

UN and Switzerland Convene International Counter-Terrorism Focal Points Conference

PILLAR I AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Political Affairs and Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), called upon participants at the “International Counter-Terrorism Focal Points Conference on Addressing Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism and Promoting Regional Cooperation” to address three main issues in their discussions: How do we translate the global resolve to counter terrorism into practical cooperation at the regional level? How do we move beyond combating the criminal aspects of terrorism and address its root causes more effectively? And how do we ensure that we do not call into question the full respect of human rights when fighting terrorism?

The first ever global event devoted to Pillar I of the United Nations Global



H.E. Mr. Didier Burkhalter greeting H.E. Mr. Olugbenga Ashiru and H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni at the International Counter-Terrorism Focal Points Conference on Addressing Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism and Promoting Regional Cooperation, Palais des Nations. (UN Photo / Violaine Martin)

Counter-Terrorism Strategy, held on 13-14 June 2013 at the United Nations Office at Geneva, was co-chaired by Mr. Feltman and H.E. Mr. Didier Burkhalter, Vice-President of the Federal Council and Foreign Minister of Switzerland. The opening session included several

eminent personalities, including H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh; H.E. Mr. Olugbenga Ashiru, Foreign Minister of Nigeria; H.E. Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva; and Ms. Navanethem

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Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. All Member States of the United Nations were invited, and more than 300 delegates from States, international and regional organizations, United Nations bodies and civil society entities attended the Conference.

The international community should together identify solutions, share experiences, provide capacity-building assistance and measure results in the implementation of Pillar I with equal enthusiasm and foresight.

The Conference had three main objectives: to bring together counter-terrorism focal points in order to advance reflections on the strategic context in which Pillar I topics need to be prioritized for programming and implementation by Member States, regional organizations and civil society members; to identify ways and develop partnerships to strengthen regional cooperation to further the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy; and

to emphasize the integrated nature of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, particularly the interdependence that exists between conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and other pillars of the Strategy.

At the Conference, participants underscored that fighting terrorism through law enforcement measures alone is akin to treating the symptoms of a disease without studying the underlying factors that allow the symptoms to emerge and multiply. But knowing those underlying factors — those conditions that are conducive to the spread of terrorism — is not enough. The international community should together identify solutions, share experiences, provide capacity-building assistance and measure results in the implementation of Pillar I with equal enthusiasm and foresight.

Discussions focused on key thematic topics that are at the core of Pillar I of the Global Strategy: linkages between development and security, the role of civil society in assisting in the implementation of Pillar I, the role of victims of terrorism in countering the terrorist narrative, and the importance of promoting dialogue

and understanding the need to counter the appeal of terrorism. An overarching discussion on the importance of regional cooperation in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was also a key feature of the Conference.

The Co-Chairs' Summary, adopted at the conclusion of the Conference and available on the CTITF website, covered a broad array of points raised at the Conference. Participants called upon regional organizations to play a useful role in supporting the implementation of the Global Strategy through consensus-building, establishment of professional or technical coordination and information-exchange mechanisms, as well as practical cooperation in police, border and legal matters. Development and respect for human rights, it was repeatedly noted, must be linked with the security dimension, and States should bring greater focus on spreading education, enhancing good governance and improving economic opportunities in order to prevent terrorism and extremism. Protecting human rights and ensuring respect for the rule of law contribute to preventing terrorism.



International Counter-Terrorism Focal Points Conference opening session (UN Photo / Violaine Martin)

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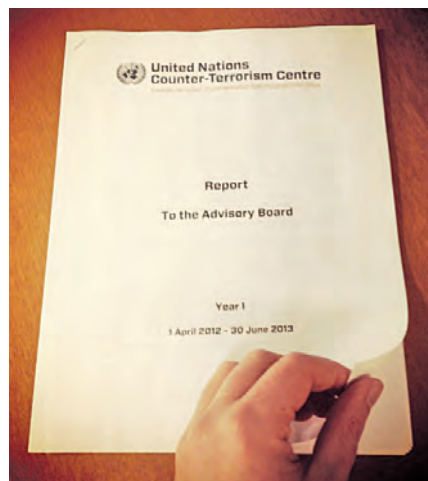
Many speakers at the Conference belonged to civil society organizations, and noted that counter-terrorism measures should co-exist with the protection of the operational space for civil society, which has intrinsic value with regard to the implementation of the Global Strategy. The importance of supporting victims of terrorism was also underscored, and participants welcomed the contributions of the United Nations and other international entities, such as the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF), in addressing this topic, including through emphasizing technical assistance for building the capacity of States in the development and implementation of programmes of assistance and enhancing support for victims of terrorism. It was further noted that a specific international instrument on the rights of victims of terrorism will strengthen international efforts against terrorism. Developing and enhancing the skills, knowledge and capacity of victims of terrorism to interact with, engage and discuss through various forms of the media, including through the use of both conventional and social media, will mitigate the effects of a terrorist attack.

The Conference helped in reorienting counter-terrorism discussions toward key socioeconomic aspects that drive terrorist propaganda and recruitment and it underscored the importance of cooperation — mainly through the exchange of information and best practices — between Member States and organizations in the struggle against terrorism. The event was part of the CTITF Initiative on Implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. ■

UNCCT Successfully Concludes First Programme Year

Great strides have been made in the first year of operation of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT). The successful implementation by CTITF entities of projects supported by UNCCT, and the international conferences organized by UNCCT have generated valuable new information and skills in the global fight against terrorism.

A large part of the first UNCCT programme year (1 April 2012 to 30 June 2013) was devoted to staffing and operationalizing UNCCT within the CTITF Office, enabling the Centre to live up to its mandate of fostering international cooperation and implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the international, regional and national levels. The integration of UNCCT within the CTITF Office, as mandated by the Contribution Agreement and General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/10, avoids duplication and better supports CTITF entities undertaking projects in their thematic areas of expertise.



UNCCT Report to the Advisory Board Year 1

The support and guidance of the Advisory Board, skilfully shepherded by its Chairman, His Excellency Ambassador Abdallah Yahya A. Al-Mouallimi of Saudi Arabia, is essential to the work of UNCCT. Through comments and recommendations in four Advisory Board meetings and numerous consultations with Board members, the Centre was able to adopt its strategic priorities as well as to select and start implementing its first projects based on the actual needs of the global counter-terrorism infrastructure.

UNCCT has already completed five projects with important worldwide impact on countering terrorism.

UNCCT has already completed five projects with important worldwide impact on countering terrorism, while three more projects are still being implemented and show first valuable outcomes. Stakeholders have affirmed that UNCCT has already become a valuable tool in the fight against terrorism.

