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LEGAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REPORT*

**ROLE OF RELIGION IN FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND
EXTREMISM**

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Given the increased worldwide alarm with regard to the threat of terrorism and extremism, which represents great danger for all countries, the Legal and Political Affairs Committee at its 47th Meeting in Athens on 23-24 May 2016 decided to take up this very important issue.
2. Terrorism has become one of the most dangerous socio-political and moral problems due to its scope, unpredictability and consequences. Terrorism covers a variety of aspects of living throughout the world and manifests itself in various forms and patterns. Terrorism and extremism, in any manifestation, increasingly threaten security of countries and citizens, entailing enormous political, economic and moral costs, having strong psychological impact on many people, and claiming many innocent lives. Lately, number of suicide bombers, who lead the war with completely new methods, has increased. Today terrorist forces with the aim to achieve their goals are turning to religious values thus, defending the interests of certain groupings and trying to justify their actions. The fight against terrorism is a fight for the defence of the universal values that unite all religions and cultural traditions. To this end, today dialogue between peoples, cultures, and religions are becoming increasingly important.
3. The 48th Meeting of the Committee in Antalya on 5-6 October 2016 is dedicated to *The Role of Religion in the Fight against Terrorism and Extremism* and is called upon to prepare the Report and the Recommendation with further submission to the 48th Plenary Session of the of the General Assembly in Belgrade in November 2016.
4. The Report uses the information provided by the national delegations of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine. In addition, the reference material has been obtained by the PABSEC International Secretariat from the relevant sources of the Internet.

II. ROLE OF RELIGION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND EXTREMISM

5. Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. Many countries in the BSEC region have suffered and continue to suffer from the threat of terrorism and extremism although diverse in motive, strength and sophistication. Yet, the current threat of terrorism is different from that of the past. More and more terrorist groups use religious beliefs as source of legitimacy of their actions.
6. Terrorism and extremism are interrelated concepts. Terrorism, hiding behind the religious slogans, as well as the religious and political extremism, leading to escalation of ethnic and religious conflicts, pose serious threat to the entire world community. Today, the fight against terrorism and extremism has acquired transnational character and has become a global international problem that requires coordination among states.
7. Priority for religion is to reach spirituality. Justice, love and compassion are the highest values of any religion. Universality of the religion values has to bring people closer together to do good deeds and actions for the benefit of all humanity. The role of religion is to cultivate high moral and spiritual citizens thus preventing conversion of belief into religious fanaticism, which leads to extremism and terrorism.

8. The 21st century started with the increased acknowledgement of serious threat posed by terrorism to overall peace and security. Escalation of terrorism in frequency and magnitude brought the phenomenon of international terrorism to the forefront of the global agenda. Present-day terrorism is directly linked to globalization as people, goods, capital and ideas flow with growing ease across borders. The achievements that empower and facilitate the lives for people turn into destructive enablers in the hands of terrorists quickly adapting to the rapidly changing international environment.
9. Such conditions as poverty, corruption, unresolved local or regional conflicts often create conditions conducive to exploitation by terrorists. Terrorist groups with objectives in one country or region can draw strength and support from groups in other countries or regions. By capitalizing on the very technological advances terrorist organizations share information using cyberspace and communicate across the global networks of internet from virtually anywhere in the world. Terrorists work together in funding, sharing intelligence, training, logistics, planning and executing attacks.
10. Internationalisation of crime and terrorism has generated a challenge for a collective approach to bring together in a comprehensive manner the existing instruments within international and national frameworks. Deviation from common approach of the international community regarding the recognized norms of international law may have serious consequences. Disregard for the norms of international law undermines the image of international organizations and establish a dangerous precedent that paves the way towards escalation of the problem of extremism.
11. The most effective method to fight contemporary challenges is a multilateral effort based on widest possible international participation. The international community has taken important steps to provide a solid legal basis for common actions against the spread of terrorism. Common willingness of the states to fight international terrorism requires greater synergy in elaboration of comprehensive global counter-terrorism strategy.
12. The United Nations has a central role in the fight against international terrorism. It has established a comprehensive legal framework in the field of counter-terrorism. The UN Conventions and Protocols relating to various forms of international terrorism remain fundamental tools in the international community's effort to eliminate this terrible phenomenon – among them Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft; Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft; Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation; Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation; Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents; International Convention against the Taking of Hostages; Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material; Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation; Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection; International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings; International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism; International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. A wide array of organizations, agencies, units and groups in the United Nations system are actively involved in building state capacity to prevent terrorism.
13. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted in 2006. The strategy – in the form of a Resolution and an annexed Plan of Action – is a unique

