

### **Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring of mass destruction (77/75)**

The pursuit of global peace faces unprecedented challenges from terrorism, which threatens to endanger the very foundation of democratic societies.

India is greatly concerned by the increasing linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and is fully cognizant of the need to urgently address this grave threat to humanity through international cooperation and within the United Nations framework.

Threats arising from terrorism transcend borders, which necessitates a robust and coordinated response at the national as well as global levels. The international community must augment its efforts to eliminate the risks of sensitive materials and technologies falling into the hands of covert networks, terrorists and armed non-State actors.

Having fought the menace of terrorism for many decades, India, through its annual resolution at the General Assembly entitled “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”, has drawn the attention of the international community to the dangers of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the potential for its exploitation by terrorists and non-State actors for hostile purposes. Tabled since 2002 and adopted by consensus, the resolution urges Member States to support international efforts and to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. India is pleased that resolution 77/75 was adopted without a vote and received the support of 91 sponsors and cosponsors.

India believes that it is incumbent upon every Member State to combat terrorism, dismantle its support infrastructure and curb its linkages with weapons of mass destruction. For its part, India has a comprehensive law in its domestic legislation, the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act 2005, which effectively translates at the operational level the firm commitment of India to preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. In 2022, India amended the Act to include prohibition of financing of any prohibited activity under the Act and other relevant Acts, and enable financial and other measures to prevent such financing, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.

The growing industrial and commercial applications of dual-use items and the rapidly evolving nature of technologies have lowered the technical and material barriers to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems and related materials, equipment and technology to clandestine networks and non-State actors, including terrorist groups. The Indian national export control system based on legislation, regulations and a control list of sensitive material, dual-use items, equipment and technologies is consistent with the highest international standards.

India believes that multilateral export control regimes contribute to the goals of non-proliferation through guidelines for export controls and lists of specific goods and technologies whose exports should be regulated. The national export control list of dual-use material, equipment and technologies of India, called Special Chemicals,

Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) is updated annually to take into account the emerging trends and evolving technologies. India is a party to all the 13 international instruments accepted as benchmarks for a State's commitments to combat all forms of terrorism, including chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear terrorism. India has also ratified the instruments such as the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its Amendment, which provide an effective framework for translating broader political commitments into legally binding measures.

India recognizes the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) to prevent the risk of access of non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction. In this context, India engages with the reporting and review process of national measures by the Committee. We believe that outreach efforts under resolution 1540 (2004) to various countries and regions will also complement the implementation of the objectives of General Assembly resolution 77/75. We also fully support the Committee's enhanced cooperation and coordination with international organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), other relevant United Nations bodies such as the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Security Council's counter-terrorism committees to prevent non-State actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

India believes that government-industry partnership contributes into an effective export control system. Awareness about their export control obligations, the nature of industry-level checks and compliance with them by industry is integral to the success of national export control systems. Accordingly, the Government of India, along with its industry partners, remains engaged throughout the year in outreach activities, which comprises region-specific and sector-specific events, both in-person and online. India actively participates across various multilateral forums, including through the United Nations, IAEA, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and other relevant forums to step up efforts and international cooperation to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

India has regularly participated in the International Conferences on Nuclear Security hosted by IAEA. India participates in IAEA Nuclear Security Guidance Committee (NSGC) for the development and review of nuclear security documents. India is also an active participant at the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the Nuclear Security Contact Group. India's Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) has conducted over 56 international programs, including training courses, workshops and technical meetings, drawing more than 500 foreign participants from around 60 countries besides more than 1000 Indian participants. GCNEP has also signed 14 memorandums of understanding with various countries and organizations, including IAEA, United States of America, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Argentina, Uzbekistan, Ghana, African Commission on Nuclear Energy, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan and Republic of Malawi for strengthening global nuclear security.