The second Programme of Work includes a wide range of project concepts submitted by CTITF entities and Member States at their own initiative, as well as projects developed independently by UNCCT. The second year of operation will further enhance the contribution of UNCCT in the implementation of all four Pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through an increased number of projects and additional support for CTITF entities. ■

Programme Global Shield

In recent years, the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) for terrorist purposes has been on the rise across the globe. IEDs manufactured from precursor chemicals, such as ammonium nitrate, are the most prevalent forms of explosives employed in bombings around the world. IEDs have been used to inflict damage globally, and their use is on the rise.

In October 2010, in response to this emerging threat, the World Customs Organization (WCO), in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), spearheaded Programme Global Shield (PGS) for a six-month trial period. Over 70 countries participated in sharing real time information on cross-border movements of high-risk explosive precursor chemicals.

By monitoring the movement of certain chemicals, PGS participants were able to identify illicit shipments.

This unprecedented international effort was a tremendous success. During this six-month period, participating countries monitored the movement of nearly 2 billion kilograms of precursor chemicals, resulting in 19 seizures of explosive precursors weighing over 30 metric tons — enough material potentially to produce hundreds of IEDs. A total of 13 IED traffickers were also arrested during that period.

According to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA), between January 2011 and January 2012, there were 7,453 IED events globally, or an average of 621 monthly. An IED event is classified as an attack, an explosion or an undetonated device. Between January 2012 and October 2012, there were 5,008 IED events globally, or approximately 500 per month. This represents an approximate 20 per cent decrease in incidents from one year to the next.

However, these two time frames together resulted in 27,169 casualties in 121 countries. Sixty-seven per cent of these attacks have been conducted



Suicide vest seized in Afghanistan



Acetic Anhydride interdicted at the Islam-Qala Port between Iran and Afghanistan



Participants from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Pakistan, and Ukraine receiving hands-on training on the identification of precursor chemicals.



Participants from Afghanistan and Kazakhstan receiving hands-on training on Global Shield Computer System.

by 51 regional and transnational threat networks, while the other 33 per cent of the events have been conducted by unknown perpetrators.

IEDs can be manufactured by a lay person with a basic knowledge of chemistry. Components are generally sourced from commercially available commodities, the procurement of which rarely attracts attention. As they are easy to deploy and devastatingly effective, IEDs have become a predominant weapon of choice for terrorists, criminal organizations and extremists. These explosive devices can be deployed in multiple ways, such as landmines, car and truck laden bombs and suicide bombers utilizing personal-borne IEDs (PBIEDs).

Given the success of Programme Global Shield, WCO Member Nations decided to extend it as a long-term programme, until 31 December 2014. In April 2012, the PGS team was created and comprises two information support people, a business analyst and a programme manager.

Since its inception, the Programme has focused on capacity-building through training seminars, which includes the development of potential trainers with various linguistic profiles,

as well as the training of customs and police officials on skills such as examination, interviewing and investigation. To date, PGS has certified national trainers from Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Canada, Georgia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand, Ukraine and Viet Nam. Additionally, over 100 officials from 11 countries received such training on IEDs.

PGS is also working in the area of research and development to better equip frontline officers with the necessary precursor chemical detection tools. A prototype detection kit that enables the officer to quickly identify the precursor chemicals prescribed under Programme Global Shield, regardless of the officer's location or working environment, is currently undergoing field testing.

While partnerships among customs administrations, international organizations and non-governmental organizations are crucial, the WCO also works closely with the private sector. A key goal of PGS is to secure the entire international logistical supply chain from manufacturing to final destination. To that end, PGS actively engages with industry partners around the world. There are currently 86 countries



Potassium Chlorate seized in Nangahar Province in Afghanistan

and 11 organizations participating in Programme Global Shield.

To date, PGS has seized a total of 140.67 metric tons of chemicals. There have been 42 enforcement actions reported, including 2 recent arrests resulting in the seizure of 36 IEDs and 4 PBIEDs.

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As the threat of IEDs is no longer limited by national and regional boundaries, it is the goal of Programme Global Shield to have all of the WCO member administrations play an active role in the development of this global initiative.

“Cross-border trade has to be safe and secure from threats that may hinder or damage the global trading system and innocent citizens should be protected from threats that may risk or imperil their lives”, said WCO Secretary General, Kunio Mikuriya. “The Customs community stands behind this significant effort to ensure that precursor chemicals are not traded illegally and that they do not fall into the hands of those who have no moral regard for the consequences of their trade or actions”. ■

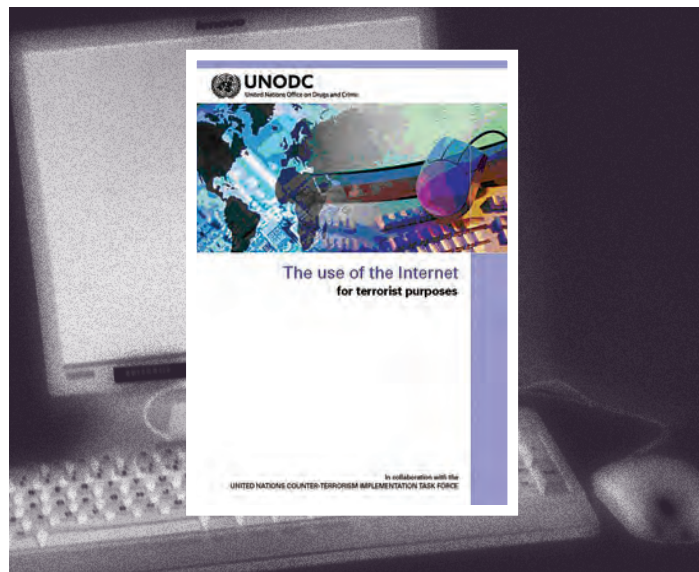
UNODC Launches New Technical Assistance Tool on the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes

The Internet is a powerful tool in today's fast-moving and increasingly interdependent world. While its multiple virtues — ease of access, rapid information flow and cost efficiency, among others — work to the advantage of billions of lawful users worldwide, the Internet has also turned into a strategic channel for terrorists to impart the terrorist ideology, raise funds, recruit new supporters and plan their attacks.

In recognition of the growing challenges posed by the use of the Internet by terrorists, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB), in collaboration with the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) working group on Countering the Use of Internet for Terrorist Purposes, worked together on the development of a comprehensive handbook on “The use of the Internet for terrorist purposes” intended to support law enforcement agencies and criminal justice.