global instrument that will enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. This is the first time that all member states have agreed to a common strategic approach to fight terrorism, not only sending a clear message that terrorism is unacceptable in all its forms and manifestation but also resolving to take practical steps individually and collectively to prevent and combat it. The Strategy underlines that the acts, methods and practices of terrorism are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity, security of states and destabilizing legitimately constituted governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism. The Document also places particular emphasis to the fact that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. The practical steps referred in the Strategy include a wide array of measures ranging from strengthening state capacity to counter terrorist threats to better coordinating United Nations system's counter-terrorism activities.

14. One of the key components of the successful implementation of global counter-terrorism effort is a parliamentary support. Adequate political backing on behalf of national and international parliamentary institutions is crucial for the joint and effective action against terrorism. The national parliaments have to make all possible efforts to contribute to the international fight against terrorism in full accord with international obligations.
15. International efforts towards combating terrorism are substantially fortified by the efforts undertaken at regional scope. The threat of international terrorism acquires particular dimension for the countries in the BSEC region. The Black Sea region with its cross-road location and the patchwork of the unresolved conflicts generate a potential risk to serve as a fertile environment for organized crime and international terrorism. It is very important for the countries in the region to join efforts to efficiently prevent illicit activities through the effective measures in the sphere of customs, immigration and border control.
16. The Parliamentary Assembly of BSEC has been promoting cooperation in combating organized crime and terrorism. In its Recommendation 17/1996 on Basic Principles of the Black Sea Convention on Combating Organised Crime and Terrorism and the Recommendation 102/2008 on the Role of Parliaments in Fighting International Terrorism the Assembly calls on the countries to join forces against this evil and to include necessary strategies for combating terrorism in the national legislation to ensure proper control over law enforcement.
17. The BSEC countries, as their counterparts throughout the world has developed counter-terrorism strategies and set up programmes and plans to strengthen counter-terrorism efforts giving added weight to the strategies evolved over many years of dealing with terrorism. The Governments have put in place a comprehensive programme of action addressing the issues of an effective counter-terrorism policy against the global threat of international terrorism. They have employed a range of measures from diplomacy, international cooperation and constructive engagement to protective measures through securing borders, enhancing support and resources available to law enforcement and intelligence.

Situation in the BSEC Member States

18. **Armenia** is actively involved in the fight against terrorism within the framework of: the International Convention On the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings; International Convention On the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism; European Convention On Suppression of Terrorism; International Convention On the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism; Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism; Agreement on cooperation of CIS member states in the fight against terrorism; Agreement on counteraction to legalization of proceeds from crime and financing of terrorism; Agreement on counteraction to legalization of proceeds from crime and terrorist financing when moving cash and monetary instruments across the customs border of the Customs Union; the Law of the Republic of Armenia On Combating Terrorism; the Law of the Republic of Armenia On Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism; Order of the President of the Republic of Armenia No HK-51-H On Approval of the national counter-terrorism strategy in the Republic of Armenia; Decree of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1473-H On Approval of the measures for implementation of the national strategy for combating terrorism in the Republic of Armenia.
19. The Committee of the UN Security Council on ISIS (Daesh), Al-Qaeda and any supporting individuals, groups, undertaking or entity periodically disseminates the updated lists of persons communicating with Al-Qaeda terrorist organization that are constantly examined and checked. Work continues in the working group of the inter-agency commission on fight against fraud on plastic cards, money laundering and financing of terrorism established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Armenia. Also work is carried out in cooperation with the Centre for Financial Monitoring of the Central Bank.
20. In the process of optimizing and improving the fight against terrorism, the police closely cooperate with other public authorities operating in the field of the fight against terrorism, as well as the structural and territorial subdivisions of the police force taking the necessary measures to increase the effectiveness of the process of ensuring tourism security. Police units take appropriate search and comprehensive preventive measures, such as enhanced round-the-clock protection of special and critical facilities in protected areas (Metro, Zvartnots and Shirak airports, religious centres, etc.), as well as in gathering places (parks, cinemas, sports schools, cultural centres).
21. On 22-26 May 2016 on the training facility “Marshal Baghramyan” in Armavir region the special police units together with the army and other police forces of the defence and emergency situations ministries, as well as rapid reaction forces of the member states of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and police units involved in the Task Force participated in the preparation, planning and conduct of tactical and specialized exercises “Cobalt 2016”. At the end of the drill the conclusions were drawn up in which along with some professional issues the problem of taking practical actions for improving the efficiency of neutralization of terrorist and radical groups, as well as sabotage and illegal armed actions were discussed.
22. **In Azerbaijan** the fight against religious radicalism is conducted within the existing legislative framework and is mainly focused on educational activities. The State Committee for Work with Religious Organizations (SCWRO) undertakes measures to

