

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HARDEEP SINGH PURI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AND CHAIRMAN, COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE, ON BRIEFINGS BY CHAIRMAN OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 14, 2011

Mr. President,

Now, I would like to make a brief statement in my national capacity.

It is important that the 1267/1989 Committee, 1373 Committee, and the 1540 Committee of the Security Council must continue to explore ways and means to enhance their synergies in the fight against terrorism.

International cooperation and concerted action against terrorists and their sponsors, including the complete dismantling of terrorist safe havens, sanctuaries, training grounds and financial and ideological support structures are the critical imperatives to defeat this scourge.

The outcome document adopted by the Counter-terrorism Committee at its Special Meeting on September 28, 2011 is a major milestone in providing strategic direction to the work of the Committee aimed at strengthening capacity of States in their counter-terrorism efforts. The outcome document introduced a new 'zero tolerance' paradigm in the international community's fight against terrorism and would be helpful in raising the benchmark in the fight against terrorism to a higher level.

Speaking at the General Debate of the 66th UN General Assembly, our Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh said, "the fight against terrorism must be unrelenting and fought across all fronts with no selective approaches in dealing with terrorist groups or the infrastructure of terrorism"

Indeed, our entire region, South Asia, has been wracked by the activities of the biggest terrorist organizations and entities in the world, be they Al-Qaida, elements of Taliban or Lashkar-e-Taiba and others.

It is our expectation that the splitting of the 1267 sanctions regime in June this year would enable the Afghan Government to have a greater say in confronting the challenges emanating from those constituting a threat to the peace, security and stability of Afghanistan.

We are concerned that the 1267 Sanctions Committee in its functioning continues to be subjected to political pulls and pressure. This is a scenario that we can ill-afford in our fight against terrorism.

The newly created 1989 Committee is in process of formulating its guidelines. We hope that this would address the deficiencies in existing guidelines of the 1267/1989 Committees.

It is critical that all sanctions regimes established by the Security Council must ensure due process in their working procedures and decision-making. The decision-making process should be swift, fair and transparent. The process of listings as well as de-listings needs to be guided by the same set of principles –fairness, credibility and transparency.

The 1267/1989 Committee must continue to focus on the linkages between Al-Qaida and Taliban, which pose a serious threat to international peace and security. The Monitoring Team of the 1267 Committee needs to comprehensively examine the linkages between Al-Qaida and Taliban in an objective manner and submit its report and recommendations periodically as mandated by Security Council resolutions 1988 and 1989.

Mr. President,

India supports international efforts to prevent non-state actors and terrorists from acquiring WMDs and their means of delivery.

We are conscious of the dangers that the transfers of such WMDs to non state actors could entail. Given the evolving complex challenges emanating from non-state actors to international peace and security, such risks are more than ever before.

The international community must join hands to eliminate the risks relating to sensitive materials and technologies falling into the hands of terrorists and non-state actors. The international response to the threat needs to be national as well as multilateral and global. We support the work of the 1540 Committee in accordance with its mandate.

Thank you

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