UNITED NATIONS ACTION TO COUNTER TERRORISM

Fact Sheet

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) was established by the Secretary-General in 2005 to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system. CTITF is chaired by the Director of the CTITF Office in the Department of Political Affairs, Jean-Paul Laborde and consists of 30 international entities (see list below).

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which brings together into one coherent framework decades of United Nations counter-terrorism policy and legal responses emanating from the General Assembly, Security Council and relevant United Nations Specialized agencies, has been the focus of CTITF's work since its adoption by the General Assembly in September 2006 (A/RES/60/288).

The Strategy sets out a plan of action for the international community based on four pillars:

- measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism;
- measures to prevent and combat terrorism;
- measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard; and measures to ensure
- respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.
- The main CTITF initiatives and working groups are constituted by CTITF member entities and focus on themes and issues identified in the four pillars of the Strategy on which cooperation among United Nations system entities can add value:

The primary responsibility for implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy lies with Member States. CTITF, through the help of a number of thematic initiatives and working groups, and under the policy guidance of Member States through the General Assembly, aims to catalyze United Nations system-wide, value-added collective initiatives to support the implementation of the Strategy in all its elements. CTITF also seeks to foster constructive engagement between the United Nations system entities, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society on the implementation of the Strategy. Member States and CTITF have a channel for regular interaction via the General Assembly, as well as opportunities for informal discussions and consultations. CTITF has established working relations with a number of regional organizations and also engaged in outreach activities to various civil society groups.

- Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT). The Initiative enhances the ability of the United Nations System to provide assistance to a Member State, upon its request, with the implementation of the Strategy in a comprehensive manner.
- Preventing and Resolving Conflicts. The Working Group facilitates an exchange of knowledge and "good practice" in preventing and resolving conflicts at the national and regional levels, and determine, in partnership with governments and regional and subregional organizations, how the U.N. can better support their efforts in this regard.
- Supporting and Highlighting Victims of Terrorism. The Working Group assists Member States with their Strategy commitment to support victims of terrorism.

- Preventing and Responding to WMD Attacks. The Working Group helps to strengthen the exchange of information and knowledge among relevant United Nations entities and international organizations related to response to WMD terrorist attacks.

CTITF in action:

- Provision of a platform for coordinating UN counter-terrorism actions;
- Development of an integrated assistance framework for Member States;Establishment of working relations with regional organizations on counter-terrorism issues;Building in depth knowledge of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- Holding Media Training for Victims of terrorism
- Production of substantive reports, including on "Inter-Agency Coordination in the Event of a Nuclear or Radiological Terrorist Attack: Current Status, Future Prospects," Tackling the Financing of Terrorism" and on countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes

Providing support to Victism of terrorism

CTITF includes representatives from:

- Counter-terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)
- Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)
- Department of Political Affairs (DPA)
- Department of Public Information (DPI)
- Department of Safety and Security (DSS)
- Expert Staff of 1540 Committee
- Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Monitoring Team of 1267 Committee
- Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)
- Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
- Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- World Customs Organization (WCO)
- World Bank
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – as observer
- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

Observers

- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (UNOSAA)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- Tackling the Financing of Terrorism. The Working Group examines the various components of action taken to counter the financing of terrorism and makes proposals aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the implementation of international standards, including the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Special Recommendations.

- Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes. The Working Group identifies best practices with regards to developing legal frameworks, technical solutions, and counternarratives on the issue of abuse of the Internet for terrorist purposes.

- Strengthening the Protection of Vulnerable Targets. The Working Group develops appropriate mechanisms to facilitate both the sharing and the advancement of best practices for the protection of vulnerable targets against terrorist attacks. A particular focus is given to the enhancement of public-private partnership (PPP) strategies.

- Protecting Human Rights While Countering Terrorism. The Working Group supports and assists the efforts of Member States to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of counter-terrorism.

CTITF actions also aim to underscore the importance of anchoring the implementation of the Strategy into the broader work of the United Nations, which rests on pursuing a peace and security, sustainable development and human rights agenda.

For more information please visit: www.un.org/terrorism/cttaskforce

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