

Reference: C.N.179.2020.TREATIES-XVIII.11 (Depositary Notification)

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE
FINANCING OF TERRORISM
NEW YORK, 9 DECEMBER 1999

AUSTRIA: OBJECTION TO THE RESERVATIONS MADE BY LEBANON UPON ACCESSION ¹

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 28 May 2020.

(Original: English)

“The Government of Austria has carefully examined the reservation and statement made by the Lebanese Republic upon accession to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism on 29 August 2019.

Austria considers the statement to amount to a reservation as well, because it aims at subjecting the application of the Convention for the Lebanese Republic to its own, narrower definition of terrorism.

By excluding the definition of terrorism set forth in Article 2, paragraph 1 (b) of the Convention and applying a different definition, Lebanon seeks to limit the scope of the Convention on a unilateral basis. Austria considers these reservations to be contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention, which is the suppression of the financing of terrorism acts, irrespective of where they take place and of who carries them out.

Furthermore, the reservations are contrary to the terms of Article 6 of the Convention, according to which States Parties commit themselves to ‘adopt such measures as may be necessary, including, where appropriate, domestic legislation, to ensure that criminal acts within the scope of this Convention are under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature’.

Austria would like to recall that, according to customary law as codified in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (Article 19, sub-paragraph (c)), a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted. It is in the common interest of states that treaties to which they have chosen to become parties are respected as to their object and purpose, by all parties, and that states are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

¹ Refer to depositary notification C.N.401.2019.TREATIES-XVIII.11 of 29 August 2019 (Accession: Lebanon).

Austria therefore objects to the aforementioned reservations. This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Republic of Austria and the Lebanese Republic in its entirety. The Convention will thus become operative between the two states without Lebanon benefitting from the aforementioned reservations.”

1 June 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a 'N' and a horizontal line underneath.