At a launching ceremony hosted by the Austrian Ministry of Interior in Vienna, Mr. Yury Fedotov, UNODC Executive Director, stressed the timeliness of developing such a tool: “Just as Internet use among lawful citizens has increased in the past few years, terrorist organizations also make extensive use of this indispensable global network for their own purposes. Investigating

and prosecuting offences where Internet use is involved requires specific technical knowledge and enhanced cooperation at the international level,” Mr. Fedotov added.



The new handbook aims to equip policymakers, investigators and prosecutors with the necessary tools to address this emerging challenge by providing examples of actual legal cases involving the use of the Internet with terrorist intentions. By identifying challenges facing Member States in criminalizing such acts, as well as in investigating, prosecuting and ultimately adjudicating them, this publication stresses the need for enhancing international cooperation in this area, including with the private sector.

Speaking at the event, Marta Requena, Chief of the UNODC

Terrorism Prevention Branch highlighted the long-term benefits of the new tool: “By helping to effectively criminalize and prosecute the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, this technical assistance tool will help to prevent and deter terrorist activity and counter the appeal to terrorism”.

This publication, which has been developed following close consultations with Member States experts, relevant international organizations and the private sector, draws extensively on and complements earlier efforts undertaken through the CTITF working group on Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes. “TPB has particular expertise in designing legal frameworks for effective counter-terrorist action, and, in the case of the Internet, where no truly international agreement on use exists, TPB helps to guide the CTITF working group towards projects that combine practical impact

with proper legal consideration,” Richard Barrett, Co-Chair of the CTITF working group on Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes said at the launch.

“The use of the Internet for terrorist purposes” handbook is intended to be an easy reference guide for practitioners and in support of the capacity-building activities of the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch. It can be accessed through the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch web page at: http://www.unodc.org/documents/terrorism/Publications/12-52159_Ebook_Internet_TPB.pdf. ■

An Interview with Mike Smith



ASG Mike Smith with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Mike Smith, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and veteran in the counter-terrorism field, retired on 30 June 2013. CTITF sat down with him for an interview.

Q: As a veteran in counter-terrorism (CT), what are your legacies on CT for CTED?

A: I wouldn't look at it so much as legacies, I would change the question and say "how have we changed in the last five years" because I wouldn't claim much credit personally, it's what the team has done and the way in which we have changed our focus, methods of work and so on. There are lots of reasons for that, including the changing nature of the threat and the changing levels of capabilities of countries concerned, but when I came in, I found that we were mostly focusing on certain countries in the world, not all countries, and we seemed to be really trying to push countries to take necessary measures to strengthen their counter-terrorism systems. Early on we changed that approach and we became much more universal, because coming from one country, Australia, as a counter-terrorism official, I knew that all countries have problems with implementing Resolution 1373.

Counter-terrorism work is not easy, it's not easy politically and it's not easy technically and therefore there was no reason for us to just focus on a smaller group of countries even though perhaps the threat was mostly in those countries. So we became much more universal in our approach.

Secondly, we moved from simply doing assessments to helping countries recognize where they were vulnerable, then helping them to address those vulnerabilities both by facilitating technical assistance — actually by bringing regions together, or bringing countries in a region together, at a technical level to analyse the best ways, in that region or subregion, to strengthen their border control or their criminal justice system and then, out of that, helping them to recognize where they needed assistance from others. So, we have moved a long way in the five years and I think that we are a much more focused and much more grounded group than when I first arrived.

Of course there have also been internal changes that I think have been quite important, including the fact that different work units within CTED now are much more integrated and working together in a more harmonized manner. Harmonized in a sense that the judgments that are being made in different geographical regions are now being made on the same criteria, whereas in the past when I first came here, I think I found that each of the geographical clusters were doing their own assessments on the basis of their own judgements rather than making it a more universal approach. This has made the work more coherent and more comparable across regions and that has become evident in some of the tools that we have developed, such as the Global Implementation Survey which we produce every 18 months or two years, which looks region by region across the world at how we are going in implementing different aspects of resolution 1373. So now we can look at parts of Africa, we

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can look at parts of Latin America, parts of Asia, parts of Europe and say "OK, in this area they are doing pretty well, in this area they have got real difficulties", in a way in which we couldn't do before because we were just using different criteria to judge different countries.

Q: In light of your more than five-year's time with the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council, how do you see the future road map for United Nations counter-terrorism? How can the UN System strengthen coordination and coherence in its CT activities?

A: Well, I think that we have to focus on and have to identify where the UN value added is all the time. The counter-terrorism world is a very crowded one, and the UN part of it, in terms of the resources we have available and the expertise we have available, falls in a relatively small sector of that. In other words, there are lots of bilateral players who have vastly more resources and vastly more technical capability than the UN has, and we need to recognize that so we are not out there duplicating what is already happening in other countries. There are some areas where the UN actually provides a unique contribution. One of those areas is that we are the only organization that can establish and constantly reinforce the global norm that terrorism is unacceptable. Country A can say it's unacceptable and Country B doesn't have to agree with that, but when the UN as a whole makes an agreement that ter-

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rorism is outlaw behaviour that must never be tolerated and should never be a part of the policy options of any government, then that's a pretty powerful tool and pretty powerful weapon against terrorism. That's a major contribution the UN makes.

Secondly, we make a contribution by being a forum where countries can come



ASG Mike Smith at the CTITF Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting

together to discuss issues that cut across borders and which can't be handled by one country alone and we've been doing that and we'll continue to do that. That is a very important contribution.

But beyond that, particularly nowadays where I think a lot of countries now recognize that, to address terrorism effectively, you have to approach it on a comprehensive basis, with an appropriate respect for human rights norms and for the rule of law, and you have to do it by working across the society. This is not something that governments can do by themselves. The UN can play a role in helping to register those two messages and helping to facilitate a dialogue between governments and civil society because the UN is an honest broker in a lot of that work. It also happens to be the guardian of the international human rights instruments so we have a certain credibility in that area.

The issue of coordination is a constant issue within the UN and across

all sorts of areas and it's certainly no exception within the counter-terrorism field. Back in 2006, the then Secretary-General set up the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) essentially to operate as a body that would enhance coordination. I think that it hasn't done a bad job over the past six to seven years in drawing more of the agencies that have only a marginal but an important contribution to make in the counter-terrorism work. For example, an organization such as UNESCO is not a counter-terrorism organization, but the work they do on issues like education, building tolerance in societies, helping cultures to deal with each other, etc., even their press and information work, can be very important as a part of the spectrum of counter-terrorism responses. But it's not core business for UNESCO, so without an organization like CTITF, they would not really be very engaged.

