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CONCEPT NOTE

UN SECURITY COUNCIL ARRIA FORMULA MEETING **“THE IMPACT OF UNILATERAL COERCIVE MEASURES ON GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM EFFORTS”**

Date: 25 March 2024

Time: 10:00

Venue: ECOSOC Chamber

Participation: All UN Member States, Permanent Observers, UN entities, civil society organizations and press are invited

The meeting will be held in all UN official languages and webcast on UN WebTV (*subject to non-objection by UNSC Members*).

Background:

Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs) are widely imposed by Western powers in violation of international law to exert political pressure. UCMs have been used to coerce States into compliance with discriminatory and neocolonial policies, undermining the principles of sovereignty and non-interference enshrined in the UN Charter. The UN General Assembly has condemned utilization of UCMs on numerous occasions, including in its resolutions 2131 and 72/201.

The application of UCMs is often accompanied by geopolitical agendas, leading to the marginalization of affected populations and the erosion of their basic rights. The disproportionate impact of these measures on vulnerable populations, including refugees, highlights the humanitarian toll of coercive diplomacy.

These measures have long been criticized for their adverse effects going far beyond targeted States, exacerbating instability and impeding international cooperation on regional and often even global level. UCMs produce severe repercussions on international counter-terrorism efforts. They are designed to instigate political instability, economic hardship, and

social unrest in targeted States that can afterwards be used for another “color revolution” or “regime change”. All these factors, in turn, create breeding grounds for extremism and terrorism.

Objective:

The purpose of this meeting is to critically examine contribution of UCMs to exacerbating insecurity, fostering resentment, radicalization, and hostility among affected populations as well as to thwarting individual States’ potential and international cooperation in combating terrorism and extremism.

Participants and experts are encouraged to exchange views and to raise awareness about detrimental effects of UCMs on national and global counterterrorism efforts and also, in a broader sense, on the principles of sovereignty, equality, respect for international law, international peace, stability, and human rights.

Program:

Opening remarks:

- **H.E. Mr. Vassily Nebenzia**, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

Panel presentations:

- H.E. Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism;
- Ms. Alena Douhan, Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of the Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights, Belarus;
- Mr. Alfred-Maurice de Zayas, lawyer, expert for civil and political rights, USA;

Discussion:

- Statements by the UN Security Council members and other UN Member States as time permits, Q&A. Interventions are suggested to be limited to 5 minutes.

Closing remarks:

- **H.E. Mr. Vassily Nebenzia.**