

Security Council Open Debate on Threats to International Peace and Security Terrorism and Cross-Border Crime December 2014, Security Council Chamber

Statement by Mr. Abdrakhmanov Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations.

Both terrorism and cross-border crime continue to constitute a serious threat to international peace and stability. The planet is riddled with criminal markets and channels for trafficking in drugs, arms, hazardous materials, including materials with nuclear use, human beings, donor organs and others. **The threat undermines economies at all levels, corrupts authorities, fuels conflicts, as well as aggravates drug addiction, sexual exploitation and environmental damages.** Unfortunately, this scourge is also capable of undermining the rule of law and good governance, which are so crucial for sustainable development.

A phenomenon that is growing at an alarming rate is the close nexus between transnational terrorists and criminals who collaborate and share tactics, benefiting from this interaction. The result is bolstered capabilities, enhanced organizational infrastructure, improved access to resources and expanded geographical reach. One of the most dangerous and challenging threats is the ideological influence and spiritual rhetoric of terrorists on the young generation through information technology and the Internet, as recent examples indicate that terrorist and transnational criminal groups may evolve, converge, transform or otherwise alter their ideological motivations to recruit new members and justify their acts and crimes.

The overwhelming extent and nature of criminal-terrorist relationships, which have a direct impact on the national security of individual countries, as well as global security, are a cause of concern to my country also. The potential convergence of criminal and terrorist actors, skills, resources and violent tactics can have devastating consequences in and across regions. Globalization has extended the transnational reach of terrorist and criminal groups. The nature and activities of terrorist organizations, merged with transnational organized crime, are manifested as nuclear proliferation. We are aware of the potential for criminal service providers to play an important role in proliferating nuclear-applicable materials and facilitating terrorism.

All these threats and challenges demand long-term coordinated actions by all Member States and other stakeholders through a comprehensive approach and cooperation at the national, regional and global levels. Education, human rights, social protection, economic development, the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination are also significant and cannot be overestimated as they are crucial components of life betterment, particularly for the young generation.

An important role should be played by regional and subregional organizations. Kazakhstan is a party to all the major international conventions against terrorism and supports the practical implementation and improvement of all anti-terrorist mechanisms. Furthermore, Kazakhstan is actively engaged in the practical security measures of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia and the Collective Security Treaty Organization. Under the auspices of these entities, law enforcement agencies of Member States fight terrorism and transnational crime through joint practical actions, international and regional exercises, the exchange of best practices and data. We are active members of

the Anti-Terrorist Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as a signatory to the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, and all the agreements on combating the illicit trafficking of arms, ammunition and explosives.

We work closely with the regional office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Central Asia and other agencies of the United Nations system. In September this year we organized a visit of Mr. Jean-Paul Laborde, head of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, to Astana, which was yet another practical step to improve the cooperation of the United Nations with relevant Kazakhstan law enforcement, financial and special bodies. We engaged in the Joint Plan of Action to implement the global strategy in Central Asia elaborated by several partners — countries of the region, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, the European Union and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. At the national level, we adopted in 2013 a State programme for countering religious extremism and terrorism for the period of 2013-2017 and allocated \$600 million to its implementation.

In conclusion, my delegation reiterates its commitment to being actively involved in combating terrorism, radical extremism and cross-border crime along with other responsible members of international community.