

Draft Resolution

Ensuring use of Armed Drones in Counter-terrorism & Military Operations in accordance with International Law including International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Reaffirming Article 2(4) of Chapter 1 of the United Nations Charter, which urges upon all members to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state;

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which guarantees right to life, liberty and security of person;

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 68/178 and Human Rights Council Resolution 19/19 on Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (*both adopted by consensus*);

Expressing concern over civilian casualties resulting from the use of remotely piloted aircraft (Based on Ben Emmerson's report)

Reaffirms that all counter-terrorism measures should be implemented by States in accordance with their obligations under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, thereby taking into full consideration the human rights of all, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and in this regard must not be discriminatory on grounds such as race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin (*OP 4 of consensus UNGA Resolution 68/178*);

Ensuring that any measures taken or means employed to counter terrorism, including the use of remotely piloted aircraft, comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction and proportionality (*OP 6(s) of consensus UNGA Resolution 68/178*);

Appreciating the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism presented to the 25th Session of Human Rights Council contained in document A/HRC/25/59 as well as of the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions to the 68th Session of UN General Assembly;

Welcoming the statement by the UN Secretary-General of 13 August 2013 stating that “the use of armed drones, like any other weapon, should be subject to long-standing rules of international law, including international humanitarian law”;

Welcoming also the statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the 23rd Session of HRC on 27 May 2013 and the Security Council on 19 August 2013 expressing serious concerns about the human rights implications for the protection of civilians of armed drone strikes carried out in the context of counter-terrorism and military operations;

Commending the role of civil society organizations especially the reports published by the Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) highlighting the humanitarian and human rights impact of use of armed drones;

1. *Urges* all States to ensure that any measures taken to counter terrorism, including the use of remotely piloted aircraft, comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, in particular the principles of precaution, distinction and proportionality **(Based on para 73 of Ben Emmerson's recent report)**;

2. *Calls upon* the Special Rapporteurs on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions to continue to monitor and report on the evolving situation in the context of human rights violations as a result of use of armed drones to the UNGA and the HRC;

3. *Calls for* convening an interactive panel discussion of experts at the 27th Session of HRC to further deliberate on this issues **(As recommended in para 74 of Ben Emmerson's recent report)**;

4. *Also asks* the OHCHR to present summary of the deliberations of the panel discussion at its 28th session;