



COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

Public Information Office * 1-212-457-1712 * cted@un.org * www.un.org/sc/ctc/

THE COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE AND ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

In the wake of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1373 (2001), requesting countries to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions and around the world.

Adopted on 28 September 2001, the resolution also established the Counter-Terrorism Committee, which comprises all 15 members of the Security Council, to monitor implementation of the resolution. This monitoring work was further enhanced when the Security Council established the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) on 26 March 2004, through resolution 1535 (2004), to assist the Committee.

In September 2005, the Security Council adopted resolution 1624 (2005) on incitement to commit acts of terrorism and added to the Committee's mandate the task of including in its dialogue with Member States their efforts to implement the resolution.

Resolution 1373 (2001) requests Member States to, in particular:

- * *Criminalize the financing of terrorists;*
- * *Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism;*
- * *Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups;*
- * *Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists;*
- * *Share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts;*
- * *Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts; and*
- * *Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law and bring violators to justice.*

THE COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE (CTED)

CTED comprises some 40 staff members, about half of whom are legal experts who analyze the reports submitted by States in areas such as legislative drafting, the financing of terrorism, customs and border control, police and law enforcement, refugee and migration law, arms trafficking and maritime and transportation security. CTED also has a senior human rights officer.

CTED is divided into two sections: an Assessment and Technical Assistance Office (ATAO), which is further divided into three geographical clusters to enable the experts to specialize in particular regions of the world, and an Administrative and Information Office (AIO).

In addition, five technical groups work horizontally across ATAO to identify issues and criteria for making assessments in their particular area of technical expertise and then disseminate these across the three clusters. The groups deal respectively with technical assistance; terrorist financing; border control, arms trafficking and law enforcement; general legal issues, including legislation, extradition and mutual legal assistance; and finally, issues raised by resolution 1624 (2005); as well as the human rights aspects of counter-terrorism in the context of resolution 1373 (2001).

Across AIO, there is also a quality control unit to improve the technical quality and consistency in language and format of CTED documents and a public communications and outreach unit to strengthen its outreach activities.

The resolution also calls on States to become parties, as soon as possible, to the relevant international counter-terrorism instruments. *(For more information about these legal instruments, please see Background Note.)*

The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) was established in 2004 to strengthen and coordinate the process of monitoring the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). It is headed by Executive Director Mike Smith, who took up his appointment, at the level of Assistant Secretary-General, on 19 November 2007. CTED became fully staffed in September 2005 and was formally declared operational in December 2005. CTED's mandate was extended until the end of 2010 by Security Council resolution 1805 (2008).

The Committee and its Executive Directorate also work with a wide variety of international organizations, regional bodies and other institutions – including intelligence services – to build cooperation and promote assistance to nations in need of assistance with the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism.

In resolution 1373 (2001), the Security Council decided that Member States would submit reports to the Committee on steps they have taken or plan to take to implement the resolution. These reports, more than 600 of which have been received, form the basis of the Committee's ongoing work with Member States.

In February 2006 the Committee, with a view towards developing a more tailored approach to the situation in each State, decided that it would focus its discussions of each State's implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) on preliminary implementation assessments (PIA).

The PIA is intended to serve as a tool for dialogue between the Committee and Member States by providing a snapshot of the counter-terrorism situation in each country based on information from the country itself, international organizations and other public sources, and distributed to that country only. PIAs have been prepared for all 192 UN Member States and each country is given an opportunity to review it and supply comments or updates in order for the Committee to build a more accurate picture of what is happening in each place.

Based on the information contained in the PIAs, CTED prepared in 2008 the first global survey of how resolution 1373 (2001) is being implemented in different regions and sub-regions around the world. The survey attempted to identify where progress has been made and where gaps remain, and suggested where the international community might most usefully focus its counter-terrorism efforts in the immediate future. The survey also contained global assessments across the major thematic areas dealt with in the resolution, notably counter-terrorism legislation, border control, law enforcement, countering the financing of terrorism, international cooperation and the protection of human rights while countering terrorism.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The Committee and CTED are actively engaged in working with various international, regional and sub-regional organizations to combat terrorism. Since 2003, there have been five special meetings of the Committee with these bodies to discuss closer cooperation with the Committee and other issues. Experts from several organizations have also taken part in the country visits conducted by CTED, and they play a key role in ensuring follow-up to the conclusions and recommendations of the mission.