Where I think the coordination has been more difficult, oddly enough, is among those agencies where CT is core business. That includes CTED as a unit, it includes the 1267 Monitor Monitoring Team, it includes some agencies that are a bit outside the UN like the World Customs Organization, the International Organization on Migration and INTERPOL. These are organizations that, because they are dealing with the security field, the border control field, their work is absolutely critical to counter-terrorism. But each of them has their own governing body which is different and therefore, even if the international civil servants who are working are inclined to cooperate, that doesn't mean that they are going to be able to deliver their boards

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CTITF Launches Global Project on Human Rights

The CTITF Working Group on Protecting Human Rights while Countering Terrorism launched on 15-16 April a new global project to provide training and technical assistance to Member States in order to enhance knowledge, understanding and implementation of international human rights frameworks and the rule of law in the counter-terrorism arena.

This, he added, will enable police and security forces to effectively prevent, respond to and investigate terrorism threats as well as “strengthen confidence within communities who are on the receiving end of these attacks”.

The Amman workshop had three main objectives: to map training needs among countries across North Africa,

investigative interviewing, the use of special investigation techniques, countering violent extremism, detention regimes and community policing. Some of the experts included Mr. Michael Downing, Deputy Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department; Mr. Abdelhamid Abdallah, Adviser to the Tunisian Minister of Human Rights and Transitional Justice; and Mr. Solomon Arase, Assistant Inspector General of the Nigerian Police.

The overall objective of the global project is to improve the capacity of Member States to prevent, respond to and investigate terrorism threats as well as support their efforts to implement measures included in Pillar IV of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288).

The project is particularly geared towards operational police and security officials and aims to establish respect for international human rights norms in their counter-terrorism programming. Participating States are offered access to information and expertise on emerging best counter-terrorism practices, within human rights training on the applicable international legal standards.

CTITF is now working on a follow-up to the workshop for states in West and North Africa, which will be held in the region in October 2013. This second workshop will build on the insights gained in Amman and will also explore several new thematic areas suggested by the participants, including working with civil society and the use of force within a human rights framework.

CTITF also welcomes bilateral expressions of interest from Member States in receiving follow-up training. ■



Judge Mohammad Mubeidi, Secretary-General of the Jordanian Ministry of Justice; Mr. Jehangir Khan, Director a.i. CTITF; Lieutenant General Hussein Al-Majali, Director, Public Security Forces, Jordan; Mr. Francesco Motta, Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Iraq

Introducing the project at a two-day workshop on “Key Needs and Developing Training Best Practices” in Amman, Jordan, CTITF Director Jehangir Khan described the initiative as unique as it specifically targets “those who are on the frontlines in the fight against terrorism. The project is designed to help develop the specific set of skills, knowledge and understanding of how to conduct their duties from a human rights centric perspective”, Mr. Khan told participants.

the Middle East and the Sahel, to demonstrate to Member States from these regions the level and breadth of training expertise that the CTITF can offer through this project and to begin identifying subject matter experts for inclusion on a Roster of Experts to support future training needs.

Expert panelists focused their discussions on five thematic areas: international human rights law and current best practice standards in the fields of

UNCCT Convenes Two International Conferences

Among the highlights of its first programme year, the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre held two important high-level international conferences: the first in Bogota and the second in Riyadh.

BOGOTA CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGIES

The first conference, focused on National and Regional Counter Terrorism Strategies, took place on 31 January–1 February 2013. This was one of the first initiatives of the newly established CTITF Working Group on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies, which is co-led by the CTITF Office–UNCCT and CTED.

The conference utilized the forum to compile and exchange good national and regional practices on countering terrorism that are consistent with and contributory to the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as share experiences relating to the development of comprehensive and integrated national and regional

In 2011, UNCCT was established within the CTITF Office to support United Nations efforts to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the national, regional and international levels, promote international cooperation against terrorism and build the counter-terrorism capacities of Member States. One of the key strategic priorities of the Centre is to assist Member States in the development, adoption and implementation of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies.

counter-terrorism strategies that involve all relevant stakeholders from different government agencies and segments of society.

The meeting was attended by more than 160 government officials, national counter-terrorism experts, representatives of the United Nations and practitioners from international, regional and civil society organizations. Discussions focused on the development and implementation of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies.

Participants focused on identifying principles that should be respected in developing, implementing and

reviewing national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. Based on the foundation provided by the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, overarching, substantive and procedural principles were acknowledged. Summarizing the outcome, participating officials from various governmental levels and agencies, regional and international organizations, as well as civil society organizations agreed that national and regional counter-terrorism strategies are an effective tool to counter terrorism and are complementary to the Global Strategy. You can find preliminary summaries at: <http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/uncct/index.shtml>.

The conference in Bogota launched the long-term initiative of promoting the development and implementation of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. CTED and CTITF as co-leaders of the Working Group are able to channel and deliver assistance through various United Nations agencies tailored to the specific needs of



Panel on Understanding Regional Dynamics and Realities to Develop Regional Strategies at the Bogota Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies

a requesting regional organization or Member State.

Feedback from the conference was positive and revealed that Member States and regional organizations are interested in receiving further follow-up regarding the development and implementation of national strategies. Some have already shown specific interest in requesting assistance delivered by the Working Group on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies.

The next steps of this initiative include a detailed Work Plan of the Working Group activities currently being developed that will be presented as follow-up to the participants and other interested Member States, regional organizations and CTITF entities.

RIYADH CONFERENCE ON FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AMONG COUNTER-TERRORISM CENTRES

UNCCT convened the second conference on 16-17 February 2013 in partnership with the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting brought together participants from national, regional and international counter-terrorism centres, think tanks and Government-sponsored entities and initiatives from all regions of the world. The purpose of the meeting was to highlight synergies and share good practices to promote implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and to develop an informal network of national, regional and global counter-terrorism centres.

“In the past decade, counter-terrorism institutions were founded all over the world”, Mr. Derek Plumbly, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Coordinator for Lebanon, told participants. “These institutions have accumulated a wealth of knowledge and expertise. Their activities, however, are often conducted in relative isolation and are not known sufficiently outside their regions of activity. Information sharing between these institutions can be improved”.

