



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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## Speech by Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General

### Launch of the Model Legislative Provisions for Victims of Terrorism

4 February 2022

Distinguished Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,  
Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly,  
Distinguished Under-Secretary-General, of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov  
Distinguished Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.  
Distinguished Mr. Gennaro Migliore, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean.  
And Mr. Reinhold Lopatka, Vice-President of the Assembly at the OSCE PA  
Distinguished Members Parliamentarians and participants  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be here in this virtual meeting to launch the Model Legislative Provisions for the victims of terrorism, co-organized by the UNOCT, the UNODC, and the IPU.

Countering terrorism and protecting the victims of terrorism, and especially the protection of women against violence, have always been essential items on the agendas of parliamentarians. The importance of addressing these issues led the IPU to establish a programme to combine the efforts of parliaments and governments in countering terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism. This programme was also founded in order to close the implementation gap between international strategies and commitments, and national legislation. It led to the establishment of the IPU-UN Joint Programme on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism between the IPU, UNODC and UNOCT, which ended in June 2021.

The scope of the Joint Programme was aimed at the national, regional, and international levels, with activities and products with a real and tangible impact. These aims led to the idea that the three organizations should begin elaborating and drafting model legislative provisions for the victims of terrorism in order to protect and support victims and their various needs.

Today, that idea has become a reality. We are pleased to launch this work officially.

The work began at the end of 2020 with an inclusive process, with several expert meetings from civil society, parliamentarians, and others., In 2021, we started the drafting and completion process. I am pleased and proud of the results achieved, this is a project with real impact.

Today, our world faces numerous complex global challenges, including terrorism and violent extremism, among others. These complex global challenges require global solutions and coordination. Parliaments and parliamentarians, by effectively employing

the constitutional mechanisms entrusted to them – the powers to legislate, hold governments accountable, allocate budgets and ultimately represent the people – must play a pivotal role in translating international commitments into action at the national level and ensuring that they are implemented effectively.

Parliaments and parliamentarians are essential in combating every condition conducive to violent extremism, and protecting and defending the rights of the victims of terrorism. Parliaments and parliamentarians play a significant role in shaping prevention and response efforts to conflict-related sexual violence through legislation, oversight, budget allocation and advocacy. Indeed, parliamentarians can intervene at every stage of radicalization, marginalization, and discrimination of any given group and support the victims of terrorism. They are at the strategic forefront of prevention; parliamentarians can work with citizens to build various alternative pathways away from hate and violence, and to understand the processes of extremism. These capacities are important pre-requisites to the design of any de-extremization programme.

Considering the above and the importance of uniting global efforts in countering terrorism, but primarily to provide support to the victims of terrorism and to achieve real impacts to benefit the citizens of each country, the IPU is committed to continuing to work closely with the United Nations to offer our expertise and knowledge in these domains.

The importance of the model legislative provisions lies not only in their development, but more importantly, in the need for parliamentarians to adopt and introduce these provisions into national legislation and ensure that they will be applied on the ground. Indeed, the work of parliamentarians does not end in the drafting of the model legislative provisions, it has only just begun.

Thank you very much for your attention.