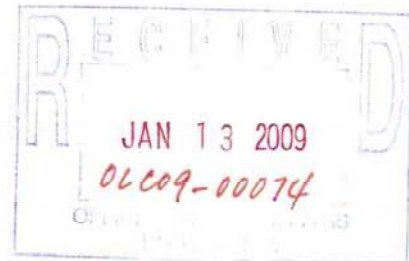


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COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE



12 January 2009

Dear Ms. O'Brien,

Thank you for your letter of 10 December 2008 inviting the Counter-Terrorism Committee to submit information on the impact on its work of the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, as well as on any major developments relating to the implementation of the outcomes of the Consultative Process at its first nine meetings.

Having reviewed the General Assembly resolution A/63/111 (as contained in document A/63/L.42), the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) is pleased to provide the following summary of the Committee's activities in this regard.

- Paragraph 53 of the aforementioned resolution encourages States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, consistent with the Law of the Sea Convention as well as with other relevant international instruments. As you are aware, the Counter-Terrorism Committee's principal task is to monitor implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which includes full implementation of the relevant international counter-terrorism instruments. In the area of maritime security, the Committee seeks to determine whether States have ratified the 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of fixed Platforms located on the Continental Shelf, as well as their 2005 Protocols.

Ms. Patricia O'Brien
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
The Legal Counsel
United Nations
New York

- In accordance with paragraph 70 of the resolution, the Committee also examines whether States have enacted relevant legislation to comply with the basic requirements of Chapter XI-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS), including the International Ship and Port Facility (ISPS) Code. During the Committee's on-site visits to Member States of Asia and Africa in 2008, the visiting delegation engaged in a series of discussions on those matters with the host authorities.
- With respect to paragraphs 14 and 61 of the resolution, it should be noted that the Committee and CTED endeavour to facilitate the provision of technical assistance to Member States with a view to enhancing their capacity to implement measures related to maritime security.
- With reference to Section II of the resolution, on capacity-building (and to its paragraph 14, in particular), I would note that the Committee held its fifth special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations in Nairobi, Kenya in October 2007 on the theme, "Prevention of Terrorist Movement and Effective Border Security". At that meeting, the relevant entities (including the International Maritime Organization) pledged to assist Member States in the implementation of maritime security standards and recommended practices. A follow-up meeting was held in September 2008 to review progress on the outcome of the fifth special meeting and its Plan of Action and to discuss specific activities and events to be implemented during the next biennial period, including those related to maritime security.

I trust that this information will be of use in the preparation of the relevant report of the Secretary-General. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Smith
Executive Director
Counter-Terrorism Committee
Executive Directorate