combat religious radicalism and extremism, to promote national and moral values, to enhance tolerance and multicultural traditions. It also conducts comprehensive educative work to revive traditional Islam as an alternative to radicalism and fanaticism. For this purpose in all regions of the country religious educational activities are carried out.

23. These activities are devoted to such issues as tolerance between people of different religions and faith, discrimination, confrontation, preventing violence, strengthening of tolerance in religious communities, preventing tendencies to radicalism in the community and their involvement in this activity. To this end, in the first 6 months of this year, the State Committee, both independently and in cooperation with other government agencies has held around 330 events, including 100 events dedicated to the “Year of Multiculturalism”. In order to further enhance the religious enlightenment and promotion of national and moral values of President of the country signed a decree on 27 November 2014, according to which the State Committee received 2.5 million manat (1.8 million USD) from the reserve fund of the President of Azerbaijan envisaged in the 2014 budget. Most of these funds were distributed by stages between religious communities for the implementation of specific projects. Today funding has been allocated to 102 projects of Muslim communities and 19 projects of non-Muslim communities.
24. Within the framework of these projects carried out by religious organizations 370 events were organised with participation of around 30 thousand people. Educational activities are also carried out through social surveys, which are conducted through the media organ of the State Committee “State and Religion” and the newspaper “Society and Religion”. These publications widely cover such topics as radicalism, extremism and sectarianism, as well as current and potential consequences of attempts to transform religion into a political tool. However, the most significant achievement of the State Committee in this area is the documentary “Fitne” (provocation), which is dedicated to the fight against religious radicalism. This film, commissioned by the SCWRO, takes up psychological, legal, political and moral aspects of the fight against religious radicalism. With its educational character, this film is very important from the point of view of preservation of national and moral values, as well as strengthening the atmosphere of tolerance in the country.
25. In order to secure peaceful living in today’s world full of national, ethnic, religious conflicts and terrorism acts it is imperative to ensure cooperation among religions, cultures and political systems, as well as to promote tolerance and multiculturalism. That is why the President of the country announced 2016 in Azerbaijan as the “Year of multiculturalism”. Multiculturalism can help globalised world purge of negative processes.
26. **Bulgaria** has ratified and implemented almost all multilateral instruments for countering terrorism. Relevant domestic legislation has been adopted and the necessary institutional capacity has been built. In July 2016 the National Assembly approved on first reading a *draft Act for countering terrorism*. It governs the fight against terrorism within effective coordination between state and local authorities and structures.
27. In 2015 the Penal Code was amended, introducing the requisites of *Resolution of the United Nations Security Council 2178/2014*. According to the Fifth recommendation of FATF (Financial Action Task Force) the Draft Act criminalises acts related to the

preparation, support and training for participation in terrorist activities, including such by foreigners with the aim of carrying out a terrorist act outside the country. Measures for the fight against terrorism are provided for in the following legal Acts: Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act; EU citizens and Families Entry Stay and Departure Act; Asylum and Refugees Act; The law on Bulgarian citizenship; Bulgarian Identity Documents Act; Measures against Financing Terrorism Act; Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act; State Agency for National Security Act; Act on the management and functioning of the system of national security protection and Republic of Bulgaria Defence and Armed Forces Act.

