



**Remarks by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General,  
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism**

**Sixteenth Extraordinary Summit of the Assembly of the African Union**

**28 May 2022, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea**

Your Excellency, Mr. Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea,

Your Excellency, Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission,

Your Excellency, Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola,

Your Excellency, Mr. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, and Chairperson of the African Union,

Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my honour to represent Secretary-General António Guterres at this Summit.

Let me begin by thanking the Government and the people of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for hosting the Summit.

I would also like to thank the African Union for organizing this timely event which takes place in the context of a number of worrying trends across the continent.

Terrorism remains a significant global threat, affecting the lives and well-being of millions of people.

This threat has been felt particularly in the five regions of Africa, where terrorist activities have regrettably increased. According to the 2022 Global Terrorism Index, approximately half of all deaths attributed to terrorism globally last year were recorded in the continent.



In the Secretary- recent visit to Nigeria, he saw first-hand the positive results obtained from a combination of successful action against Boko Haram and socio-economic initiatives aimed at reintegration and reconciliation.