Briefing by Ambassador Verbeke , Chairman of the Al-Qaida and Taliban Committee, pursuant to

- On 29 January 2007, the Committee transmitted its annual report on its activities in 2006 to the Security Council (S/2007/59).
- On 24 April 2007, the Committee forwarded a report (S/2007/229) containing its position on the recommendations included in the Monitoring Team's sixth report (S/2007/132). The consideration of the Team's reports always provides the Committee with an opportunity to reflect upon and assess on how to further improve the sanctions regime. In its consideration of the sixth report, the Committee focused on the recommendations that were not already covered by resolutions 1730 (2006) and 1735 (2006).

III. Current and Future Work of the Committee

Based on its programme of work for the period 1 January - 31 July 2007, the Committee is currently considering the following issues:

- (a) Further improvement of the quality of the Consolidated List, in particular the Taliban section, as requested by the Council in resolution 1735: The completeness and accuracy of the Consolidated List continue to be essential for the success of the established sanctions measures. The Committee, with the assistance of the Monitoring Team, has introduced a number of improvements to its list. Further improvements are needed especially with regard to the Taliban sanctions list to make it in line with the current reality on the ground and to make the sanctions more effective by adding more identifying information. States are therefore encouraged to submit the names of individuals and entities that should be included on the list because of their association with Al-Qaida and/or the Taliban, as well as additional and updated information for the names already on the List. A standard form (cover sheet) is available on the Committee's website and the Committee and the Monitoring Team are ready to assist States in this regard at any time.
- (b) Review pursuant to paragraph 6(i) of the Committee's guidelines: In March 2007, the Committee initiated this review; out of more than 100 individuals and entities identified by the Secretariat for this purpose one individual and one entity have been suggested for such a review. The Committee will examine these cases in July after the necessary consultations with the relevant States have been held.
- (c) Improvement of the Committee's guidelines with regard to paragraph 1(a) of resolution 1452 (2002) related to the provision of basic expenses in light of humanitarian exemptions to the assets freeze, pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution 1735 (2006).
- (d) Other issues to be considered: The Committee will discuss such issues as the criminal misuse of the Internet, the involvement of the private sector into sanctions implementation, especially assets freeze, and possible instances of non-compliance.
- (e) Stock-taking exercise: In July, the Committee will evaluate the implementation of resolutions 1730 (2006) and 1735 (2006).
- (f) Committee's Website¹: The Committee's website was modernized at the end of February. Its presentation is now more user-friendly and its content has been expanded. The Committee is currently working to further improve its website in order to enhance its outreach to the broader membership and the outside world. Fact sheets on the relevant procedures are currently under the consideration of the Committee and will be posted on the website. Member States are encouraged to fully utilize this practical tool for a better implementation of the sanctions measures.

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¹ http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/index.shtml

IV. Partnership in Sanctions Implementation

(a) Cooperation with States