

**SECURITY COUNCIL**

**BRIEFINGS BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE  
COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE**

**1267 COMMITTEE**

**1540 COMMITTEE**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President

I have the honor to speak on behalf of Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

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 all States in the unequivocal condemnation of all terrorist acts, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed.

Mr. President

Liechtenstein and Switzerland fully support the work of the CTC, the 1267 and the 1540 Committees. We would like to congratulate the new Executive Director of CTED, Mr. Mike Smith, on his appointment. We are hopeful that he will invigorate the leadership on the United Nations counter-terrorism work, and in particular bring greater coherence to the work of the three Security Council Committees dealing with terrorism. We understand that the CTC made an important step last week in approving letters transmitting "Preliminary Implementation Assessments" (PIA's) to a number of Member States. We look forward to working with the CTC in this next phase of its work.

Mr. President

We have recently received an updated matrix from the 1540 Committee, accompanied by the request to provide further information on the implementation of resolution 1540. We would like to commend the Committee and its group of experts for their work, and in particular their working methods which can serve as a best practice for other Committees as well. In general, we believe that there is much room to promote a more integrated approach to United Nations activities in counter-terrorism, and we do support ideas aimed at further consolidating the Council's respective Committees.

Mr. President,

As in previous statements on this occasion, we would like to focus our remarks on the work of the Al Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee. Already during the last meeting under this item in May 2007, we have commended the members of the Council for their hard work leading to the adoption of resolutions 1730 and 1735. We considered the establishment of a focal point for delisting in the Secretariat as an important step to improve access by listed individuals and entities to the delisting procedure. At the same time, we made it clear that in our view, the mandate of the focal point has mainly improved access of listed individuals and entities to the delisting procedures of the Sanctions Committees, and does therefore not address other important rights, such as the right to an effective remedy. We thus believe that

the current system does not provide sufficient safeguards for international human rights standards as identified in the letter of the Secretary-General of June 2006.

Many Member States have continued concerns regarding the requirement of “fair and clear procedures” (paragraph 109 of the World Summit Outcome Document) in the Council’s use of targeted sanctions. In order to facilitate a constructive discussion on this issue, Liechtenstein organized a round table on “de-listing” this past November 8, 2007. The event was co-sponsored by the Missions of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland, and was open to all Member States of the United Nations as well as invited representatives of the Secretariat, NGO’s and academia. At this meeting, participants exchanged views on a discussion paper based on the research of Professor Bothe (Frankfurt University), regarding the establishment of a Review Panel to deal with petitions for delisting. We feel encouraged by the broad interest of Member States in further improvements of sanctions procedures and by the support expressed, while also noting that some Council Members have reservations against further changes at this point in time. We will continue to reach out to those who are skeptical as well as to those who express support, in order to facilitate an informed and substantive discussion within the Security Council.

We are convinced that the issue will remain on the agenda of Member States for some time to come, in particular in light of domestic and international Court proceedings which can have an impact on the effectiveness of sanctions regimes. Our contribution to this discussion is motivated by the desire to strengthen sanctions regimes and to enhance the effectiveness and legitimacy of the Security Council, and by the commitment to uphold all applicable standards of human rights.

The fight against terrorism concerns all Member States of the United Nations and should therefore benefit from contributions from all partners involved. We therefore believe that it is a good policy choice for the Security Council to continue to engage in a dialogue with non-Members of the Council. We look forward to cooperating further with the Council on this important issue.

I thank you.