

community. We reiterate our firm belief in the necessity for the international community to promote efficient means to respond promptly to humanitarian emergencies, and support the work of the WEU in this area.

8. Respect for the rights of the individual is at the heart of a durable, secure and prosperous international order. We will work to promote good governance and democratic accountability, which are the surest guarantees of respect for universal human rights and fundamental freedoms. We condemn all forms of discrimination and intolerance, including aggressive nationalism and the mistreatment of persons belonging to minorities. We call upon all States to protect the rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to ratify and comply fully with international Covenants and other multilateral human rights instruments. We reaffirm our support for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and his coordinating role on human rights throughout the UN system. We call for the strengthening of international mechanisms of accountability for human rights violations, and on governments to cooperate fully with courts, tribunals and investigative commissions, including on the effective pursuit of individual cases within the bounds of international and domestic law.

9. We restate our resolve to defeat all forms of terrorism. Following recent outrages, we agree to share more intensively our experiences of, and lessons learned from, major terrorist incidents, and to strengthen our cooperation in all areas of counter-terrorism, including research and technology. We call upon all States that assist terrorists to renounce terrorism and to deny financial support, the use of their territory or any other means of support to terrorist organizations. We attach particular importance to measures to impede the ability of terrorist organizations to raise funds, and urge other governments to strenuously enforce laws against terrorist activity and join existing treaties and conventions against terrorism. In pursuit of these shared aims, we charge our terrorism experts group to report to a ministerial level meeting on specific, cooperative measures to deter, prevent, and investigate terrorists acts. These sessions should be held prior to our next meeting.

10. Transnational criminal organizations are a growing threat to the security of our nations. They undermine the integrity of financial systems, breed corruption, and weaken emerging democracies and developing countries around the world. To counter their criminal activities effectively, we will work to reinforce existing institutions, strengthen our cooperation, exchange of information, and assistance to other nations. Sanctuaries provided by some countries to transnational criminal organizations and their agents create a major difficulty in the implementation of justice. We all agree to cooperate more closely together, and with others, to ensure that they cannot escape justice by crossing borders. We encourage all governments to adhere to and implement relevant international conventions and the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force. We recognize that ultimate success requires all Governments to provide for effective measures to prevent the laundering of