28. The Council of Ministers adopted the Strategy for countering radicalisation and terrorism 2015-2020 and a relevant Action Plan with the goal of: prevention of radicalisation, preventing and suppressing terrorist activities on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or originating from it; providing by legal and institutional mechanisms effective prosecution of the organisers, perpetrators and facilitators of activities related to terrorism or radicalisation in Bulgaria and other countries; minimizing the effects of terrorist activity, etc. In 2016 the government started preparation of a new and effective legal framework for preventing and countering radicalisation and terrorism. It includes the putting in place a Counter-terrorism Act and a Concept for communication with the media and civil society in governance during crisis resulting from terrorist activities. The Plan also includes the construction of a system for monitoring and coordination between ministries and agencies for countering radicalisation and terrorism with the aim of fast and quality exchange of information and methodology for identifying, monitoring and evaluation of the manifestations and risks of radicalisation.
29. Bulgarian legislation in the field of preventing and combating terrorism is fully compatible with international standards, including the UN conventions and the resolutions of the Security Council, the conventions of the Council of Europe and European Union acts. The Republic of Bulgaria is actively involved in the working bodies of the Council of Europe, responsible for the preparation of legal instruments in the field of preventing and combating terrorism. On 10 November 2015 the Bulgaria signed the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. *Bulgaria is part of the Syria Strategic Communication Advisory Team (SSCAT) and the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN).*
30. After the recent terrorist attacks, *Greece* has enhanced the checks at her external borders. The Extra-Ordinary Ministerial Council on Justice and Home Affairs decided to adopt the Directive of European PNR (Passenger Name Record) as well as to exchange information with the state services and private bodies of the transportation sectors; to develop and interconnect all the European and International data bases on the sectors of security, migration and travel; to speed-up the works for the development of a European automatic fingerprint identification system, integrated in the Schengen Information System (SIS).
31. The application of ECRIS (European Criminal Records Information System) on the citizens of non-European countries acquires great importance. The cooperation with Turkey and the countries of Northern Africa, Middle East and West Balkans on the fight against terrorism is enhanced. The review of legislative proposals on the fight against terrorism, such as the Directive Proposal on Terrorism is coming to a close.

32. The Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs deals with the external aspect of the fight against terrorism including cooperation and political dialogue with third party countries, implementation of the conclusions of the European Council of 9 February 2015, cooperation with international organizations and fora etc. The internal aspects like operational cooperation inside the EU, operational cooperation with third party countries in combating radicalization and extremism are dealt by the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction. The main field of fight against terrorism is combatting terrorism and extremism that surpass geographical borders. Special significance is attributed to the protection of national and religious minorities on the areas where the crisis is located.
33. Greece strongly condemns terrorism regardless its origin and participates actively in the international efforts on the fight against terrorism. Terrorism is an international threat which no country can face alone. The fight against it demands a universal strategy, which will involve all international partners. Fight against terrorism is to be based on abiding by the principles of the rule of law and human rights in the framework of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It is also important to preclude funding sources for terrorists. According to data from UNESCO the illegal trading of objects with archaeological value which have been acquired through the looting of museums or illegal excavations in Syria and Iraq contribute substantial financial benefits to the terrorist organizations. Greece promotes the inclusion of this subject on the agenda of all the international initiatives for the fight against financing terrorism.
34. **Romania** as the EU member states and many NATO partners are contributing to the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL. Thanks to that determined action of all 67 members the Global Coalition campaign has made considerable progress in this initiative. *Romania is a member of the Global Coalition anti-Daesh and participates in working groups fighting propaganda Daesh.*
35. In 2015, Romania has contributed to the international efforts for combating the humanitarian disaster generated by the Syrian crisis with 900,000 EUR for Madad Fund. In 2016, Romania will provide humanitarian assistance worth 340,000 EUR aimed at mitigating the effects of the Syrian crisis. Additionally, in 2016, the Scholarship Programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was open to victims of Daesh from Iraq and Syria. Romania continues support to educational needs, including by providing training courses by the Romanian Diplomatic Institute. Romania continues to fight terrorism and extremism threat in accordance with international law and the principles of the UN Charter.
36. Preventing and combating terrorism is organized, according to the Law No 535/2004 on the prevention and combating of terrorism. The law was designed to ensure adaptation to the challenges of terrorism-induced evolution, following the events of 11 September 2001. Law incriminates terrorist acts and adopts legislative responsibilities and obligations of the National System for the Prevention and Countering of Terrorism (SNPCT). The regulatory framework enforced in 2004 is a precondition for managing terrorist risks. The main sources of terrorist risk to the security of Romania are external in nature and manifests themselves in two directions: the national territory represents mainly a transit or refuge place, being in attention of foreigners coming from countries of the broader Middle East and Afghanistan or

