Mr. Chairman,

Let me join others in congratulating you and other members of the Bureau on your election. I assure you full cooperation and support of my delegation.

We would like to thank the Secretary General for his annual report on “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”. The report gives an account of the measures taken at the national and international levels to combat terrorism and international legal instruments adopted for this purpose. The report also provides valuable information on workshops and training programs conducted during the reporting period on countering international terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism is a scourge that undermines peace, democracy and freedom. It endangers the very foundations of the continued existence of democratic societies. Terrorism has affected the whole world. There is hardly any region in the world that has not been scarred by terrorism during the past decade. The heinous terrorist attacks in New York, Abuja, Baghdad, Bali, Kabul, London, Madrid, Moscow, and Mumbai, repeatedly, - to name a few - are but the footnotes to the ugly imprints of terrorism.

Terrorists have become truly globalized. To give effect to their sinister plans, they recruit in one country, raise funds in another and operate in others. Terrorists advocate their own ideologies. They have developed global logistical supply chains and transnational financial support systems; terrorists use the latest and most sophisticated
technologies to their advantage and have command and control mechanisms in place that enable them to operate across continents on a real time basis. All these complexities have posed enormous challenges in countering terrorism. International community has no option but confront these challenges unshakably and decisively.

As the Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh has said on 24th September 2011 during the General debate of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly, the fight against terrorism must be unrelenting. There cannot be selective approaches in dealing with terrorist groups or the infrastructure of terrorism. Terrorism has to be fought across all fronts.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism is a global problem that requires global solutions. International community has invested considerable time and resources in developing a normative framework for countering terrorism.

The Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism adopted by UNGA Resolution 49/60 condemns international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Declaration also unequivocally condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, whenever and by whoever committed whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them. States are also obliged to refrain from organizing, acquiescing in or encouraging activities within their territories directed towards the commission of such acts.

States are also obliged to ensure that their territories are not used for terrorist establishments or training camps or for the preparation or organization of terrorist acts intended to be committed against other States or their citizens. This general framework is backed by 12 international conventions and five protocols adopted under the auspices of the United Nations. So far the United Nations has adopted a sectoral approach in these international instruments. These remain fundamental tools in the fight against terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

India is a party to 13 international conventions and protocols. India is fully committed to its obligations under these conventions. Presently India, serving as a non-permanent member on the Security Council, is also Chairing the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) of the Security Council and contributing to the work of all other sanctions regimes, including the Al Qaida Sanctions Committee. We are very satisfied that the Counter Terrorism Committee is making good progress in its work under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri and we congratulate him and other members of the CTC for their hard work. We also congratulate CTED for their excellent support.
At the National level, India has taken several steps to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism. Apart from strengthening our strategic and operational framework to combat terrorism effectively, we have also amended and strengthened our domestic legislation entitled Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 which has integrated the sanctions regime of the Al Qaida Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 and 1989.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act incorporates provisions dealing with all aspects of terrorism including conspiracy and incitement to terrorism. The Act criminalizes raising of funds for terrorist activities, holding of proceeds of terrorism, harbouring of terrorists, unauthorized possession or use of any bomb, dynamite or hazardous explosive substance or other lethal weapons. The Weapons of Mass Destruction (Prevention) Act, 2005 provides detailed measures preventing the falling of weapons of mass destruction or dual use materials in the hands of terrorists and non-state actors.

To enhance international cooperation for the investigation, prosecution and extradition of persons involved in terrorism including conspiracy and incitement to terrorism, organized crime, money laundering, terrorist financing and illicit drug trafficking, India has concluded forty bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. In the absence of a bilateral treaty, India can also cooperate under the relevant international conventions and on the basis of reciprocity. To effectively monitor and cooperate with international partners we have set up a Financial Intelligence Unit. India is also an active member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

**Mr. Chairman,**

A lot has been accomplished but more remains to be done. We fully support the outcome document adopted by the Special Meeting of the Counter Terrorism Committee of the Security Council held on 28 September 2011. The Special Meeting was held to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of Resolution 1373 which was adopted in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001 on this very City. We fully endorse the two consensus benchmarks that have been reflected in the outcome document that – the international community supports zero tolerance towards terrorism, and no cause or grievance, whatsoever, can justify terrorism. The General Debate of the 66th UNGA session also reflected that, over and above, the international community is willing to pursue its crusade against terrorism with an unquestionable political will to squarely face the challenge of terrorism and face it decisively.

International community should focus on further strengthening anti terrorism legal framework. At the same time States are required to implement the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in an integrated manner. I would like to draw the attention of this Committee to the assertion made by the Secretary General that the comprehensiveness of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy will not be complete without the conclusion of
the Comprehensive Convention. The Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) is at an advance stage of its consideration before this Committee. We strongly urge all States to give due consideration to what the Secretary General expects us to do and make all efforts to conclude the CCIT during this Session.

Thank you.

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