



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE

**STATEMENT BY MR. STEFAN BARRIGA, MINISTER, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**AGENDA ITEM 109: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

Mr. Chairman

Liechtenstein strongly condemns all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We also reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the fullest extent to the international fight against terrorism in all its aspects, including through cooperation with the relevant UN bodies. Liechtenstein has ratified all 13 universal counter-terrorism treaties and the amendments thereto. We will continue our dialogue with the Security Council's Counter-terrorism Committee, to which we will submit our seventh report later this year.

Mr. Chairman

During the last decade, and triggered by the horrific terrorist attacks of 9/11, the international community has made great strides in improving its cooperation in combating terrorism. The Security Council's Counter-terrorism Committee has played a central role in these efforts, as did the 1267 Sanctions Committee and the 1540 Committee. The General Assembly made its mark with the adoption and subsequent periodic review of the United Nations Counter-terrorism Strategy. The Secretariat's Counter-terrorism Implementation Task Force, in turn, provides valuable support in coordinating United Nations activities.

My delegation is of the view that it is time for the Sixth Committee to assess and if necessary reconsider its place in the ever expanding United Nations response to international terrorism. This Committee has in the past made important contributions, in particular by drafting numerous international conventions in the field of counter-terrorism. Particular mention should be made of the 1997 Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, the 1999 Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Financing, and the 2005 Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. What further value added can we provide?

The most obvious answer to that question is of course to finalize the negotiations on the draft comprehensive convention. We commend the efforts of our Coordinator, Mrs. Maria Telalian (Greece), during earlier sessions of the Sixth Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee. In our assessment, the overwhelming majority of delegations would be in a position to support her compromise proposal. The legal issues surrounding this proposal have been clarified time and again. Nevertheless, the Sixth Committee has for several years now not been able to generate the necessary political will to strike a deal. Why should it be different this time around?

Mr. Chairman

As already alluded to in our statement last year, it is time for the Sixth Committee to adapt its consideration of the agenda item "Measures to eliminate international terrorism". In concrete terms, we suggest the following:

- 1.) Should the Sixth Committee – once again – not make any tangible progress on the draft comprehensive convention, no Ad Hoc Committee should be convened in spring next year. It would serve no purpose.
- 2.) The Sixth Committee should consider this agenda item on a biennial basis. Specifically, the Sixth Committee should not consider this agenda item during those calendar years that are devoted to the biennial review of the United Nations Counter-terrorism Strategy. As a result, counter-terrorism would still be considered each year by the General Assembly –alternating between the Plenary and the Sixth Committee.

I thank you.