

**PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL:
BRIEFINGS BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE
COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE
1267 COMMITTEE
1540 COMMITTEE**

STATEMENT

BY

**H.E. AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN WENAWESER,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
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. We would 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

We are very pleased to see that the Counter-terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate is making further progress in refining its approaches in monitoring the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). We agree that the CTC should take a more tailor-made approach in monitoring implementation, and encourage the Committee to deepen its dialogue with Member States, beyond mere reporting. Liechtenstein has just submitted its 5th report to the CTC and stands ready to continue its cooperation with the CTC. We are also grateful for the continuation of the practice of informal briefing for Member States on the work of the Committee.

Mr. President

Once again, we would like to focus our comments on the mandate given by the World Summit 2005 to ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for placing individuals and entities on sanctions lists and for removing them, as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions. The 1267 Committee has been dealing with this issue for quite some time now. In the meantime, several studies have been produced on this question which underlines the need for urgent action by the Security Council. The Monitoring Team of the 1267 Committee has also made valuable recommendations. We call on Council Members to give serious consideration to the many proposals made to improve the listing and delisting procedures. There is no doubt that United Nations organs, when imposing measures which bear a direct and dramatic effect on the rights of individuals, must respect international standards of human rights in a similar manner as States would have to. The work undertaken by the United Nations over the last six decades to ensure that governments respect human rights would suffer a great backlash were we to allow this organization to treat individuals in a manner which that same organization would qualify as impermissible by States. We welcome Security Council action against terrorism, which is based on a modern interpretation of what the Charter means by "maintenance of international peace and security". It must, however, go hand in hand with an equally modern interpretation of international human rights law.

Future listing and delisting procedures must therefore, as an absolute minimum, grant targeted individuals and entities the right to be informed about the measures imposed and the reasons for their imposition, as well as the right to present information which might refute the case for listing. Furthermore, we urge the Council to consider procedures which could be considered an “effective remedy” or which would at least entail a similar effect. Any such improvements will be highly beneficial for both the accuracy and legitimacy of the sanctions regime and therefore for its effectiveness. Finally, it must be stressed that any such improvements must also extend as far as appropriate to so-called humanitarian exemptions.

Mr. President

Liechtenstein welcomes the continuation of the 1540 Committee as mandated by resolution 1673 (2006). Liechtenstein has submitted its first report in a timely manner and also provided the Committee with updated information. In fact, the 1540 Committee and its experts have been highly effective in their dialogue with Member States and have established good practices which can be beneficial for other Committees as well. In this context, we would like to express our support for measures aimed at consolidating the work of various subcommittees dealing with counter-terrorism. Such measures should make the UN response to terrorism more coherent and effective, and focus on building State capacity. This chain against terrorism which we have been building over the last years will only be as strong as its weakest link.

I thank you.