Keynote address by Mr. Raffi Gregorian,

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Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

I thank the Presidential Security Service (PSS) of the Republic of Korea for inviting me to deliver this keynote speech on behalf of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism.

Our world is facing complex and grave threats to international peace and security which include terrorism. According to the Global Terrorism Index, while the number of terrorist attacks increased by 17 per cent in 2021, the number of terrorism-related deaths decreased by slightly more than 1 per cent in the same year.

This decrease was primarily driven by a reduction in the intensity of conflict in the Middle East, as well as progress in counter-terrorism efforts. Hundreds, if not thousands

Today, the Global Compact forms the largest coordination framework in the United Nations system, with 45 entities engaged. It has been instrumental in leveraging the different areas of expertise within the system and building synergies with our partners.

Another important part of our institutional infrastructure is our increasing field presence, which responds to requests from Member States to deliver capacity-building activities and technical assistance closer to our beneficiaries. We currently have Programme Offices in Budapest, Doha, Madrid, Nairobi and Rabat.

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Informing and framing the work of UNOCT in all its areas of work, there is the United Nations Global Counter-

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We share a collective pursuit of safety and security, of human rights for all and sustainable development, and a world free from terrorism. And if your bid to join the Security Council in 2024 is successful, I know we will be able to do much more together.

Thank you.