Mr. Jehangir Khan, CTITF Director a.i., stressed that during this two-day conference, participants, including himself, have learned about many innovative approaches to counter-terrorism that are designed and implemented in very different parts of the world. He highlighted that it was encouraging to see the wealth of information and experience that was exchanged on capacity-building programmes. Even though many projects and programmes might be developed according to the specific needs of a region or national context,

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In resolution A/RES/66/282 of 29 June 2012, which completed the third review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the General Assembly further encouraged Member States to enhance the important role that the United Nations plays, including the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), in coordination with other international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, in facilitating and promoting coordination and coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, regional and global levels and in providing assistance, upon request by Member States, especially in the area of capacity-building.



Participants at the Riyadh Conference on Fostering International Collaboration Among Counter Terrorism Centres

CTITF Launches the Implementation Phase of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative in Burkina Faso

While capacity-building assistance for Nigeria in the framework of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) has been ongoing since the launch of the Initiative in Abuja in January 2012, I-ACT for Burkina Faso was officially launched on 26 June 2013 in Ouagadougou.

I-ACT aims principally at assisting requesting Member States (currently Burkina Faso and Nigeria) with the holistic, country-focused and integrated implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a wide range of areas corresponding to key capacity-building needs. It also aims at ensuring effective coordination and information-sharing among UN entities that are part of the Task Force.

The CTITF Office launched I-ACT in a ceremony that was attended by Burkina Faso government officials, security and law enforcement agencies and representatives of local embassies, including Denmark, France, Mali, Nigeria and the United States. CTITF partner entities, including CTED, INTERPOL, OHCHR, UNESCO and UNODC, were in attendance for the ceremony as well as the two-day inter-agency coordination meeting led

by CTED and supported by the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre.

Through his Chef de Cabinet Ambassador Amadou Dico, Burkina



Djibrill Yipene Bassole, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso (UN Photo/Paulo Filgueiras)

Faso Foreign Affairs Minister, Djibrill Yipéné-Bassole, expressed the appreciation of the Burkinabe Government to the UN CTITF for launching I-ACT in such a timely manner. He reiterated the commitment of his Government to fight terrorism as well as its full collaboration with international entities in this endeavour.

The Ambassador of Denmark to Burkina Faso, Bo Jenssen, highlighted

the significance of a preventive approach to counter-terrorism in Burkina Faso especially by countering violent extremism. The Security Adviser of the Ambassador of France spoke of the value of I-ACT as a useful tool to re-energize the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in view of its operational dimension. The UN Resident Coordinator, Pascal Karorero, stressed the importance of addressing the development dimension of the broader security challenges in the region. They all commended the start of technical assistance to Burkina Faso to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in an integrated manner as well timed in view of the current developments in West Africa.

In his opening address, Muhammad Rafiuddin Shah of the CTITF Office introduced the I-ACT initiative to the participants and underlined its key advantages as an effective and systematic tool to implement the Strategy. Mr. Shah emphasized the effectiveness of working collectively in the fight against terrorism.

The launch marked the beginning of the implementation phase of the I-ACT initiative. In view of the relative peace in Burkina Faso, I-ACT activities will focus mainly on prevention. Several activities will be implemented by CTITF entities, such as UNODC, and bilateral partners in order to strengthen national capacities. ■

Implementing Capacity-Building Assistance in Nigeria

CTITF is currently implementing capacity-building activities in Nigeria through its Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative. This is being done in cooperation with the Government of Nigeria, which has become a close partner for the provision of assistance in a holistic and integrated manner across all Pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

the CTITF Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting held in December 2012 at Greentree, New York, where he was the guest of honour.

Considered as a national priority by the Government of Nigeria, counter-terrorism is reflected in national policies and strategies. This allows for a better alignment of external capacity-building assistance with national needs which,

focus areas set the framework of the capacity-building assistance facilitated by the CTITF Office that addresses needs identified through I-ACT mapping and gap analysis.

The project aims at promoting peace education and contributing to countering the appeal of terrorism through encouraging interreligious and intercultural dialogue, highlighting the role of women as well as the role of traditional and religious leaders, youngsters and civil society.



Colonel Sambo Dasuki, National Security Advisor, Nigeria

“In view of the increase in Boko Haram activities, Nigeria has adapted to new sources of insecurity including the terrorist threat by reviewing its national system to maximize effectiveness, strengthening institutional capacity and adopting new technologies to face the increasing sophistication of terrorist attacks”, said Nigeria National Security Adviser Colonel Sambo Dasuki at

together with national ownership of the assistance provided, is important for its impact and sustainability. Colonel Dasuki further outlined that areas of focus are on strengthening law enforcement and criminal justice system capacity; development as a way to counter terrorism; awareness raising as well as developing narratives to counter radicalization and violent extremism. These

An important area of CTITF work in Nigeria focuses on “soft measures” to address the terrorist threat. The launch of the I-ACT pilot programme for Nigeria in January 2012 kicked off a UNESCO project called “Stabilization and Counter-Terrorism Capacity-Building in Nigeria”, which is being implemented in partnership with the CTITF Office. This project stems from the acknowledgement that preventing conflict and addressing conditions that are conducive to the spread of terrorism are essential to achieving long-term security and stability in Nigeria. In this regard, the project aims at promoting peace education and contributing to countering the appeal of terrorism through encouraging interreligious and intercultural dialogue, highlighting the role of women as well as the role of traditional and religious leaders, youngsters and civil society.

Another significant part of the implementation of the I-ACT programme for Nigeria is the assistance provided to the law enforcement

community to enhance its capacity and role in preventing terrorism in fields not covered by CTITF entities, especially in countering radicalization and violent extremism. A series of capacity-building workshops are being provided, which will then be followed up by specialized technical assistance using a “train-the-trainer” approach.

It is in this framework that CTITF designed, organized and implemented, in cooperation with the Office of the National Security Adviser and the NATO Center of Excellence, “Defense Against Terrorism”, a training workshop on 13-17 May 2013, CTITF in Karu, Nigeria to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officers to counter radicalization that leads to terrorism. The participants were mainly law enforcement officers and civil society organizations from Northern Nigeria

as well as representatives of relevant ministries.

The focus of the workshop was on recognizing what makes a terrorist and on highlighting the importance of preventive measures to fight terrorism in addition to coercive actions.

The focus of the workshop was on recognizing what makes a terrorist and on highlighting the importance of preventive measures to fight terrorism in addition to coercive actions. The training aimed at promoting understanding of the ideologies and narratives of violent radicalization and of the recruiting methods of terrorist groups, as well as reflecting on strategies and response mechanisms. The workshop also looked

at how to build resilience to radicalization within civil society and outlined de-radicalization and rehabilitation programmes, highlighting the preventive role women can play in this regard. It also aimed at giving a better understanding of community policing as a way to address proactively conditions conducive to terrorism, by creating a bridge between law enforcement and local communities.

