



14 April 2011

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Statement for the attention of the participants of the Special Meeting of the UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee with international, regional and subregional organisations, Strasbourg, 19-21 April 2001

by Mr Dick MARTY and Lord John TOMLINSON on behalf of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

1. We note that the Special Meeting of the UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee deals with an impressive range of matters, focusing mainly on prevention policies, comprehensive and integrated strategies, and the role of law enforcement in preventing terrorism.

2. We would like to bring to your attention the work of the Parliamentary Assembly's Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on issues relating to human rights and terrorism. You will find an overview of this work appended to this statement. It is also available on the Assembly's website: http://assembly.coe.int/CommitteeDocs/2010/20101108_infogenerale_E.pdf

3. **Specific concerns addressed to participants of the Special Meeting:**

(i) Terrorism can and must be fought effectively in a manner which fully respects human rights and the rule of law. Under no circumstances can rights which are non-derogable under the European Convention on Human Rights and other international human rights instruments be compromised.

(ii) Terrorists must be held to account and appropriately punished for human rights violations they have perpetrated. Also, abusive recourse to the doctrine of state secrecy must be prohibited and cannot be invoked with respect to serious human rights violations.

(iii) Targeted sanctions against individuals or specific groups ("blacklists") have a direct impact on individual human rights. Such sanctions must provide appropriate legal guarantees to ensure their credibility and effectiveness.