

**OPEN DEBATE OF THE  
SECURITY COUNCIL:  
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY CAUSED BY TERRORIST ACT**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**NEW YORK, 19 OCTOBER 2004**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

Mr. President

At the outset, I would like to thank Ambassador Denisov and Executive Director Ruperez for their briefings and extend to them our best wishes for their future work.

Liechtenstein strongly condemns all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We are committed to international co-operation to fight terrorism, in particular through the twelve United Nations Conventions and protocols in the area of terrorism which we have all ratified, and through the work of United Nations bodies, such as the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee. We are further of the view that the fight against terrorism must not be carried out at the expense of international legal standards, in particular in the area of human rights.

Beginning with the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the Council has acted forcefully to live up to its responsibility with respect to the global threat of terrorism. In March this year, the Council has adopted a set of measures aimed at reinforcing the effectiveness of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. We hope that the new structure will be operational by early 2005 and that it will live up to the high expectations. The CTC should continue to work in a transparent manner, *inter alia* through regular formal and informal briefings for all Member States. The Council itself is similarly called upon to uphold the principles of inclusiveness and transparency when acting to foster international co-operation against terrorism.

With the adoption of resolution 1566 on 8 October 2004, the Security Council took the fight against terrorism to a new level. We regret that the wider UN membership was not given an opportunity to express its views on the draft resolution, given its

important implications for the fight against terrorism worldwide. We therefore take this opportunity to express our views after the fact.

Mr. President

We welcome all efforts by the Security Council to increase cooperation and coordination among all international actors in the fight against terrorism and appreciate that resolution 1566 was part of this effort. Our concerns regarding resolution 1566 revolve around the issue of the rule of law which the Security Council had discussed only two days prior to the adoption of the resolution:

The resolution employs broad language directing States to extradite or prosecute persons who are considered to be involved, even indirectly, in terrorist acts. The nature of such involvement is unclear and poses the danger of including persons who could not even be considered as having acted with intent as is required under criminal law.

The resolution attempts to define terrorist acts in a way which leaves open questions of interpretation, while calling on States to prevent and punish acts of such nature. It further raises the question of the relationship between the work of the Council and the efforts underway in the General Assembly, the law-making body of this organization, to agree on a definition of terrorism.

The resolution envisages new practical measures to be imposed upon individuals, groups or entities involved in or associated with terrorist activities, beyond those who are designated by the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee. A working group will consider and make recommendations on such measures, in particular regarding criminal prosecution and freezing of assets.

Together with others, we have repeatedly expressed the view that due process standards with respect to the current sanctions regime under resolution 1267 and 1455 need to be improved, in particular with regard to the need for access to legal remedies and the possibility of delisting in cases of factual errors. It is therefore crucial that an expanded regime be equipped with the necessary mechanism to establish the facts objectively and to review decisions in a fair and independent manner. This will greatly facilitate implementation by States that wish to respect rule of law standards in carrying out the legally binding decisions of the Security Council. We hope that the working group will proceed in an inclusive and transparent manner and on the basis of respect for fundamental principles of due process and rule of law.

I thank you, Mr. President.