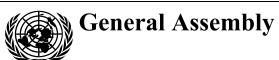
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Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development

Joint written statement* submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Association of Iranian Short Statured Adults, Family Health Association of Iran, Hazrate Fatemeh Zahra Charity Institute, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Medical Support Association for Underprivileged Iranian Patients, Pars Non Trading Development Activists Co., Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[29 January 2024]

^{*} Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

The imperative to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

Terrorism has a direct impact on human rights, with consequences for the enjoyment of the right to life, liberty and physical integrity of individuals, especially victims of terrorism. It can destabilize and undermine entire societies, endangering peace and security and threaten social and economic rights (including the right to work, education, and an adequate standard of living).

the Secretary-General of the United Nations provides reports to the General Assembly and the Security Council, covering various aspects of the fight against terrorism, including the nature of terrorism, the implementation of relevant resolutions, and recommendations for future actions. in this regard, we can refer to some resolutions: Resolution 1373 (2001), Resolution 1535 (2004), Resolution 1624 (2005), Resolution 2178 (2014), Resolution 2396 (2017), Resolution 2482 (2019). Herewith, these Resolutions pursue, the imperative to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and also stressing that States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, and should adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights law, refugee law, and humanitarian law.

Iran has been the target of numerous terrorist attacks throughout its modern history. In the last decades, more than 17,000 ordinary citizens were also targeted by these terrorist groups. Some of the most notable incidents include:

- 1981 Iranian Prime Minister's office bombing: A bomb exploded at the Prime Minister's office in Tehran, killing over 70 high-ranking Iranian officials;
- 1988 Iran Air Flight 655 shootdown: The USS Vincennes, a U.S. Navy guided-missile cruiser, shot down Iran Air Flight 655 over the Persian Gulf, killing all 290 passengers and crew on board which was a deliberate act of terrorism;
- 2018 Ahvaz military parade attack: Gunmen opened fire on a military parade in the city of Ahvaz, killing at least 25 people, including members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and civilians;
- From 2010 to 2012, a series of unfortunate events unfolded as four Iranian nuclear scientists, namely Masoud Ali-Mohammadi, Majid Shahriari, Darioush Rezaeinejad, and Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan, lost their lives due to terrorism. These incidents serve as a somber reminder of the dangers faced by individuals involved in sensitive scientific endeavors;
- 2022 and 2023 Terrorist attacks on Shah Cheragh holy shrine: The terrorist attacks by armed individuals on the pilgrims of Shah Cheragh holy shrine led to the martyrdom of many people and the wounding of compatriots. These terrorist attacks were carried out by ISIS;
- 2023 The Rask police headquarter attacking: The terrorist attack and crime by separatist terrorists and mercenaries of foreign adversaries of Iran after their attack on the Rask police station that led to the martyrdom of 11 police forces and injured several others, who were the self-sacrificing defenders of order and security in the country. The Pakistan-based so-called Jaish Al-Adl terror group has claimed responsibility for the aggression;
- 2024 Kerman bombings: On 3 January 2024, a commemorative ceremony marking the assassination of General Qasem Soleimani at his grave in eastern Kerman, Iran, was attacked by two bomb explosions. Two explosions have killed nearly 100 people and wounded over 200 others.

These are just a few examples of the numerous terrorist incidents targeting Iranians and Iranian interests over the years.

We deeply comprehend the immense repercussions that such acts have on both the individuals affected and the wider society. We would like to express our utmost respect for the significant number of Iranian victims who have tragically lost their lives in numerous terrorist incidents, particularly in recent times. These victims serve as undeniable proof of the flawed strategies employed by terrorist organizations and those who support them.

To eradicate the phenomenon of terrorism, the following recommendations are given:

- Identifying and eradicating the causes and factors of terrorism, including injustice, inequality, political violence, poverty, unemployment, discrimination, distortion of beliefs and ideologies, etc.
- Creating a comprehensive and acceptable definition of terrorism and terrorist operations, that can cover different cases and situations and prevent ambiguity and conflict in identifying and condemning terrorism.
- Strengthening cooperation and coordination among governments and international organizations, such as the United Nations, the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), etc. in the fields of security, judicial, financial, political, and cultural, for prevention, confrontation, and punishment of terrorism.
- Developing and promoting a culture of peace, interaction, cooperation, tolerance, and dialogue at the national and international levels and confronting the culture of violence, prejudice, division, and hatred.
- Supporting the economic, social, and cultural development and progress of developing countries and reducing the gap of wealth and poverty in the world.