Pakistan; the impact of Islamist radicalization processes generated by Daesh/ISIL ideology.

37. The National Defense Strategy for the years 2015-2019 presents terrorism as a persistent threat, having forms of manifestation very difficult to foresee and counter. At global level, terrorism has acquired new dimensions, being far from a distant phenomenon, but rather close to the Region. The fight against terrorism is based on the international norms including the UN Security Council Resolution No 2170/2014 condemning Gross, Widespread Abuse of Human Rights by Extremist Groups in Iraq, Syria; the UN SC Resolution No 2178/2014 condemning Violent Extremism, Underscoring Need to Prevent Travel, Support for Foreign Terrorist Fighters; the UN SC Resolution No 2199/2015, condemning Trade with Al-Qaida Associated Groups; the UN SC Resolution No 2249/2015 on threats to peace and security caused by terrorist acts.
38. Romania is participating in EU action plan designed to strengthen the fight against terrorist financing, in agreement with UN guidelines and International Financial Action Group. Romania also participates in the CODEXTER (Committee of Experts on terrorism) of the Council of Europe. Within this committee, Romania participated actively to negotiate the Convention on prevention of terrorism. In all formats of cooperation at European level on the issue of preventing and combating terrorism, Romania supports the need to continue joint efforts, both of Member States and EU institutions in order to capitalize all available tools and urgent adoption of measures to minimize terrorist risks.
39. **Turkey** has a long experience of fighting against terrorism. For many years Turkey has suffered from terrorist attacks and fully supports international cooperation in the fight against terrorism and extremism. Turkey takes a firm stand against terrorist organizations that pose a threat to international security. Turkey has always opposed the practice of selective approach to terrorist organizations and noted that this approach is unwise. Turkey carries out its national security policy within the framework of legislation, as well as actively participates in international action against terrorism and extremism.
40. Turkey is party to all UN conventions and protocols against terrorism. From 2011 till 2016 Turkey together with the Netherlands co-chaired the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), which consists of a steering committee at the strategic level, including two thematic and three regional expert working groups. Turkey pursues active work towards the development of cooperation in the fight against terrorism on bilateral basis. It has already signed security cooperation agreements with more than 80 countries and continues to negotiate the conclusion of such agreements with other countries.
41. Turkey stresses the importance of the role of public institutions, agencies and civil society in the fight against terrorism and extremism and contributes to the fight against the international threat of Al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups, including Al-Nusra, Daesh and Al-Shabaab. In this regard, Turkey has stepped up security measures to prevent the entry of foreign terrorist fighters. More than 3,700 people were deported. The Risk Analysis Groups operate in airports and bus terminals in order to identify suspects.

