

**Security Council Open Debate
Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts
International Cooperation on Combating Terrorism and Violent Extremism
November 2014, Security Council Chamber**

Statement by Mr. Barros Melet Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations

I welcome Australia's initiative in convening this debate to allow us to reflect on the role of international cooperation in combating terrorism and violent extremism. This year, we have been called upon to analyse and adopt concrete measures with regard to such phenomena, in particular within the context of the Security Council, which speaks for the collective responsibility of the international community to prevent and combat such threats to stability and international peace and security.

We believe that the Security Council should be proactive in that context and must realize that working within the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy presents us with a permanent challenge to join forces in support of combating and preventing that scourge. For its part, our country accepts that collective responsibility, and Chile has therefore ratified all the international conventions that are part of the United Nations legal framework relating to counter-terrorism. At the national level, we have launched a parliamentary discussion with respect to a new counter-terrorism law that would endow the Office of the Prosecutor with greater powers and additional means to investigate crimes of that nature. The new law will not lose sight of the essential balance that must exist between the prevention of terrorism and repression, and respect for the fundamental rights of all individuals. Such actions demonstrate our commitment to support the resolutions that the Council has adopted in this area, which require constant effort at the national level to ensure their effective implementation.

Chile values the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate. We would like to highlight the quality of the collection and organization of the information that each State is required to provide in its reports. We hope that the exchange between States and the Committee will contribute to improving the efficiency of its internal functioning as well as serve to spotlight the areas where individual countries need to improve their legislative regimes. We believe that the Committee should continue to encourage the exchange of information. The establishment of committees of experts can be a useful tool for sharing best practices with respect to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), as well as for identifying measures that will support the implementation of the recently adopted resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014).

In that regard, we stress the strengthening effect of the work of specialized organs within regional bodies, such as the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States. The atrocities committed by terrorist groups such as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Al-Nusra Front and Al-Qaida, whose ranks include a large number of foreign combatants, should prompt us to analyse the root causes that have allowed those groups to disseminate their extremist narrative. We are concerned by the pull exerted on our young people by speeches that oppose the fundamental universal values that are shared by every civilization and culture. The measures adopted by the international community to combat extremist violence and terrorism are not intended to

persecute or stigmatize any culture or religion.

We believe that the prevention and suppression of terrorist acts should have priority, but that the treatment of such acts as crimes should not be the only means for addressing the phenomenon. Each society must ask itself why the existing tools have failed and why the terrorist narratives that we condemn have been able to emerge and flourish. Moreover, we need to ask why the international community and the affected countries have been unable to prevent terrorist groups such as ISIL, the Al-Nusra Front and Al-Qaida from acquiring such power and why they have managed to seduce citizens of other countries to embark on the path of violence. That process of reflection should be undertaken collectively but also within each country, in the context of our distinct national realities and social values.

Such an analysis should also take into account the gaps in inclusivity, tolerance and respect for diversity and identity in our societies. As President Bachelet pointed out in her statement before the Council in September (see S/PV.7272), we take heart from our belief that among the most effective tools in the fight against terrorism are education, the elimination of inequalities and work among the most disaffected groups of society. In that context, we propose that the Counter-Terrorism Committee should undertake a study to identify the social factors that favour the growth of terrorism and the attraction of the extremist narratives and terrorist groups for young people, with particular focus on the growth in the number of foreign terrorist fighters.

Another crucial theme to be investigated is the financing behind criminal acts of that nature, an area that requires active cooperation. In that regard, we would like to draw particular attention to the work of the Sanctions Committees and their monitoring groups in the area of preventing trafficking in weapons and the freezing of assets that would otherwise be used for financing terrorist activities. We must also analyse the risks that terrorism and illicit activities imply for countries facing situations of protracted conflict and for post-conflict societies. In addition, both peacekeeping operations and political missions should more formally incorporate tools for preventing the rise of extreme violence.

To conclude, we would like to reiterate our country's solidarity with the victims of terrorism and their families, especially women and children. We extend our condolences to those who have been barbarously murdered by ISIL, most recently the humanitarian worker Peter Kassig. Chile will continue to support the fight against international terrorism and to promote human rights, because we are convinced that we will thereby contribute to the dignity, peace, stability and inclusive development of all our societies.