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18 October 2017

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Dear Paolo*

**PREVENTING TERRORIST USE OF THE INTERNET – EVENT AT  
UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

I wanted to thank you for sharing the stage with me, and President Macron at the UN General Assembly. Your leadership played a vital part in enabling the three of us to successfully make a strong, united call to work closely with industry and other international partners, civil society and the private sector to collectively tackle terrorist use of the internet.

As you rightly said in New York, cooperation between the public and private sector is essential to tackling this issue. I was particularly pleased that you emphasised that this would be at the centre of the G7 Interior Ministers' Meeting in Italy on 20 October. I agree with you that clear, collective progress needs to be demonstrated at this meeting. With that in mind, while we can both agree that this event was successful in bringing industry and government together, it is the first step in what will be an evolving process of collaboration with industry.

In addition to the G7 meeting in Rome, the EU Internet Forum Ministerial in December will also provide the opportunity to build on this commitment to collaborative action and develop it into tangible results. It is vital that the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism is fully represented and engaged at both events to continue to emphasise that this is a shared endeavour with key international partners, while continuing to encourage industry to take more action. We should use the joint statement developed at the UN General Assembly to hold industry to account on the commitments they agreed to deliver over the remainder of 2017.

Under your leadership, the G7 has made significant collective progress to tackle online extremist and terrorist content and I hope we can continue making strides at the meeting in October. Looking further ahead to 2018 when Canada will take over leadership of the G7, I look forward to working with you and Prime Minister Trudeau to maintain momentum on this important issue during the transition between your two G7 Presidencies, as we continue to work together to tackle the global terrorist threat.

Yours sincerely  
R. M.