1. We stand together in condemning all forms of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. We are motivated by the memories of the victims and the suffering of the survivors of terrorist acts, their families, and friends, who remain foremost in our thoughts. Recent terrorist attacks underline the need for a sustained commitment to fight terrorism globally in compliance with all our obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law.

2. We recognize that terrorism is a global threat and that no state can address it alone. We underline the importance of deepening international cooperation which is essential to protect our citizens and strengthen global security. We remain committed to keep the fight against terrorism on top of the international and national agendas.

3. We welcome the close cooperation and mutually reinforcing partnership between the UN and the GCTF, specifically with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) as well as with all other entities of the recently established Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact such as the UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the UN Development Program (UNDP).

4. We recognize the guidance and leadership shown by the UN with the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) and the relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions, including those related to emerging threats such as for instance UNSCR 2396 (2017) on Returning and Relocating Foreign Terrorist Fighters.

5. We recall that the GCTF was established and continues to work in support of the UN to reinforce and complement the implementation of the GCTS and relevant UNSC and United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions pertaining to countering terrorism. This was illustrated today by the endorsement of three new GCTF good practices documents on the Nexus between Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism, Addressing Homegrown Terrorism, The Challenge of Returning Families of Foreign Terrorist Fighters, and in addition also a Recommendations on the Collection, Use and Sharing of Evidence for Purposes of Criminal Prosecution of Terrorist Suspects.

6. We note the first United-Nations High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States convened in June 2018, including its intended impact on strengthening the international community’s counter-terrorism efforts. We also welcome the Secretary-General’s proposal to establish a unit within UNOCT that will liaise with civil society, which along with the proposed establishment of a network of counterterrorism coordinators, is one of several important outcomes of the first UN High-Level Conference, including cooperation with civil society. The GCTF is committed to support the UN in strengthening and enhancing the engagement of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism.
7. We are committed to further strengthen a close and mutually reinforcing relationship between the GCTF, UNOCT, CTED, and the other 34 UN entities involved in counterterrorism efforts in the recently established Compact. This cooperation will focus in the coming period (2018-2019) on Border Security, Accountability and the Importance of Evidence Collection, and Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, and also, where feasible, issues pertaining to Victims of Terrorism. The implementation of these thematic areas should take into account regional priorities and needs, in particular in regions of mutual interest such as East and West Africa, and key cross-cutting themes such as the protection of human rights while countering terrorism.

8. We recognize the important role of the UN in providing counterterrorism capacity building assistance to Member States, and the international demand for this. We are aware of the limited funds and capacity available to counter terrorism and violent extremism, and we strive to ensure that those limited resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible through mutually reinforcing partnerships and programs with counterterrorism partners, including the United Nations.

9. We encourage initiatives to strengthen existing partnerships and where possible build new ones, with a view to helping build capacity in line with the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, the relevant Security Council resolutions and the GCTF framework documents.

10. Finally, we recognize the contributions by the GCTF inspired institutions: the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), Hedayah, and the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), in building capacity at national, regional and local levels.