UN Security Council Debate

Cooperation between the UN and the Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations in

Maintaining International Peace and Security: CSTO, SCO and CIS 28 October 2016

INDIA STATEMENT

Ambassador & Deputy Permanent Representative Tanmaya Lal



Thank you Mr. President for organizing today's debate.

2. I would like to thank you and your delegation for circulating a comprehensive concept note in context of this debate. We would also like to thank the UN Secretary General for his remarks on this important issue.

Mr. President,

- 3. Regional and sub-regional organizations have an important role to play in the maintenance of international peace and security. The UN has pursued interaction with several regional organisations in this context. For instance with the African Union on the African continent.
- 4. India has supported such cooperation with the United Nations under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. Article 54 of the Charter enjoins upon these organizations to keep the Security Council fully informed of their activities for maintenance of international peace and security.

Mr. President,

5. Today, few security problems begin and remain within the borders of one country; they invariably radiate beyond the national borders. Terrorism, drug trafficking, transnational crime, pandemics and environmental degradation do not respect any borders.

6. Terrorism constitutes a growing threat to international peace and security. The international community is increasingly confronted with terrorist groups that have influence across continents in terms of their sourcing of finances, recruitment, spreading of their hate ideology, and the areas of their operation. This has been made possible by the forces of globalisation over the last two decades. The battle against such groups can only be won collectively through much closer international cooperation. Regional and sub-regional groups can play an important role in facilitating such cooperation.

Mr. President,

- 7. Among the organisations being discussed today, India has been an Observer in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation for the past one decade and is now an acceding state.
- 8. India brings to this group, principles that are in tune with the philosophies of the SCO. India's capacities in trade, investments, ICT, Space, S&T, agriculture, health care, small and medium scale industry can create widespread synergies with SCO countries.
- 9. The SCO is a young organisation. With India as its full member, the boundaries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation would stretch from the Pacific to Europe; and from the Arctic to the Indian Ocean. It would represent forty percent of humanity and over a billion youth.
- 10. There already exists a Joint Declaration on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. The cooperation can be taken forward.

Mr. President,

11. For the partnership between the UN and the regional organisations to be effective, it needs to be one based on respect for regional processes, complementarity and a division of labour based on comparative advantage.

Mr. President,

- 12. While acting under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, regional and sub-regional organizations should make every effort to assist their member-states to achieve pacific settlement of disputes, in cooperation with the UN, as appropriate. Such cooperation should encompass all relevant issues related to international peace and security, including the fight against terrorism.
- 13. It is important that cooperation between the United Nations and the SCO and other regional bodies grows organically. Periodic debates, like the today's, offer useful opportunity to both the UN and the regional organizations to discuss how that could proceed in a mutually supportive manner.

Thank You.
