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Remarks by Alistair Millar, Director, Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation

**Civil Society Side Event on the Occasion of the  
Tenth Anniversary of the Adoption of Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and  
the Establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee**

***28 September 2011, 13:30-14:30***

**ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations, New York**

Excellencies, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to be here with you this afternoon. I would first like to acknowledge the important work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) as well as all of you who have been involved in the implementation of Resolution 1373 over the last decade. I am delighted to be here with other members of civil society to share some of our perspectives on the role of civil society in the UN's work on countering terrorism and on how the governmental and non-governmental sectors can work more effectively together as we look towards the next ten years.

Events such as this provide an important forum for a discussion among officials and relevant nongovernment participants and I hope this can lead to more regular interaction amongst all of us here as well as others from civil society in the future.

The adoption of two resolutions has provided the potential to help strengthen the relationship between all of us. The first resolution was adopted in 2006 in the General Assembly and established the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The second, Resolution 1963, was adopted by the Security Council in December of last year and explicitly promotes interaction, as appropriate, with civil society as part of efforts to implement resolutions 1373 and 1624.

Why is such interaction with civil society important? Civil society organizations (CSOs) can help to give voice to marginalized and vulnerable peoples, including victims of terrorism, and provide a constructive outlet for the redress of grievances. They have important roles to play in activism, education, research, oversight, and even as assistance and service providers in areas related to counterterrorism. They can also play a critical role in ensuring that counterterrorism measures respect human rights and the rule of law, and help generate awareness of the threat and other counterterrorism-related issues.

CSOs are undertaking an array of activities that both directly and indirectly contribute to implementation of UN counterterrorism measures, but often with little or no acknowledgment that those efforts contribute to preventing and combating terrorism. It is not necessary to corral those efforts under the banner of counterterrorism but simply to recognize that a diversity of activity helps contribute to that long term goal.

This side event, and other venues such as the CTC Special Meeting in Strasbourg, France in April of this year, provide a welcome opportunity for member states and others in the audience to hear some perspectives from civil society. It also provides an opportunity to foster a better understanding of the diversity of ways in which civil society can contribute to UN counterterrorism efforts and how the UN and member states can help empower civil society.

I will now introduce our panelists, who will speak for five minutes each before we turn to the audience for questions.

**Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri** is the Permanent Representative of India to the UN and the current Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. Today he is speaking today in his personal capacity.

**George Kegoro** is the executive director of the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists. Mr. Kegoro is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and served as Secretary to the Commission of Inquiry into the Post Election Violence in Kenya in 2008.

**Lia van Broekhoven** is senior policy advisor at Cordaid, the Catholic Organization for Relief and Development, based in the Netherlands. Cordaid is active world-wide and works with a diverse group of civil society, from networks of grassroots peace builders, to local research institutes that study the nexus between development and security, to global women and development networks.

**Carie Lemack** is the co-founder of the Global Survivors Network, a project that works with victims of terror around the globe to promote awareness and civic engagement and to prevent against violent radicalization.

*More information about the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation and our work is available at: [www.globalct.org](http://www.globalct.org)*