The training workshop had a positive impact. Participants indicated, in evaluation questionnaires, that it enhanced their knowledge on terrorist indoctrination and their understanding of the role of national agencies in countering the spread of terrorist ideologies.

The workshop was supported by the Governments of Australia and Norway. ■

I-ACT: Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism Initiative

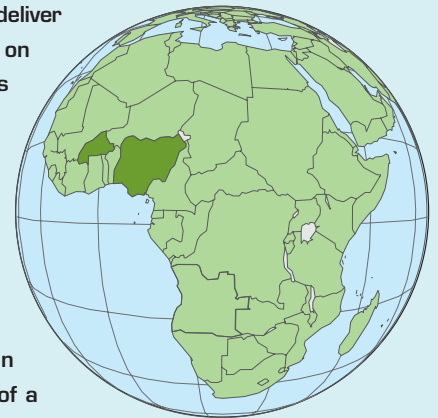
Enhancing coordination and coherence of counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system is the fundamental responsibility of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). To achieve results, the Task Force relies on different platforms, including the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative.

Through this Initiative CTITF entities are able to coordinate amongst themselves and deliver technical assistance in an integrated fashion “as one UN”. CTITF Chairman commented on the benefits of I-ACT: “The value added of the I-ACT information system is that, it helps CTITF entities identify technical assistance gaps and avoid duplication of projects to maximize delivery of external assistance to Member States”.

How does it work?

A Member State makes a request to the CTITF Office for inclusion as an I-ACT partnering country. The CTITF Office and Task Force entities then work with partnering Member States to provide a mapping of requested, completed, ongoing and planned technical assistance activities in each partnering Member State. The mapping is then complemented by a gap analysis in assistance delivery which is used for development of a national action plan with the ultimate aim of helping Member States implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in an integrated fashion.

So far, Burkina Faso and Nigeria are the partnering Member States that have formally requested consideration for assistance under the UN integrated approach.



INTERPOL Capacity-Building Programme in the Field of Counter-Terrorism

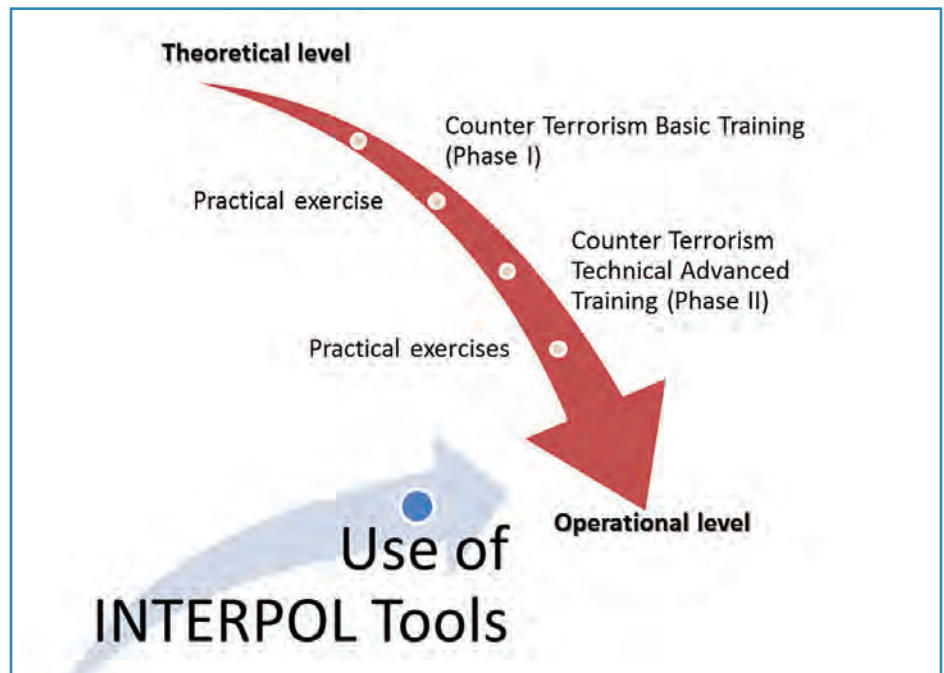
INTERPOL, the world's largest international police organization, is currently in the final phase of an ambitious global capacity-building programme in the field of counter-terrorism. This project is comprised of three regional capacity-building projects, covering the following geographic regions: Asia, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.

In each region, INTERPOL is hosting a three-phased training programme for counter-terrorism investigators, customs and border security agents and INTERPOL officials from the National Central Bureaux (NCBs), which are typically a division of that member country's national police agency or investigation service who serve as the contact points for all INTERPOL activities in that country. The programme is designed to instruct participants in the use of INTERPOL databases along with the sharing of best practices, modus operandi and responses to regional and international terrorist threats. Furthermore, this programme has facilitated the expansion of the secure I-24/7 network, and with it access to INTERPOL's databases, beyond NCBs, so that it may be directly used by frontline officers in their counter-terrorism work.

The INTERPOL collection of databases represents a unique tool at the disposal of criminal investigators and other law enforcement officers in member countries, as it provides them with instant and direct access to global criminal information. The databases contain millions of records contributed by

countries across the world. INTERPOL has numerous databases, including nominal data, DNA, fingerprints, stolen and lost travel documents, stolen motor vehicles, firearms, stolen works of art, child sexual exploitation images, and even one focused on suspected terrorists. This information is shared through I-24/7, which is INTERPOL's secure

their ability to use INTERPOL tools effectively. It makes use of a multi-year structure to implement three key phases, as follows: the first, lasting two weeks, consists of one week of I-24/7 and basic counter-terrorism training; the second phase, lasting one week, combines theory and practice in which the participants implement the basics learned in the first phase in a number of table-top exercises on international counter-terrorism investigations; and the third sees participants carry out a joint operation. In this way, trainees are able to deepen their contextual under-



global police communications network connecting all 190 NCBs, along with authorized law enforcement agencies and strategic partners, allowing them instantly to consult, request and submit vital data.

In each training course, the instruction begins with a theoretical basis and gradually incorporates practical elements, as the participants progress with

standing and learn from international counter-terrorism experts, and are subsequently given the ability to apply what they have learned in an operational setting (*see chart*).

In August 2013, phases one and two of the INTERPOL capacity-building programme on counter-terrorism for Asia and the Horn of Africa will be successfully implemented in their respective

target regions. All three phases of the INTERPOL programme to expand the use of its tools to combat terrorism in the **Sahel Region** have also been successfully achieved, following the recent successful completion of its operational phase.

