fervently condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations by whomsoever committed for whichever reasons. As a result, Bahrain has further strengthened its cooperation with the international community in order to combat terrorism in all its forms.

Working closely together with the member states of the United Nations through dialogue and tolerance in order to combat extremism and to build bridges in order to attain a culture based on peace. According to paragraph 69 of the Report of the Secretary General contained in 62/898, which contains the United Nations Global Counterterrorism Strategy, which reflects the United Nations' activities for the implementation of the counterterrorism strategy, which is based on four pillars. Namely, measures that can suppress and prevent the spread of terrorism and further strengthen capacity in order to prevent and suppress terrorism. Further clarifying the role played by the United Nations in this regard as well as the measures that have been taken that are in compliance with the rule of law, human rights, and these are the fundamental linchpins of our struggle against terrorism.

Here we reiterate that the responsibility for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counterterrorism strategy rests chiefly with the member states of the United Nations while placing emphasis on the significant role that this organization plays, working together with other regional and subregional organizations, in order to coordinate for the implementation of the strategy at the national, regional, international levels. Through the provision of technical assistance and strengthening capacity among countries that are in need, Bahrain is party to the thirteen international conventions against terrorism, as well as to the OIC convention against international terrorism. We shall further sustain our efforts and enhance our cooperation with the other states of the Gulf Cooperation Council in order to combat terrorism through the convention signed in May 2004 and also working together with other Arab countries in the context of the Arab Convention to Combat Terrorism of 1998.

My country urges countries that are not yet party to the international conventions on treaties to exceed to these instruments to ensure that all countries of the United Nations can combat the scourge together, the scourge that affects the international community.

We have a clear definition of terrorism in order to be able to then adopt a comprehensive convention on this subject matter and in order to be able to identify the profound causes underpinning the spread of this phenomenon, as well as the need to distinguish between the fight against occupation and terrorism.

Bahrain supports the strategy that was adopted in September 2008, through Resolution 262-612 of the United Nations General Assembly, emphasizing rule of law, respect for human rights, capacity building among member states in order to implement the counterterrorism strategy. Furthermore we reiterate the extreme importance that we attach to the implementation of the strategy which will enable member states to extend their cooperation in this field. Bahrain hopes that member states will abide by the necessary arrangements in order to ensure that the Counterterrorism Implementation Task Force is able to coordinate its actions in light of Resolution 272/62 of the General Assembly.

We support the proposal made by Saudi Arabia with regard to the establishment of an international center to combat terrorism, as well as the convening of a conference on the subject.

Finally, Bahrain reiterates the importance of our continued struggle to tackle this hideous scourge and to eliminate it. There is no country that is spared from the scourge of terrorism. We all face a shared fate and therefore must work together in order to put an end to the scourge. Thank you very much.