



COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

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THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

Apart from the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Security Council has also established two other committees and a working group dealing with counter-terrorism related issues. The three panels are required to report periodically to the Security Council on their activities and programmes of work. Since April 2005 the three committees have been reporting jointly to the Council.

Monitoring sanctions against Al-Qaida and the Taliban

In 15 October 1999 the Security Council adopted resolution 1267 (1999) imposing financial and other sanctions on the Taliban in Afghanistan for its support of Usama bin Laden. This resolution also set up a Committee – referred to as the “Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee” – comprising all 15 Members of the Security Council to oversee implementation of the sanctions regime by Member States.

The sanctions have since been modified by subsequent resolutions. In December 2000, an arms embargo was added and those individuals and entities under sanction were expanded to include members of Al-Qaida and as of January 2002, a travel ban was added and the measures no longer exclusively target the territory of Afghanistan. The sanctions also only apply to those individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida and the Taliban as designated on a Consolidated List maintained by the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee.

The sanctions require all States to freeze without delay, the funds, and other financial assets or economic resources of the listed individuals and entities, prevent entry into or transit through their territories of the listed individuals, and prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of arms and related material of all types, including but not limited to military equipment and technical advice, assistance, or training related to military activities from their territories or by their nationals outside their territories, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, to the listed individuals and entities.

United Nations Member States are requested to inform the Committee of their actions to implement the sanctions measures against the individuals and entities on the Consolidated List. The Committee also encourages Member States to update and augment the Consolidated List. To that end, the Committee has adopted guidelines governing the process of adding to and removing individuals and entities from the Consolidated List. On a case-by-case basis, the Committee accepts and examines requests from Member States to grant exemptions to the travel ban or the asset freeze.

The Committee is supported by a Monitoring Team composed of experts on arms embargoes, travel bans, counter-terrorism, financing of terrorism and related legal issues. They assist the Committee in evaluating the implementation of the sanctions regime by Member States as well as by reporting on developments that have an impact on the effectiveness of the sanctions regime.

The Security Council further strengthened the mandate of the Committee and the Monitoring Team on 30 June 2008 in its resolution 1822 (2008), and reaffirmed the acts and activities set out in resolution 1617 (2005) which indicate that individuals, groups, undertakings or entities are “associated with” Al-Qaida, Usama bin Laden or the Taliban and would make them eligible for designation to the Consolidated List.

For more information about the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee, please visit its homepage at: www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/index.shtml

Preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

On 28 April 2004, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1540 (2004) which requires all States to establish domestic controls to prevent access by non-State actors to nuclear, chemical, biological weapons and their means of delivery and to take effective measures to prevent proliferation of such items and illicit trafficking in related materials.

To facilitate the implementation of this resolution, the Council set up a Committee made up of its 15 members. The Committee, assisted by an Expert Group, cooperates with international, regional and subregional organizations, and acts as a clearinghouse to match offers and requests for assistance to States to implement the resolution. The mandate of the Committee was extended by resolution 1673 (2006) until April 2008 and again by resolution 1810 (2008) until April 2011.

For more information about the 1540 Committee, please visit its homepage at: www.un.org/sc/1540/

Strengthening sanctions against terrorists and compensating victims

On 8 October 2004 the Security Council adopted resolution 1566 (2004), condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist acts as one of the most serious threats to peace and security, and called on all Member States to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism.

As part of those measures, the Council set up a Working Group to consider and submit recommendations on practical measures to be imposed upon individuals, groups or entities involved in or associated with terrorist activities, other than those designated by the 1267 Committee. The recommendations could include more effective procedures for bringing perpetrators to justice through prosecution or extradition, freezing their financial assets, preventing their movement through the territories of Member States and preventing supply to them of all types of arms and related material, and procedures for implementing these measures.

The Working Group was also asked to consider the possible establishment of an international fund to compensate victims of terrorist acts and their families, which might be financed through voluntary contributions and could consist in part of assets seized from terrorist organizations, their members and sponsors, and to submit its recommendations to the Council.

