

**DECLARATION ON MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL  
TERRORISM, 1994, AND THE 1996 SUPPLEMENTARY DECLARATION  
THERETO**

By a note dated 8 September 1972, accompanied by an explanatory memorandum, the Secretary-General requested that the General Assembly include in the agenda of its twenty-seventh session an item of an important and urgent character entitled “Measures to prevent terrorism and other forms of violence which endanger or take innocent lives or jeopardize fundamental freedoms” (A/8791, Corr.1 and Add.1). In the same note, the Secretary-General suggested that the item be referred to the Sixth (Legal) Committee for consideration. On 23 September 1972, pursuant to the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Assembly decided to include this item in its agenda, under the amended title “Measures to prevent terrorism and other forms of violence which endanger or take innocent lives or jeopardize fundamental freedoms, and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in an attempt to effect radical changes”, and allocated the item to the Sixth Committee (A/27/PV.2037). Following its consideration of the item, the General Assembly adopted resolution 3034 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, in which it inter alia decided to create an Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism consisting of thirty-five members to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, requesting it to consider the observations to be submitted on the matter by States and to submit a report with recommendations for possible cooperation for the speedy elimination of the problem to the General Assembly at its following session.

The Ad Hoc Committee met in 1973 (see its report to the General Assembly, A/9029), but was later obliged to suspend its work. By resolution 31/102 of 15 December 1976, the General Assembly invited the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work.

From 1977 to 1993, the General Assembly considered the item mentioned above biennially, in the framework of the Sixth Committee, mainly working on the basis of the reports of the Ad Hoc Committee (see resolutions 32/47 of 16 December 1977, 34/145 of 17 December 1979, 36/109 of 10 December 1981, 38/130 of 19 December 1983, 40/61 of 9 December 1985, 42/159 of 7 December 1987, 44/29 of 4 December 1989 and 46/51 of 9 December 1991). As of 1987, the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly referred to the idea of convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation. As of 1991, the title of the corresponding item was shortened to “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”. In 1993, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session, without prejudice to the question of whether the item will thereafter be considered annually or biennially (see decision 48/411 of 9 December 1993).

At the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, the item was again allocated to the Sixth Committee, which considered it on 14 and from 19 to 21 October and on 23 November 1994. On 19 October 1993, the Sixth Committee decided that its Rapporteur would chair informal consultations to elaborate a draft declaration on measures to eliminate international terrorism (see the report of the Sixth Committee to the General Assembly, A/49/743, para. 5). At the conclusion of its debate, on 23 November, the Sixth Committee adopted a draft resolution, proposed by its Chairman, by which the General Assembly was to approve a declaration annexed to that draft (*ibid.*, para. 10). On 9 December 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation

of the Sixth Committee, adopted without a vote resolution 49/60, by which it approved the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, the text of which was annexed to that resolution. In the same resolution, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to follow up closely the implementation of the resolution and the Declaration, and to submit to it at its fiftieth session a report thereon, relating, in particular, to the modalities of implementation of paragraph 10 of the Declaration.

At its fiftieth session, in 1995, the General Assembly took up the item again in the context of the Sixth Committee, which had before it the report of the Secretary-General requested in resolution 49/60 (A/50/372 and Add.1). In resolution 50/53 of 11 December 1995, the General Assembly again requested the Secretary-General to follow up closely the implementation of the Declaration and to submit an annual report on the implementation of paragraph 10 of the Declaration.

At its fifty-first session, following the consideration, in the context of the Sixth Committee, of the report of the Secretary-General requested in resolution 50/53 (A/51/336 and Add.1), the General Assembly adopted resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, in which it reaffirmed the 1994 Declaration and approved the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, the text of which was annexed to that resolution. By that same resolution, the General Assembly also established an Ad Hoc Committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to elaborate an international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings and, subsequently, an international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, to supplement related existing international instruments, and thereafter to address means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism.

In the following years and up to the present (October 2008), the item "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" has been annually included in the agenda of the General Assembly and has been considered in the context of the Sixth Committee. It is under this item that the 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism were adopted. Work on a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism is ongoing (October 2008).