

Reference: C.N.334.2020.TREATIES-XVIII.11 (Depositary Notification)

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

FINLAND: OBJECTION TO THE RESERVATION AND STATEMENT 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 4 August 2020.

(Original: English)

“The Government of Finland has carefully examined the contents of the reservation and statement relating to subparagraph 1 (b) of Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism made by the Government of the Lebanese Republic upon accession.

The Government of the Lebanese Republic has made a general reservation to sub paragraph 1 (b) of Article 2, which is central in defining offences within the meaning of the Convention. Furthermore, the Government apparently seeks to subject the application of the Convention for the Lebanese Republic to its own definition of terrorism. If this is the intention of the Government of the Lebanese Republic, the Government of Finland considers that the statement part of the Lebanese submission constitutes a reservation as well. It seems clear that the Government of the Lebanese Republic seeks to limit the scope of the Convention on a unilateral basis.

The Government of Finland considers that reservations of this kind are in contradiction with the object and purpose of the Convention, which is the suppression of the financing of terrorist acts wherever and by whomever they may be carried out.

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

The Government of Finland wishes to recall that, according to customary international law as codified in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 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

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

to which they have chosen to become parties are respected as to their object and purpose and that states are prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with their obligations under the treaties.

The Government of Finland therefore objects to the abovementioned reservation made by the Government of the Lebanese Republic to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Finland and the Lebanese Republic. The Convention will thus become operative between the two states without the Lebanese Republic benefiting from its reservation.”

6 August 2020

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