



COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

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MIKE SMITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mike Smith assumed the position of Executive Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) on 19 November 2007. Prior to that he was Australia's Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism.

Mr. Smith served as Australian Permanent Representative to the United Nations at Geneva and Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament between 2002 and May 2006. In 2004, he was, concurrently with his other responsibilities, Chairman of the UN Commission on Human Rights.

Between 1998 and 2002 Mr. Smith was Chief of Staff to Alexander Downer MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Other positions Mr. Smith has held in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade include: Assistant Secretary of the Corporate Planning and Evaluation Branch (1998), Legal Adviser and Assistant Secretary for Refugees, Immigration and Asylum (1991-93) and Head of the Multilateral and Humanitarian Legal Section (1984-86).

Overseas, in addition to his most recent position in Geneva, Mr. Smith served as Ambassador to Egypt and Sudan (1995-98), Minister (Political) in the Australian Embassy in the United States (1993-95), Ambassador to Algeria and Tunisia (1989-91), Counsellor in the Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations at Geneva (1986-89), and served as First Secretary while in Syria (1981-84) and Second Secretary while posted in Egypt (1977-79). He studied Arabic in Beirut, Cairo and Tunis in the period 1975-77 and has a good working knowledge of the language. He has also undertaken intensive courses in French.

Educated at Adelaide University, Mr. Smith holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree and is married with two adult children.