Phase one of the INTERPOL capacity-building programme on counter-terrorism for Asia comprised four sessions, held between February and September 2012. More than 70 officers from 28 countries were trained. Phase two of the programme consisted of two sessions, which brought together 40 officers drawn from those who had successfully completed the first phase for a specialized, hands-on training course. To date, the training courses in the African region have trained more than 158 officers from 22 countries.

The programme is designed to instruct participants in the use of INTERPOL databases along with the sharing of best practices, modus operandi and responses to regional and international terrorist threats.

Each of the above-mentioned programmes included training in specific skill sets such as crime scene investigation, post-blast investigation, criminal analysis, interrogation and interviewing techniques, crisis response in cases of chemical, radiological, biological or nuclear attacks, among others. Participants were instructed by subject-matter experts from INTERPOL, as well as external experts from other international organizations, law enforcement agencies, think tanks and research centres around the world. Some of the external trainers represent organizations that,



together with INTERPOL, are active within CTITF, including the World Customs Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. External trainers have also come from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Australian Federal Police; United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, Combating Terrorism Center at West Point; and the British Metropolitan Police.

Equipment to connect to the I-24/7 network has been distributed to 120 participants. A concurrent project to finalize these connections is currently underway, with the goal of having all connections live by the end of 2013.

Phase two included a “train the trainer” module, which aimed to create a body of professionals who are able to disseminate the knowledge which they acquired as a part of the course to their colleagues, on a local or a national level. Thus, an important component of the programme is to deliver modules aimed at improving presentation skills, analytical capability and the enhanced sharing of best practices. In this way, the training is designed to reach not only the participants attending the session,

but indirectly a wider audience of law enforcement officers.

The capacity-building programme on counter-terrorism for Asia recently completed its first operation, with two parallel border security operations in Songkhla Province, Thailand and at Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Malaysia. This session brought together officers from police, immigration and customs to learn from international counter-terrorism and border management experts for an opportunity to learn in an operational environment, focusing on terrorist threats, detection of improvised explosive device (IED) precursors, and illicit radiological and nuclear trafficking. This produced tangible operational successes, such as the seizure of more than 70 kg of the sodium chlorate, a chemical precursor used in IEDs. Additionally, it provided a model for future capacity-building operations in border security with the potential to be applied elsewhere in the target region.

The operational phase of the capacity-building programme: expanding the use of INTERPOL tools to combat terrorism

in the **Sahel Region** was completed in June 2013 at the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Abidjan. This joint counter-terrorism operation involved the screening of the travel data of passengers on inbound and outbound flights from the Abidjan International Airport and a condensed crime scene table-top exercise. Nineteen law enforcement officers from nine countries in the Sahel region, namely **Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria** and **Tunisia**, were involved in the one-week operation which aimed

INTERPOL Notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts, which allow police in member countries to share critical crime-related information. They are used to alert police to fugitives, suspected terrorists, dangerous criminals, missing persons or other threats.

The aim of this programme is to improve the quality of Notices as investigative tools, and ensure their effectiveness, by delivering thorough instruction modules and exercises on their

immigration services. It was designed to increase understanding of the work INTERPOL is carrying out in collaboration with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) 1267/1989 Committee concerning Al-Qaida and 1988 Committee concerning the Taliban. INTERPOL worked with the UNSC Sanctions Committees to provide assistance to member countries in implementing UNSC sanctions, specifically the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo. This course has witnessed the participation of United Nations Al-Qaida/Taliban Monitoring Teams as well as the Secretariat of 1267/1989 and 1988 Committees as instructors.

It conducted seven training sessions for a total of 145 participants from 61 countries from the Americas, Africa, Europe and Asia to provide frontline, specialized and INTERPOL officers with the appropriate tools and knowledge to implement efficiently and proactively the UNSC sanctions regimes, at the national and regional levels.

INTERPOL also supplied the UNSC Subsidiary Organs Branch (SCSOB), acting as the Secretariat of UNSC Sanctions Committees, with direct access to the INTERPOL Police Information System and provided training for designated users in order to process requests, updates and removal of the INTERPOL-UNSC Special Notices effectively within the new INTERPOL I-link technology. The provision enhances the quality of the INTERPOL-UNSC Special Notices and capacity of international law enforcement community in tackling terrorism. It also reinforces the cooperation and exchange of information between INTERPOL and the UNSC Sanctions Committees

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to disrupt the movement of terrorists in the region. Throughout the operation, participants contributed to international investigations on recent terrorist attacks in the region by gathering and exchanging relevant information with the support of the INTERPOL Fusion Task Force. This initiative is set to continue in September and October 2013.

To accompany these programmes, INTERPOL has implemented a complementary training initiative which seeks to enhance the use of INTERPOL Notices in the target regions.

creation, publication and use, as well as fostering cooperation between judicial authorities and NCBs. Nearly 70 officers from some 22 countries took part in this programme during 2012 and 2013.

INTERPOL has also been expanding its scope in this field by offering an INTERPOL training course on “United Nations Security Council Sanctions and Their Implementation at the National and International Level”. This project targeted NCBs, counter-terrorism departments and border control and

INTERPOL Capacity-Building Programme in the Field of Counter-Terrorism

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— bridging the gap between a strengthened sanctions regimes and the global law enforcement community.

Since terrorism is a truly global phenomenon, effective counter-terrorism efforts require that countries and international organizations work together, build trust, cooperate and, when necessary, share critical information. With its global communications network, INTERPOL plays a crucial role in sharing information related to transnational crime and terrorism. The expansion of its network combined with the focus on counter-terrorism will provide the countries targeted by the programme a unique capacity to enhance their efforts to fight terrorism, while building enduring relationships between the international partners involved. ■

UNCCT Convenes Two International Conferences

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it was clear to him that synergies have already been identified and explored.

UNCCT identified possible areas of cooperation with the participating entities through a questionnaire in which the institutions described their respective mandates and activities. Based on this information, UNCCT has begun to facilitate collaboration among the

An Interview with Mike Smith

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of governments, their membership, because each of them come at a slightly different angle.

Now the CTITF mechanism has a potential for being able to much better integrate that. CTITF has made an effort in that way, it has certainly started. It has been doing some good work, but there is still work to be done.

Q: *Does counter-terrorism life stop for you personally after CTED?*

A: Well it's hard to say, but I hope it doesn't. Because after all of the time I've spend doing this work, I continue to find it fascinating. I think I am going to find it very difficult to just cut off from it. And I don't really think that I will.

