

THE REPORT
by the Head of the Working Group
of the Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies,
and Law-Enforcement Organizations
presented at the UNSC CTC Session
(New York, January 2008)

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me welcome the members of the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee and extend my appreciation to its senior staff for finding an opportunity to include my report into the crowded working schedule.

I had been genuinely interested in meeting you prior to the next Seventh Meeting scheduled for the late March this year.

My report is concurrent with the new period of the CTC activity. **Dear Mrs. Mladineo!** Please, accept my congratulations on your being appointed the Chairperson of the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorist Committee along with my wishes of your every success. I also would like to congratulate you, **Mr. Smith**, on your appointment to the position of the Committee's Executive Directorate Director.

Within the frames of this report I would like to provide you with a brief review of the Meeting's work during the year 2007 and make a profile presentation on the International Counterterrorism Database elaborated within this framework.

Again I would like to underscore what we had repeatedly pointed out, that the main guidelines of our Meeting's activity are strictly based on the principal (guideline) documents of the UN. Given the global dimension of the threat of terrorism the UN should undoubtedly play the pivotal role in the anti-terrorist efforts coordination, and the work of all integration-oriented associations, to include our Meeting, should be implemented in accordance with the Global Counterterrorism Strategy as well as relevant Security Council resolutions.

In September 2007 the city of Khabarovsk hosted the Sixth Meeting attended by the delegations of 76 security / intelligence and law-enforcement agencies from 53 national states as well as 4 international organizations, namely - the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorist Committee, International Atomic Energy Agency, Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Co-operation Organization, and Anti-Terrorism Center of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The delegations from such countries of Islamic world as the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, and Afghanistan attended the forum for the first time.

The two-day work of the Meeting involved a broad and subject-targeted discussion aimed at improving the already existent and finding new forms of security / intelligence and law-enforcement interaction in the field of counterterrorism.

The Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China conducted bilateral counter-terrorist exercise. The exercise was dedicated to practicing the tactical co-ordination of Russian and Chinese security authorities based on the scenario involving a bus with Russian and Chinese citizens being hijacked by mock-up terrorists. Following the detailed demonstration of each successive step of hostage release negotiations the active phase of the operation was carried out onboard an aircraft. Concerted efforts made by Russian and Chinese security agencies presented an example of a highly efficient suppression of a terrorist attack.

In our opinion the Meeting remains an integral element of the major international events' security system which makes it practically expedient to employ the mechanism of security / intelligence co-ordination designed by the Meeting during the upcoming Olympic Games China will be hosting this year.

At the Khabarovsk Meeting we applied this model of multilateral security / intelligence co-operation with a view to practically implementing the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. Proceeding from our understanding of the UN role of a principal coordinator of the international anti-terrorist efforts on the non-proliferation track, we considered appropriate to invite the International Atomic Energy Agency to participate in the Meeting. I am quite satisfied to point out, that the IAEA presentation at the forum was helpful in stimulating the spirit of a truly co-operative interest. The sound experience of the IAEA participation in our forum made us consider the possibilities of expanding the scope of the UN dedicated authorities in this activity. We would be appreciative of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate recommendations to that effect. In our view, a direct dialogue could have been established with the Secretariat Task Force on the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy implementation.

We believe such form of interaction could have been mutually beneficial in terms of counteraction to the terrorist use of the Internet. In the course of the Khabarovsk Meeting we had a profound and meaningful discussion on the subject. The participants of the Meeting were unanimous in their opinion that in the currently developed global informational environment the necessity to enhance the scope of security / intelligence and law-enforcement interaction in detection and suppression of the attempts to use the Internet facilities for the terrorist purposes is becoming increasingly urgent.

Accordingly, it was decided to continue with working on this matter, to get a new broader angle on it and formulate one of the next Seventh Meeting's agenda items as: *Counterterrorism within the Context of International Information Security: Topical Issues and Perspectives*.

The presentation of the International Counterterrorism Database developed by the Russia's National Anti-Terrorism Committee was considered a milestone event in the Meeting's activity. We believe the Database, being one of our priorities, to have a definite potential of increasing the efficiency of the counterterrorist information sharing among the security / intelligence and law-enforcement authorities. We are also hopeful, that the Database would be instrumental in the practical implementation of Paragraph 2b, UNSCR 1373 providing for the creation of a universal anti-terrorist information environment.

Mr. Viktor Orlov being in charge of one of the units within the Russian Federation national Anti-Terrorism Committee will brief you on the current progress in the International Database project implementation.