STATEMENT

 \mathbf{BY}

BETELIHEM TAYE, THIRD SECRETARY, LEGAL AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

 \mathbf{AT}

THE 78^{TH} SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER AGENDA ITEM 109

OCTOBER 2023

NEW YORK

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report on Measures to eliminate international terrorism contained in document A/78/221.

Ethiopia aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the African Group.

Mr. Chairperson,

Ethiopia is among the countries that have been impacted by terrorism and acts of terrorism, resulting in loss of lives and destruction of properties. This unlawful behavior has caused significant and permanent harm while also posing a threat to the peace and progress of the country. Terrorism is

Ethiopia is also part of the peace and security architecture of and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). Ethiopia is committed to supporting coordinated efforts against terrorism at national, regional, and international levels.

Mr. Chairperson,

Ethiopia is also party to nine international counter-terrorism and regional counter terrorism instruments adopted in the context of the United Nations and the African Union. We have also concluded bilateral agreements on extradition and mutual assistance in criminal matters with many countries. We also have intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms that target the crime of terrorism.

Similarly, we have adapted our own legal system to conform to applicable international instruments, including in relation to foreign terrorist fighters, as well as financing of terrorism and money-laundering. In view of this, Ethiopia has taken important legislative steps to prevent and combat terrorism by enacting and periodically reviewing domestic legislations and adopting relevant counter-terrorism conventions.

Ethiopia has made significant progress in updating its laws to adapt to the ever-changing nature of terrorism and to ensure compliance with human rights standards in countering terrorism. In 2020, a proclamation to provide for the prevention and suppression of Terrorism Crimes (Proclamation no. 1176/2020) is enacted replacing the previous Anti-Terrorism Proclamation. The new proclamation adopted new mechanisms to protect rights and freedoms of individuals and enhance accountability of law enforcement bodies.

Maximum care has been made to make sure the new law is compatible with international human rights conventions. Ethiopia has also enacted laws and augmented its institutional mechanism on the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.