



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

**Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov
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**High-Level Side Event on ‘Mainstreaming Counter-Terrorism Responses Across Parliamentary
Functions’**

30 June 2021, 8.30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to welcome you all to this high-level side event on mainstreaming counter-terrorism responses across parliamentary functions, jointly organized with the Shura Council of the State of Qatar and co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Indonesia and Qatar to the United Nations and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).

I am deeply grateful to be joined by His Excellency Mr. Ahmad bin Abdulla bin Zaid Al Mahmoud, the Speaker of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Ali Houmed, President of the National Assembly of Djibouti, and His Excellency Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

I also appreciate the video remarks from His Excellency Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the Austrian National Council.

We are also honoured by the presence of Honourable Senator Pinotti from Italy, Honourable Senator Valencia from Colombia and Honourable Mr. Farhan, Member of Parliament from Indonesia, as well as Her Excellency Ms. Alia Bouran, President Emeritus of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean.

Today, we observe the International Day of Parliamentarism, established through a General Assembly resolution in 2018, upon the initiative of our partners, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

I would like to commend the efforts of all parliamentarians worldwide who are leading their constituencies and communities through multiple challenges, further exacerbated by the pandemic. This global crisis continues to test all societies and all spheres of our lives.

Today’s event is particularly meaningful in working towards our collective commitments to strengthen parliamentary engagement and cooperation.

It also marks the first activity of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism based in Doha.

We launched our new Office two weeks ago, thanks to the generosity and hospitality of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar and the personal commitment of its Speaker, His Excellency Mr. Al Mahmoud.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I look forward to the expected adoption of the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy today.

Throughout its negotiations, Member States highlighted the need for a reinvigorated multilateral response, increasing the support for victims for terrorism, upholding gender equality, and ensuring that counter-terrorism measures comply with our human rights obligations.

Promoting parliamentary inclusion and advancing coordinated engagement with parliaments and parliamentary organizations will be essential in the Strategy's implementation.

Excellences, Dear colleagues,

Today we have a unique opportunity to bring together governments and parliaments whose strong and efficient cooperation is vital to ensure success in the balanced and integrated implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent reviews.

Our success in countering terrorism requires a comprehensive and collective response that embraces and strengthens the fundamental role of parliaments as core legislative, oversight and representative institutions.

To further support the important work of parliaments, my Office will soon release the 'Parliamentary Guide to Facilitate the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy'.

This new tool seeks to raise awareness and enhance the understanding of significant elements and concepts of all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and their implications for day-to-day work of parliamentarians.

We hope that this new product will empower parliamentarians and stimulate further parliamentary debate and reflection.

I look forward to the interactive presentation of the Guide by Her Excellency Senator Alia Bouran, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean President Emeritus and Mr. Jean-Paul Laborde from my Office, who led the development of this new tool.

Thank you.