As I mentioned earlier, one of the big challenges that national governments

participating institutions, including the creation of a directory of specialized centres of excellence, training centres, resource institutions, think tanks and Government-sponsored entities and initiatives. In addition, UNCCT will institute a web-based platform to exchange contact and other information in real-time to improve collaboration efforts among counter-terrorism centres worldwide. Conceivably this will involve a roster of experts that allows for the improved sharing of knowledge and expertise on specific subjects and areas. ■

One of the big challenges is constantly explaining to the society more broadly what terrorism is and what we need to do to address it and why we need to do that, and then engaging them in the response to terrorism.

face, that regions face, that globally we face, is first of all constantly explaining to the society more broadly what terrorism is and what we need to do to address it and why we need to do that, and then engaging them in the response to terrorism. Now, that is a very difficult thing to do, even for Governments in highly capable countries. There has to be intermediaries, people who can bring civil society players, who are not necessarily automatically inclined to see issues the same way as governments, together with agencies in governments that will not automatically give a lot of time to the views of civil society, by which I mean not just NGOs, but community leaders, religious leaders, parliamentarians, press and journalist, academics, the private sector. All of these people have a certain role to play and it is very complicated to work out how to facilitate that.

Now what I would like to do, because I have spent a lot of time thinking about this and I've spent a lot of time talking to people in different parts of the world in all of those sectors, is to find some way to be part of an engagement that helps to facilitate that sort of conversation. At the end of the day, it would be impossible to deal with this threat long term without full engagement from all of those different groups. ■

CTED Special Event on Countering Terrorism Through the Use of New Communications and Information Technologies

The Counter-Terrorism Committee held a special event at UN Headquarters on 24 May 2013 to explore with Member States the link between new communications and information technologies and terrorism.

Society at large has benefitted from the development of new technologies, but so have criminal organizations. “As we have seen on all too many occasions over recent years, terrorist groups will not hesitate to exploit such technologies to incite, prepare and perpetrate acts of violence”, said Ambassador Mohammed Loulichki, Permanent Representative of Morocco and Chair of the Committee.

“It is not sufficient to react”, said Ambassador Loulichki. “Member States must anticipate and stay ahead of new terrorist methods”.

One issue of concern discussed during the meeting is the use of mobile telephones to communicate and make financial transactions that could result in terrorist acts. Speakers from civil society, the private sector and international organizations presented ways to track calls and the transfer of funds executed through mobile phones. Technology also allows law enforcement to establish the user’s location.

Participants agreed that countering such a growing threat requires a well-coordinated, multi-dimensional and balanced approach. Mobile banking has

the potential to further promote social inclusion and technologies are mostly used for legitimate purposes, so neither should be unduly restricted. In addition, authorities should ensure human rights are respected when using mobile telephone technology for surveillance and monitoring purposes.

These obligations apply to all counter-terrorism measures. “While there is a need for an effective and

designed to detect explosives and other hazardous or prohibited substances.

Participants stressed the importance of ensuring any information collected through these technologies is reliable, stored securely and used effectively in order to prevent misuse, errors and privacy violations. Increased security and reliance on technology, moreover, should not have an impact on the effective processing of border traffic.

Although each Member State is responsible for securing its border, cooperation with other countries is a cornerstone of effective counter-terrorism strategies. Participants indicated that legal frameworks should be developed or strengthened to this end. Considering that the private sector



Mr. Weixiong Chen, Deputy Executive Director, CTED; Ambassador Mohammed Loulichki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Morocco, Chairman of the CTC

dynamic operational approach to prevent and suppress terrorism, there is the same need to strictly observe the principle of legality, respect for human rights and due process”, said Mr. Weixiong Chen, CTED Deputy Executive Director.

X-rays, body scanners, iris or digit scans, security cameras and machine readable travel documents are some of the tools authorities have at hand to regulate the movement of persons at border checkpoints. Besides verifying the identity of passengers, new technologies are

drives innovation, they felt it is vital to incorporate the sector’s views, as well as those from other relevant actors.

Terrorism has evolved to incorporate the Internet. Criminal organizations build websites, post videos and inspirational magazines online, are active in chat rooms and have social media accounts. Not only do they communicate through these channels with members of their organization, but they attempt to recruit new ones. They provide training

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Mr. Jehangir Khan, Director a.i. of CTITF

Jehangir Khan was named Director a.i. of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Office on 1 March 2013. He was appointed by Under-Secretary-General of DPA Mr. Jeffery Feltman. Before joining CTITF, Mr. Khan served as Acting Director and Deputy Director of the DPA Middle East and West Asia Division (MEWAD) and prior to that of the Asia and Pacific Division (APD).



Jehangir Khan

Starting in 2003, Mr. Khan served as head of the Iraq Team in MEWAD until 2008. Prior to this he served as Deputy Chief of the DPA Policy Planning

Unit (PPU) in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General from 1996 to 2002.

Before joining the UN Secretariat in 1992, Mr. Khan was Chef de Cabinet to the President of the forty-sixth session of the UN General Assembly and served from 1983 to 1991 as the Senior Political Adviser to the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United Nations.

Mr. Khan is a national of Pakistan, a graduate of London University, and holds a Doctorate degree in International Law from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. ■

CTED Special Event

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material and raise funds. Often, criminals promote violent extremism and incite people to commit terrorist acts.

Speakers at the special event said that artificial intelligence and language-analysis techniques can be used to monitor the activities of terrorist organizations on the Internet and improve the identification of terrorists on social networks and online forums. The main goal is to disrupt plans and prevent terrorism.

As the Chair of the Committee said in his summary, “The Internet presents a wide variety of means and opportunities to prevent, detect and deter acts of terrorism and to bring terrorists to justice through intelligence gathering, evidence-collection and the introduction of measures to counter the terrorist narrative”. ■

New Executive Director for CTED

Jean-Paul Laborde of France was sworn in on 22 July 2013 as the new Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon administered Mr. Laborde's oath of office and took the opportunity to welcome him back to the organization after serving for two and a half years as a Judge in the Criminal Chamber of France's Supreme Judicial Court (Cour de Cassation).



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (left) swears in Jean-Paul Laborde, Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED).

Mr. Laborde had previously served with the United Nations for 18 years, holding senior positions in counter-terrorism and criminal justice at the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) of DPA in New York. He joined CTED as Assistant Secretary-General on 22 July 2013. He took over from Mike Smith of Australia.

CTITF *The* BEAM

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) was established by the Secretary-General in 2005 to enhance coordination and coherence of counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system. The Task Force consists of 31 international entities which by virtue of their work have a stake in counter-terrorism efforts. Each entity makes contributions consistent with its mandate.

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