

SECURITY COUNCIL

BRIEFINGS BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE

COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE

1267 COMMITTEE

1540 COMMITTEE

STATEMENT

BY

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President

I would like to thank the Chairpersons of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Taliban and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 for their briefings. I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate our commitment to international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. We join others in the unequivocal condemnation of all terrorist acts, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed.

Mr. President

In January 2009, Liechtenstein submitted its Sixth Report to the CTC, in response to the comments contained in the Preliminary Implementation Assessment (PIA) prepared by CTED. We appreciate the PIA as a useful tool to measure the success in the implementation of SC resolution 1373, and would like to highlight some recent domestic measures taken by Liechtenstein. In March 2009, new legislation entered into force aimed at preventing the use of the financial system for money laundering and terrorist financing, thereby substantively implementing the Third EU Money Laundering Directive. Also in March 2009, a new comprehensive Sanctions Act entered into force. The law improves the legal basis for cooperation with international organizations in the implementation of sanctions and increases penalties for sanctions violations. Liechtenstein will continue to take all necessary measures, in conformity with the rule of law and applicable human rights standards, to prevent any potential abuse of its financial center for terrorist purposes.

Mr. President,

We would like to thank the 1267 Monitoring Team for the insightful 9th Report that was published recently. We particularly appreciate the update about the status of various legal proceedings challenging the compatibility of the Consolidated List with applicable human rights standards, especially with respect to domestic implementation measures.¹ We take note of recent findings as well as ongoing

¹ See Annex I to Monitoring Team Report, S/2009/245.

proceedings of the Human Rights Committee (under the ICCPR), the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights and domestic courts in several countries. We encourage the Council and the 1267 Committee again to engage in a dialogue with interested States on how to ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for placing individuals and entities on the Consolidated List and for removing them as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions – thus fulfilling a long overdue target we set ourselves in the Summit Outcome Document of 2005. The target date for further reforms should be the upcoming renewal of resolution 1822 at the end of this year. In this context, we would like to recall the Discussion Paper of May 2008,² in which Liechtenstein, together with a group of like-minded countries, formulated suggestions for an expert panel assisting the 1267 Committee in the consideration of delisting requests. At the same time, we would like to stress that this is not a static proposal, but simply a starting point for discussion in which numerous concerns must be taken into account. In the light of developments that have occurred since last May, we are ready to contribute fresh ideas to such a dialogue. We also know that a number of other countries from various regions, Council members and non-members alike, are interested to contribute as well.

Mr. President,

Due process standards in the Council's terrorism-related targeted sanctions is only one within a range of issues that need to be addressed in order to ensure that the international fight against terrorism is undertaken in conformity with applicable standards of human rights and international humanitarian law. In this spirit, Liechtenstein was pleased to host on 4 May 2009, together with Mexico, a presentation at UN Headquarters of the findings of the Eminent Jurists Panel on Terrorism, Counter-terrorism and Human Rights. The report shows very clearly that security and human rights are not mutually exclusive, but that human rights are a necessary basis for legitimate and effective action against terrorism. Human rights standards inherently balance sometimes competing interests and provide important

² A/62/891-S/2008/428

guidance where difficult choices need to be made. In recent years, this balance has been sorely lacking in many parts of the world. We would therefore like to echo the Panel's call for a leadership role by the United Nations, and the Security Council in particular, in restoring respect for human rights in the counter-terrorism efforts of its agencies and Member States.

I thank you.