Pillar II

Preventing and combating terrorism

The Strategy recognizes that terrorists need both the means to carry out their attacks and a set of high-value targets, and so this pillar outlines a wide variety of actions for Member States to take to deny terrorist access to resources and to protect particular vulnerable targets.

Sixteen universal legal instruments (13 instruments three amendments) have been developed and adopted under the auspices of the United Nations and related intergovernmental organizations. Most of these instruments provide a legal framework for multilateral actions against terrorism and criminalize specific acts of terrorism, including hijacking, hostage-taking, terrorist bombings, financing of terrorism and nuclear terrorism. They are complemented by resolutions of the General Assembly (49/60, 51/210 and 60/288) and of the Security Council (1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004), 1566 (2004) and 1624 (2005)).

CTITF members have pursued efforts collectively through working groups on 'Strengthening the Protection of Vulnerable targets', 'Preventing and Responding to WMD Terrorist Attacks', 'Tackling the Financing of Terrorism', and 'Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes.' The activities of these Working Groups include the establishment of a referral centre at INTERPOL's General Secretariat, facilitating the sharing of vulnerable target protection resources and best practices and, upon request, assisting member countries in developing or enhancing protection strategies; a stock-taking exercise on the implementation of international standards for combating the financing of terrorism and a report containing recommendations on how to improve implementation; as well as a mapping exercise and stakeholder meeting focused on countering terrorist use of the internet.

The **Working Group on Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes** aims to identify and bring together stakeholders and partners on the abuse of the Internet for terrorist purposes, including using the web for radicalization, recruitment, training, operational planning, fundraising and other means. In conjunction with Member States, the Working Group aims to explore ways in which terrorists use the Internet, quantify the threat that this poses and examine options for addressing it at national, regional and global levels, including what role the United Nations might play without compromising human rights, fundamental values and the open nature of the Internet itself. It completed its first phase, mapping relevant laws, conventions, resources and initiatives, and produced a report in February 2009. The Working Group is currently focused on legal issues surrounding efforts to counter terrorist use of the Internet and on promoting counter-narratives to reduce terrorist impact. After completing the

first phase in 2009, the Working Group plans to publish the results of its research and workshops in the form of a guide for Member States.

Apart from the actions taken by the Task Force working groups, CTITF entities in their individual capacity have also pursued counter terrorism measures.

The **Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)** are responsible for monitoring and promoting implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), and for facilitating technical assistance to countries in need. On the basis of reports, updates and feedback submitted by all 192 Member States through dialogues and country visits, the Committee prepares and updates the preliminary implementation assessments (PIA) of Member States in their efforts to implement resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee also undertakes the stocktaking of Member States' performance. As of July 2010, the Committee had conducted 58 visits to Member States.

Under the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime, which is managed by the 1267 Committee of the Security Council, the Council requires all States to impose an assets freeze, a travel ban and an arms embargo on individuals and entities who have been placed on the 1267 Committee's Consolidated List on the basis of their as association with Al-Qaida, Osama Bin Laden, and/or the Taliban. As of 30 July 2010, the Consolidated List contained the names of 391 individuals and 91 entities and 36 States had informed the Team that they had frozen financial assets as a result of the listings.

The **Monitoring Team**, which assists the 1267 Committee in promoting implementation of the sanctions regime, has so far submitted ten analytical reports assessing the implementation of the sanctions, the changing nature of the threat posed by Al Qaida and the Taliban, and the best measures to confront it. The Team has visited close to 90 Member States to discuss how to improve the sanctions regime and has established cooperation with over 30 international and regional bodies. It has also established three regional groups of intelligence and security agencies from various countries and the private financial sector to provide further advice and offer proposals for the Security Council's consideration.

The **Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)** and its experts have examined reports from 155 Member States (with 102 of those providing additional information) and the European Union on efforts to meet the requirements of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), while working to identify deficiencies and suggest improvements in preventing access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and their components.
As the Strategy calls for Member States to consider becoming parties without delay to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, UNODC has been promoting the ratification and full implementation of

the Convention and its three additional protocols. Bearing in mind the increasingly complex nature of the terrorist threat, practitioners must address not only the terrorist crimes themselves, but also a range of crimes linked to terrorism like trafficking and smuggling in drugs, firearms and persons, money laundering and corruption. At the request of Member States, UNODC is formulating more comprehensive packages of assistance that also encompass activities to prevent terrorism, fight transnational organized crime, counter corruption and build the domestic criminal justice system. These are fully integrated into the regional and national programmes of UNODC, which are implemented through field offices in 35 countries.

Military and police components of United Nations peacekeeping operations have provided a more secure environment in 16 conflict zones all over the world in the last five years. This has helped to limit terrorist opportunities to recruit and to conduct their operations in these regions.

