

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya

To the United Nations

TENTH UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM COORDINATION COMPACT COMMITTEE MEETING

STRATEGIC COORDINATION OF COUNTER-TERRORISM INITIATIVES IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES 24 and 25 January 2024, 10am - 12pm

REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR MARTIN KIMANI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

- 1. Thank you, USG Vladimir Voronkov for organising this meeting. I thank the Secretary-General for his work and leadership.
- 2. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact exemplifies effective multilateralism, crucial in addressing the persistent and evolving threat of terrorism and violent extremism.
- 3. Africa's unique challenges in counter-terrorism stem from a complex mix of economic, historical, and sociopolitical factors.

- 4. The continent, with the world's youngest population, faces a critical lack of economic opportunities, growing inequality, livelihood-destroying extreme climate events, contributing to vulnerabilities exploited by terrorist groups.
- 5. Additionally, the historical backdrop of colonial and post-colonial legacies has left many African states grappling with challenges in governance, and the maintenance of control of all national territory.

of terrorism in Africa demands a robust and comprehensive response, as embodied by the Compact.

- 10. We appreciate the investments in coordinating counter-terrorism efforts, including the establishment of UNOCT regional offices in Nairobi and Rabat. We recall their genesis in the Africa Counter Terrorism Conference convened by UNOCT in July 2019 and chaired by the Secretary General. These programms are vital in delivering coordinated capacity and resources, reflecting our common aspiration for a terrorism-free future. Kenya's financial contribution to UNOCT and pledge for continued support exemplifies our commitment to integrated approaches.
- 11. The 2019 Africa High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism revitalised our collective efforts, enhancing regional counter-terrorism coordination. I emphasizes the importance of engaging in coordinated national and local interventions, pooling resources and capacities, and fully integrating a framework for Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning in implementing the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.
- 12. I want to end with a note of optimism. Africa has