



Azerbaijan

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 560, New York, N.Y. 10017 Tel.: (212) 371-2559 Fax: (212) 371-2784

(Check against delivery)

**60TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTH COMMITTEE**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR YASHAR ALIYEV
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AGENDA ITEM 108:

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

NEW YORK, 10 OCTOBER 2005

Mr. Chairman,

First of all, let me congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on their election and express confidence that under your able leadership the current session of the Committee will successfully cope with its tasks.

Mr. Chairman,

Unfortunately, acts of terrorism continue to increase in numbers in different regions of the world. More than a week ago a grim tragedy befell Indonesia when terrorists struck again in Bali taking lives of the innocent and installing fear in others. My delegation joins the previous speakers in expressing its condolences to the Government and people of Indonesia and mourns over those who perished in these dramatic events.

Azerbaijan reiterates its strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorism is a transnational threat endangering security, sovereignty and territorial integrity, undermining the very foundation of democracy and development and infringing on a fundamental right to conduct normal, peaceful life. Measures to eradicate terrorism should, first of all, address its root causes. Failures in the resolution of conflicts, poor state-building, poverty and lack of human rights are among the main conducive factors of radicalization of masses that resort to indiscriminate violence. In addition, the fight against terrorism could only be successful if its breeding grounds such as extremism, aggressive separatism, organized crime, drug trafficking, money laundering, proliferation of small arms and weapons of mass destruction are adequately tackled and eliminated.

Mr. Chairman,

Regrettably, only after 9/11 has it been recognized that contemporary terrorism requires a coordinated and comprehensive response by the international community. The High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the General Assembly and the adopted 2005 World Summit Outcome have stressed the need to make every effort to reach an agreement on and conclude a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism during the 60th session. A staunch political will and determination should lead the work of the General Assembly, and especially its Sixth Committee to reach this common goal. My delegation believes that only a consensus-based text will guarantee the overall support to this new significant international instrument aimed at filling in the existing gaps in the legal regime to suppress terrorist activity and further strengthening of the legal framework. In this context, the Nuclear Terrorism Convention which has been already signed by 89 Member States, including my country is exemplary.

An adequate legal basis for combating terrorism effectively has been established. However, the more important now is how these adopted and enacted international instruments are implemented and which mechanisms of cooperation are put in place. Azerbaijan welcomes the contribution of the Security Council to the counter-terrorism efforts, including provision of guidance and technical assistance to

Member States as well as facilitation of collaboration between international, regional and sub-regional organizations.

I would also like to refer to the proposal made by King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia to establish an international center for counter-terrorism and reiterate our support and confidence that, once launched, this center would intensely bolster coordination and cooperation on global and regional levels.

Azerbaijan also extends its support to the proposal by Egypt to convene a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the view to formulating an organized international response to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as well as the most recent proposal to convene a special session of the General Assembly to develop and agree upon an action plan for cooperation against terrorism.

My delegation is of the view that no matter how emotionally overwhelming perpetrated terrorist acts are, the response measures, be it international or national, should be strictly based on the rule of law. In this respect, Azerbaijan supports the Tunisian initiative to elaborate an international counter-terrorism code of conduct.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me now dwell on Azerbaijan's contribution to the international struggle against terrorism. Thus, Azerbaijan has acceded to all sectoral universal conventions and protocols as well as a number of European conventions on counter-terrorism and undertaken certain measures to bring domestic legislation in line with them. Azerbaijan also reinforces regional cooperation in the framework of bilateral and trilateral agreements on combating terrorism and other illegal activities.

On a practical level, Azerbaijan is contributing its peacekeeping contingents to provide security and stability in the hot spots around the world.

Azerbaijan attaches significant importance to the security of energy and transport corridors crossing the region from transnational threats, including terrorism. In this regard, my country is actively involved in strengthening regional cooperation within GUAM, in particular as regards creation of an effective mechanism of counter-terrorism cooperation and coordination through the establishment of the GUAM Virtual Center for combating terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking and other dangerous types of crimes and GUAM Interstate Information Management System.

My country is also actively involved in various counter-terrorism activities within other organizations, *inter alia* NATO/Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC)/Partnership for Peace (PfP), OSCE, Council of Europe, OIC, and Southern Eastern Cooperative Initiative (SECI).

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to pledge our full support and cooperation in our common endeavor to finalize the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at this session.

I thank you.