The **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** has begun the implementation of the Nuclear Security Plan for 2010–2013. The Plan's objective is to contribute to global efforts to achieve worldwide, effective security wherever nuclear or other radioactive material are in use, storage and/or transport by supporting States, upon request, in their efforts to establish and maintain effective nuclear security through assistance in capacity building, guidance, human resource development, sustainability and risk reduction.

The **Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA)** continues to work on strengthening the Secretary-General's mechanism for investigation of alleged use of chemical, biological and toxin weapons by updating the roster of experts and laboratories available to carry out such investigations in a timely and efficient manner. In 2009, the first-ever training course resulted in the establishment of a core team of experts trained to perform fact-finding missions. The Office has developed a pilot platform for the Biological Incident Database (BID) and provided access to interested Member States for familiarization and testing.

The **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)** develops standards and specifications for passports and other travel documents to ensure interoperability; increase confidence in the reliability of travel documents; and contribute to national and international security, including preventing and combating terrorism. In this regard, Standard 3.10 of Annex 9 to the Chicago Convention requires that all Contracting States began issuing only Machine Readable Passports (MRPs) no later than 1 April 2010.

The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) has conducted a risk assessment of illicit trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials and weapons in the Euro-Asian region, collecting and analysing data from 25 countries. It has developed a pilot knowledge management system in South-East Europe and the Caucasus region, with the aim

to improve information exchange and develop durable cooperation in countering trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials. UNICRI is also developing with the European Union and other partners a second Knowledge Management System in North Africa and the Middle East.

The **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** adopted mandatory measures to enhance Maritime Security under the 1974 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), chapter XI-2 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code. The measures were implemented by 159 Member States, representing 99% of the world's merchant fleet (around 40,000 ships) engaged in international voyages and an additional 10,000 port facilities had their security plans developed and approved. Through the adoption of amendments to SOLAS chapter V in 2006, the Organization is also implementing a new mandatory Long-Range Tracking and Identification (LRIT) system to permit the tracking of ships globally. The adoption of two new Protocols into the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Navigation (SUA), and its Protocol relating to Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, have extended their scope to cover new offences such as using the ship in a manner that causes death or serious injury, and the unlawful carriage of weapons or material that could be used for weapons of mass destruction. New boarding provisions for suspect ships have also been included.

The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime** helps Member States strengthen international cooperation in combating crimes that might be connected with terrorism, including drug trafficking in all its aspect, illicit arms trade, and money laundering. The Office assists Member States with the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols and the United Nations Convention against corruption and assists them using the provisions of these instruments to create domestic criminal offences, to adopt new frameworks for mutual legal assistance, extradition and law enforcement cooperation, as well as to enhance technical assistance and training.

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** is concerned with public health readiness and response to all public health emergencies of international concern, whatever their origin or source, within the framework of the International Health Regulations (2005). A Global Alert and Response system detects international public health events, performs a risk assessment and is able to mobilize an international network of public health partners to assist countries to respond. Guidance has been prepared to assist countries to assess and improve their readiness for managing the public health consequences of a biological, chemical, radiological or nuclear terrorist incident. WHO has developed standards and provides training for laboratory biosafety and biosecurity, to encourage safe use and safekeeping of biological materials, thus minimizing the risk of their diversion.

The **International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)***, as the World's largest international police organization with 187 member countries, through a special Task Force, provides a forum for Counter-Terrorism experts to exchange best practices, as well as operational information, in order to identify active terrorist groups and their membership, including organizational hierarchies, methods of training, financing and recruitment of terrorist suspects and groups. INTERPOL maintains a broad range of global databases that contain key information (e.g., wanted individuals, fingerprints, photos, DNA profiles, etc.) and has developed technology to make such data, especially its database on Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD), available at border security points. It also coordinates the circulation of alerts and warnings on suspected or wanted terrorists and assists the UN Security Council with the implementation of the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime by circulating to law enforcement authorities' worldwide relevant information on individuals and entities under UN sanctions. Upon request, INTERPOL assists its member countries in their investigations in the aftermath of a terrorist act by deploying on-site Incident Response Teams (IRTs). Additionally, upon request INTERPOL will deploy an INTERPOL Major Event Support Team (IMEST) to assist member countries in the preparation, co-ordination and implementation of security arrangements for major events. An IMEST also has the capacity and resources to immediately become an IRT if a crisis situation materialize at a major event.

*While INTERPOL is not part of the UN system, it is a member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) which was established in 2005 and is chaired by the Office of the UN Secretary-General.

For more information of the Strategy-related work of CTITF entities, see the Report of the Secretary-General "United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of United Nations system info implementing the Strategy" (A/64/818/ June 2010). The above inventory of United Nations counter-terrorism related actions is based on information provided by CTITF member entities.

For more information please visit: www.un.org/terrorism. For detailed information on the activities of CTITF working groups please visit:http://www.un.org/terrorism/cttaskforce.shtml

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