42. Turkey participates in the international coalition against Daesh. The Government takes decisive measures to curb financing sources of terrorist groups and fighting the smuggling of fuel, drugs and tobacco products. In this regard the number of security personnel in the border regions has been increased in order to strengthen border control. Turkey contributes to the international cooperation in the fight against terrorism.
43. Terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. The aim of the terrorist ideology is a division of societies and generation of feelings of enmity and hatred. For this reason government leads active fight against radicalization and marginalization. Measures are taken to strengthen development and social system, to raise the level of education of children and youth with a view to timely identify marginalized people and to ensure their reintegration into the society. Legal, organizational, operational, administrative, military and technical measures are also implemented to ensure elimination of potential terrorist threats.
44. Human rights and fundamental freedoms and their guarantees in *Ukraine* shape the content and direction of government activities. The Law of Ukraine “On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations” is a basic legal act in the sphere of religious activity, which determines that the state promotes mutual tolerance and respect among the citizens, between organizations embracing a religion or embracing none and between religious organizations and those of the members having a different faith. All religions, faiths and religious organizations are equal before the law.
45. In accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On National Security of Ukraine” inter-confessional stability, prevention of conflicts on religious basis and avoidance of confrontation of different churches are among the main directions of state policy on national security issues. The Ukrainian state cannot accept violations of human rights, public safety, public order, health or morals of other people in the name of faith. Religious organizations have to act in the framework of democratic laws. Any violation of public order and democratic system must be eliminated. Religious activities are to be limited by democratic laws.
46. A significant problem for the Ukrainian government have also become protracted conflict between the Orthodox religious organizations based on objective processes of change in confessional subordination from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to the Kiev Patriarchate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The fight against the spread of terrorism and extremism, in which religious factors have significant role, can be organized through combatting and prevention measures. Combatting measures are carried out by law enforcement agencies (Ministry of Interior, General Prosecutor’s Office, Security Service of Ukraine), whereas prevention is dealt by central executive bodies in the sphere of religion, the rights of national minorities, education, science, culture, art, justice and law.
47. The Interdepartmental Working Group on the settlement of the current inter-church conflicts launched its activities in November 2014 with the participation of representatives of public authorities and religious organizations. In 2016 Interdepartmental Working Group to combat extremism on religious grounds under the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine began its activities and is composed of members of parliaments and related public authorities. Regular meetings between the state authorities and leadership of churches and religious organizations are held. On 23

April 2016 the President of Ukraine met with the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and religious organizations, where topical issues of functioning of churches and religious organizations in the Ukrainian society were discussed. In particular, the issues of importance of spiritual consolidation of Ukrainian society, legal regulations promoting spiritual and social activities of believers, the question of creating a single Local Ukrainian Orthodox Church and setting up of educational establishments by religious organizations were discussed.

III. CONCLUDING REMARKS

48. Terrorism and extremism are multifaceted threat to international, regional and national peace, security and stability, and are unacceptable, regardless of the motivation, purpose, origins and manifestations. Terrorism and extremism undermine the rule of law, fundamental freedoms and democracy.
49. Terrorism is one of the major challenges posed to the international community that cannot be resolved by any one country alone. Every state in every region, large and small, strong and weak, is vulnerable to the consequences of the international terrorism. The countries worldwide need to come together and join efforts for strengthening international cooperation against terrorism and extremism.
50. Acts of terrorism and extremism are criminal without any justification. The fight against terrorism and extremism requires a wide range of measures, including diplomatic, economic, information, law enforcement, military, financial, intelligence and other instruments. The international community has put forth the vision, the will and the resources to significantly contribute to the achievement of a better, peaceful, stable and prosperous globalized world.
51. Religion may play an important role in the fight against terrorism and extremism. In this connection it is necessary to identify the ways of enhancing the peaceful aspect of religion and support the strengthening of interreligious dialogue. Taking into account the religious diversity in the BSEC region, it is necessary to promote inter-religious cooperation and organize conferences in the PABSEC framework on the role of religion in the fight against terrorism and extremism with the participation of representatives of all religions.
52. In global campaign against terrorism and extremism parliaments and governments have to join efforts to integrate nations and peoples into the mutually beneficial democratic relationships that protect against the forces of violence and promote a freer, more prosperous and more secure world.
53. The world has been united against the threat of terrorism and extremism into a single space of solidarity and political will with clear cut aim to secure better future within the global society. To this end inter-religious and intercultural dialogue remains as an important mechanism in the region for confidence-building and consolidation in the fight against terrorism and extremism.