



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

1st Standing Committee on Political and Security-related Cooperation

Counter-Terrorism in the Middle East and North Africa

Rapporteur: Sen. Luigi Compagna (Italy)

Resolution unanimously adopted during the 9th PAM Plenary Session in Monaco, 02 February 2015

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *Reaffirming* its unequivocal condemnation of all kinds of terrorism as a grave threat to international peace and security,
- b) *Recalling* its previous reports and resolutions on the definition and root causes of terrorism,
- c) *Alarmed* by the transnational and diffuse character of the recent surge in terrorist activity throughout the MENA region,
- d) *Noting with great concern* the rapid growth of the foreign fighters phenomenon on both shores of the Mediterranean and beyond, as well as the continuing and growing violence in Libya and Syria, which creates fertile soil for terrorist groups,
- e) *Viewing with appreciation* the outstanding efforts of the UN Special Envoys to Syria and Libya, which are essential to stop the abuse of the territories of these States as terrorist safe havens,
- f) *Having regards for* the work of leading institutions in the field of counter-terrorism, such as the UN Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) of New York and the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) Division for Treaty Affairs, of Vienna, as well as the UNSC Counter Terrorism Committee (UNSC CTC),

- g) *Condemning* the numerous terrorist attacks which took place in PAM Member States in the past year,
 - h) *Aware of* the fact that the challenge of rising terrorism in the Mediterranean region requires stronger cooperation between States on the governmental and parliamentary level,
 - i) *Welcoming* all regional and international joint efforts to address and combat the issue of terrorism,
 - j) *Welcoming* the decision taken by the United Nations to task PAM with the organization of a parliamentary program on Counter Terrorism legislation, initially addressed to the five Maghreb countries and under the provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 2178 of 24 September 2014,
- 1) **Urges** the North African Member States to strengthen the Counter Terrorism bilateral and multilateral cooperation to address successfully the regional threat posed by terrorism and particularly the foreign fighters phenomenon,
 - 2) **Requests** Member States to promote strong cooperation with the international community, including sharing best practices and expertise, with the purpose to tackle threats to security in a joint effort,
 - 3) **Calls on** Parliamentarians to direct their attention to social marginalization and alienation of individuals in their countries leading to radicalization and militant extremism,
 - 4) **Urges** Member Parliaments to address socio-economic challenges, such as youth unemployment, which contribute to the foreign fighters phenomenon, as well as to counter extremist propaganda, which are spread by the mouthpieces of radical Islamist groups,
 - 5) **Calls on** lawmakers to implement to the fullest the provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 2178 of 24 September 2014 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,
 - 6) **Encourages** PAM Parliamentarians to support the efforts of the CTED, the UNODC and the UNSC CTC in their work against terrorism, as well as the UN Special Envoys to Lebanon, Syria and Libya, who work towards stability and security in these countries,

- 7) **Urges** concerned countries to adhere to their moral and legal obligations to participate to the best of their abilities in the fight against terrorism and to facilitate all necessary steps to thwart both the movement of foreign fighters from and through their territory, as well as the expansion of operative bases and the ideology of the Islamic State,
- 8) **Calls on** lawmakers in Member States to monitor the effective coordination of all actors involved in the fight against terrorism at the national level,
- 9) **Requests** PAM Parliamentarians to observe carefully the activities of groups affiliated with the Islamic State and Al-Qaida in their countries, as well as to facilitate sharing of information on such activities and to take resolute action against these groups,
- 10) **Urges** Member Parliamentarians to ensure that all their Counter Terrorism measures are in accordance with international law and human rights treaties,
- 11) **Continues to** reach out to leading institutions in the field of Counter Terrorism to strengthen its network for effective cooperation,
- 12) **Stands ready** to support its Members in tackling all kinds of terrorist threats by facilitating cooperation and knowledge sharing in the region, promote related UN initiatives and keep an open channel with regional key players,
- 13) **Resolves** to remain at the disposal of its Member Parliaments, as well as the United Nations and other international key players, as a pan-regional forum to address the great threat of terrorism by facilitating cooperation at the legislative level and on other vital aspects of Counter Terrorism.