

2017

Inaugural Meeting of the IMCTC
Ministers of Defense Council



التحالف الإسلامي العسكري لمحاربة الإرهاب
ISLAMIC MILITARY COUNTER TERRORISM COALITION



Republic of Gabon

Your Royal Highness, Crown Prince,

Esteemed Ministers of Defense,

Respected participants,

Allow me first to send brotherly greetings from His Excellency President Ali Bongo Ondimba, President of Republic of Gabon, and the Supreme Commander of Defense and Security Forces, to his brother the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, His Majesty King Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud, for this initiative, the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition.

Gabon, therefore welcomes the first meeting of the IMCTC Ministers of Defense Council for Coalition member countries. We hope that our work will succeed in the fight against terrorism and the unjustifiable atrocities committed against innocent civilians worldwide. In this respect, we offer our condolences to our brethren, the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The on-going commitment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and His Highness, the Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman to combat terrorism and extremism aligns with the principles and objectives of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's Charter; which advocates for the cooperation and solidarity of member countries against threats and foreign interferences of all sorts.

We share this commitment with Saudi Arabia, as Gabon and Central African countries are also affected by terrorism, maritime piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, and the looting of resources used for financing terrorism.

It is for these reasons that Gabon reaffirms, here, its commitment to the Coalition, to defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the people of our countries.

So, we need to do this, we must provide this pan-Islamic Coalition with mechanisms of collaboration, self-help, and build the capacity of our defense and security forces to deal with the threat of terrorism.

We must work to enhance the leadership of the Coalition by joining the significant number of countries, in their visions and efforts within the international community through the United Nations.

Indeed, no nation can fight terrorism alone.

Royal Highness,

Esteemed Ministers,

Gabon thanks the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for organizing this exceptionally strategic meeting, and for the warm welcome they have given to our delegations. We reaffirm, once more, the importance of this Coalition, which will undoubtedly contribute to establishing sustainable peace in the midst of dramatic changes in the environment of global security. The peace and security of our countries are indeed priceless and non-negotiable.

We ask that the Almighty to watch over our country, and with his grace, we are united to defeat terrorism.

Thank you.