



Security Council

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Letter dated 14 December 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the 8923rd meeting of the Security Council convened on 9 December 2021 under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security: security in the context of terrorism and climate change”. The interventions of the in-person participants will be published as an official record of the Security Council ([S/PV.8923](#)).

In accordance with the understanding reached among Council members for the 8923rd meeting, the following delegations submitted written statements, copies of which are enclosed: Georgia, Indonesia and Jordan. These statements will be issued as a document of the Council in accordance with the procedure set out in the letter dated 7 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council ([S/2020/372](#)), which was agreed in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and reference to the document will be made in [S/PV.8923](#).

(Signed) Abdou **Abarry**
President of the Security Council



Annex I

Statement by the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations, Mohammad K. Koba

I would like to begin by thanking Niger for bringing a spotlight on this issue.

On this note, allow me to highlight the following points:

First, the linkage between climate change and security risks is highly context-specific.

The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report *Climate Change 2021: the Physical Science Basis* elaborated at length how the impact of climate change is wide-ranging, but projecting varied challenges across regions and countries.

While climate change was never the only driver of conflict, we have been observing cases in which it has multiplied existing risks and insecurities, which could further escalate conflict, including radicalization and terrorism.

This linkage depends on many other factors, including resource availability and the capacity to adapt, which varies from one conflict area to another.

Thus, the Council needs to devise its response accordingly through informed analysis that takes into account local context and up-to-date climate information.

Second is to take concrete applicable actions.

While raising awareness through Council meetings is important, Indonesia believes that the Council needs to take concrete applicable actions to respond to this emerging threat.

This needs to be done in close coordination with other relevant United Nations bodies in accordance with each one's respective mandate.

The Council's efforts need to go beyond injecting climate-related lexicons into the outcome documents.

We need to start by addressing the needs of impacted local communities, especially the increased risk of intercommunal tension and violence in resource-scarce areas, which could breed radicalization.

Moreover, we need to enhance the capacity of affected countries to adapt to climate change and to mitigate the impact of climate-related security risks by strengthening the cooperation with local and national governments and regional organizations.

Third is to address the root cause of terrorism.

Addressing the root cause of terrorism should remain our utmost priority.

The economic and social challenges that might be presented from climate-related challenges should be immediately addressed.

To this end, Indonesia emphasizes the importance of the sharing of experiences and best practices in responding to climate vulnerabilities as a root cause of terrorism from other countries.

To conclude, Indonesia remains committed to enhanced cooperation in tackling the root causes of terrorism, including the vulnerabilities presented by climate-related challenges.

Annex II

[Original: Arabic]

Statement of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at the Security Council open debate on “Security in the context of terrorism and climate change”

9 December 2021

Mr. President,

Allow me to congratulate you on the assumption by your country, Niger, of the presidency of the Security Council for the current month. We are confident that your wise leadership will help the Council to carry out its tasks relating to the maintenance of international peace and security.

The challenges before us today are many and it is in our countries' common interest to address them effectively. Joint coordinated action is required to have a genuine and positive impact. As one of the world's most water-deprived countries, Jordan is well aware of the seriousness of climate change. It is also aware of the seriousness of terrorism, as it has suffered from that scourge and been threatened by terrorist movements, including the terrorist organization Da'esh.

In many countries, severe weather, droughts and floods can put people in desperate situations that create conditions in which terrorism can flourish. It starts with worsening social tensions, poverty, hunger and unemployment, which help terrorist organizations spread their propaganda in communities, taking advantage of the challenges posed by difficult changes and climatic conditions. Perhaps the most notable example is the exploitation by Boko Haram of people's suffering to reinforce their power in areas where chronic drought has destroyed crops. In that connection, we refer to Security Council resolution [2349 \(2017\)](#), which recognizes the adverse effects of climate change and ecological changes among other factors on the stability of the region, including through water scarcity, drought, desertification, land degradation, and food insecurity.

