



INTERVENTION

BY

THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AT THE

**30TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

AGENDA ITEM 6

**INTEGRATION AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS BY THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME AND BY MEMBER STATES IN THE FIELD OF
CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

17 MAY 2021

HYBRID FORMAT

Chairperson;

Excellencies;

Distinguished guests;

Ladies and gentlemen;

South Africa, in line with its commitment to fight organized crime, has ratified various United Nations instruments including the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto; the Convention against Corruption and the UN international instruments to combat terrorism. We have also ratified the African Union Convention on the Prevention and Combatting of Terrorism. In this regard, different pieces of legislation have been enacted and policies put in place to ensure that the country complies with its international obligations.

One of the critical measures that the South African government took was to strengthen the law enforcement agencies' capacity to fight organized crime. The establishment of the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, known as the HAWKS, has yielded positive results in the fight against organized crime. Additional resources have been allocated to strengthen the capacity of the investigating directorate within National Prosecuting Authority to fight corruption.

Chairperson,

In its efforts to improve the government's response to the threat of transnational organized crime, the South African Police Service has adopted the Organised Crime Threat Assessment mechanism, which relies on intelligence and international cooperation to assist in developing more timely and effective interventions. This has already yielded positive results in addressing syndicate related crimes in our country.

The South African Government is committed to improving the domestic implementation of international treaties and agreements related to the combating of corruption in all its forms. Government has recently adopted a national anti-corruption strategy, which was widely consulted upon across all sectors that will underpin the creation of an

independent statutory structure that will report directly to parliament. Furthermore, the President of the Republic of South Africa established the Investigating Directorate (ID), within the National Prosecuting Authority to investigate unlawful activities relating to serious, high profile or complex corruption cases. In keeping up with the technological advances, South Africa is looking into having a data analytics section within the Special Investigative Unit of the NPA to collect and analyse information to assist in combatting corruption.

Currently, the government, through a judicial commission of inquiry into state capture, is investigating serious allegations of fraud, corruption, and other allegations in the public sector including organs of state.

Chairperson,

South Africa implements its international obligations relating to the combating of terrorism primarily through the Protection of Constitutional Democracy against Terrorist and Related Activities Act 33 of 2004. This Act gives effect to the counter-terrorism Conventions ratified by the country as well as provide for a mechanism to comply with UN Security Council Resolutions relating to terrorism. Together with other pieces of legislation such as the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, which aims to combat money laundering activities and the financing of terrorist and related activities, South Africa remains committed in its fight against terrorism. An inter-departmental working group coordinates and monitors compliance with UNSC resolutions on terrorism.

International cooperation, especially through mutual legal assistance and extradition, remains an important tool in winning the fight against transnational organized crimes, terrorism and corruption. In order to ensure enhanced international cooperation and compliance with our international obligations, we have embarked on a process of reviewing our current legislation.

In Conclusion

South Africa wishes to reaffirm its commitment to strengthen its fight and coordination efforts in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. We reaffirm our commitment to international cooperation through the mutual legal assistance and extradition processes. In this regard, we urge all States to strengthen the fight and willingly cooperate with one another when called upon to do so.