



2021 Counter-Terrorism Week SIDE EVENTS

24-30 JUNE 2021

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS • NEW YORK

Towards sustainable peace: implementing screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies in the Lake Chad Basin, a regional and national challenge

28 June 2021 | 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. (New York time)

Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/60zETnhn9G>.

Context and objectives

Boko Haram and its splinter groups, the Islamic State West Africa Province and Jamā'at Ahl as-Sunnah lid-Da'wah wa'l-Jihād (JAS), have been active in the Lake Chad Basin for over 10 years and collectively responsible for the deaths of over 40,000 people, the displacement of over three million IDPs, and over 300,000 refugees. Today, despite progress towards a regional approach and an agreed regional strategy, the challenges seem to have increased: Boko Haram is active in multiple locations; Islamic State has gained a significant foothold; traditional livelihoods continue to shrink; natural disasters, climate change and COVID complicate the humanitarian crises and impair effective response.

Across the Lake Chad Basin, whole communities have been, and continue to be, deeply affected. Boko Haram exploits existing gender inequality, conducting mass abductions of women and girls, forcing marriages, perpetrating sexual violence and exploitation, and exploiting women and children to carry out improvised explosive attacks. Ongoing attacks have created a perpetual state of insecurity. Over the past few years, thousands of individuals alleged to be associated with Boko Haram have ended up in the custody of national authorities, raising difficult questions related to the best ways to build sustainable solutions and manage multiple interests: including promoting defections from Boko Haram, ensuring accountability for crimes, supporting victims, protecting communities, and preventing returns to and recruitment by Boko Haram, among others. Ensuring respect for fundamental human rights and fair and



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efficient processes regarding these persons, sensitive to the conflict environment and experience of both communities and persons, that are gender responsive and age appropriate, is critical to comprehensively addressing the problem of terrorism in the Lake Chad Basin.

The Security Council has advanced comprehensive, whole-of-Government and whole-of-society approaches, emphasizing the need to respect human rights and international law to deal with these challenges. Following [resolution 1373 \(2001\)](#) that requires Member States to ensure that any person who participates in the preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts is brought to justice, [resolution 2178 \(2014\)](#) developed prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies for returning foreign terrorist fighters; and [resolution 2349 \(2017\)](#), which focuses on the Lake Chad Basin, and [resolution 2396 \(2017\)](#) called upon Member States to develop comprehensive and tailored strategies to prosecute, rehabilitate and reintegrate suspected individuals whom the authorities have reasonable grounds to believe are terrorists. Under the leadership of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the African Union at the regional level, Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria have taken steps to conduct individual assessments and orient individuals to the most appropriate form of intervention or support, as needed, whether prosecution, rehabilitation or reintegration, or a combination of the latter, as needed. A [regional approach to screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration \(SPRR\)](#), championed by the Lake Chad Basin Commission and adopted as part of the [Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of Boko Haram-affected areas of the Lake Chad Basin Region](#), has strengthened these efforts.

A joint UNOCT/UNCCT, UNODC and CTED program is underway to support Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria to develop and implement strategies for the screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of Boko Haram-associated persons, in a harmonized manner at the regional level and in compliance with international requirements and regional frameworks.

The side event will register progress, take stock of current efforts and challenges, and consider next steps. It will also highlight potential lessons that can be useful for other regions of the world.

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Programme

13:30 – 13:50

Opening Remarks

H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – TBC

Dr. Jehangir Khan, Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), UN Office of Counter-Terrorism

13:50 – 14:10

Recent Progress: SPRR in the Regional Stabilization Strategy and its implementation at regional and national level

H.E. Mr. Mamman Nuhu, Executive Secretary, Lake Chad Basin Commission

Mr. Mbari Calixte, A.g Head of Governance and Conflict Prevention Directorate, Peace and Security and Political, Affairs Department, African Union Commission

Police Commissioner Abdoulaye Maman Mijinyawa, Director, Central Service against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime, Niger

14:10 – 14:30

Current Challenges: understanding regional context, addressing the gender dimension, involving communities

H.E. Ms. Ammo Aziza Baroud, Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations

Dr. Fonteh Akum, Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies

Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi, President of the Medical Women's International Association

14:30 – 14:50

Exchange with the audience

14:50 – 15:00

Closing Remarks

Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant-Secretary-General, Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

Interpretation will be provided between English and French.



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