In his 2009 report on climate change and its possible security implications, the then Secretary-General outlined five channels through which climate change could affect security: threatening food security; slowing development; migration and competition for natural resources; implications for rights, security and sovereignty as a result of the disappearance of territory; and international differences over shared or undemarcated resources. There is no need to go into details of which we are all aware. We know what the risks are. So should we not be asking: Are there measures we should be taking? What, in fact, are the steps we must take to arrive at the desired result?

In his address to the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, His Highness King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein stated as follows: “Jordan has been calling for regional networks of resiliency to pool our resources and respond quickly and smoothly to needs as they arise. And we stand ready to utilise our country's strategic location – at the crossroads of Asia, Africa, and Europe – to facilitate the broadest international response”. Let me reiterate here that Jordan stands ready to play its part in addressing the common challenges facing our world today. That includes combating terrorism and climate change, and strengthening international coordination to develop an effective approach through which Governments, businesses and civil society around the world can work to protect our planet and our common future.

Annex III

Statement by the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations, Kaha Innadze

At the outset, let me thank Niger for the timely initiative of bringing this important subject to the forefront of the agenda of the Security Council.

It is evident that the world is facing a growing threat from climate change that undermines international peace and security at large. Unfortunately, climate change hits countries in fragile or conflict-affected situations the hardest, leading to competition over scarce natural resources, displacements and undermined societal cohesion. On the other hand, exacerbated social vulnerabilities lead to radicalization and create fertile ground that terrorist and extremist groups can exploit.

These are two key global security concerns of our time, which require constant attention from the side of the international community.

Bearing in mind the nexus between climate and security, we welcome the increased focus of the Council on the climate change issues, and believe that assessment of climate-related security risks and responses to them should be further fed into the Council's work, including as a part of United Nations peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities.

Climate change poses a serious challenge to Georgia as well. We fully share the alarm presented by the Secretary-General's report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that declared a "code red for humanity".

We believe that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement are the major international mechanisms to guide the global efforts in addressing climate change. In this regard, Georgia, as a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement has been committed to making its own contribution to international efforts in combating climate change by prioritizing Goal 13 on climate action at the national level, submitting its updated nationally determined contributions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and joining a number of major international initiatives announced at the twenty-sixth Conference of the Parties (COP26) held in Glasgow, such as the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, the Global Methane Pledge, the High Ambition Coalition COP26 Leaders' Statement and the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate.

While the impact of terrorism in Georgia remains to be assessed as very low, considering the global security landscape, terrorism-related challenges still exist, as no country is immune from this serious threat to international peace and security. Therefore, the Government of Georgia has been actively working to detect the continuously transforming landscape of terrorism and to develop efficient, coherent and coordinated ways of responding to it.

At the national level, the Government of Georgia continues to take effective and comprehensive counter-terrorism measures, including upgrading the legislative framework, carrying out law enforcement measures and being active in domestic and international coordination and cooperation, as well as prevention-oriented various projects and programmes with the aim of reducing the threat.

Georgia has been actively involved in international efforts and will continue to pursue the fight against terrorism in all its manifestations, alongside the international community. Georgia has been an active member of the Global Coalition against Daesh from the very beginning and has been significantly contributing to the maintenance

of international peace and security through its participation in multinational operations.

Georgia has a sound legal framework for international cooperation and has mechanisms in place to conduct it. Georgia is a party to the 14 United Nations anti-terrorism conventions and continues further enhancing the international legal framework in the areas of law enforcement and security. Furthermore, Georgia remains committed to enhancing cooperation with the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other regional international organizations, including by being actively engaged in cooperation dialogue with them and sharing experiences and best practices, as well as carrying out joint projects, training and measures in the fight against terrorism.

While speaking about the security environment in my country in terms of terrorism, let me draw your special attention to the situation in the Russia-occupied Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia. These regions are beyond the Georgian Government's effective control, and remain outside national and international monitoring. The grave security, human rights and humanitarian situation there creates a fertile ground for all sorts of illicit activities, including activities related to terrorism, and poses a serious threat to regional and international peace and security.

In conclusion, let me stress that Georgia stands ready to do our utmost towards reducing the implications of the climate crisis for international peace and security, and in the fight against terrorism.
