Expert Meeting on Promoting South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism, as and when Conducive to Terrorism

New York, 22 November 2019 – The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) within the Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) concluded the first ever expert meeting on Promoting South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism, as and when Conducive to Terrorism (CT/PVE). The meeting was opened by Mr. Jehangir Khan, Director of UNCCT, H.E. Ambassador Wu Haitao, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations and Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

The two-days meeting held in New York brought together senior experts from 16 different countries from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean as well as representatives from United Nations agencies, including members of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, and regional organizations, such as the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism, the Arab Interior Minister Council, the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, the Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Participants explored ways to enhance collaboration in CT/PVE through South-South Cooperation and identified good practices covering the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as well as existing south-south initiatives at the national and regional levels that could be scaled up. They contributed to the drafting of a roadmap for the way forward to harness the experience of the global South in CT/PVE and share successful Southern generated policies and initiatives.

“This meeting marks the beginning of a substantive dialogue on building new partnerships with Member States from the global South on CT/PVE. The devastating impacts of terrorism and violent extremism continue to be borne most heavily by those living in developing countries,” Mr. Jehangir Khan said at the opening of the meeting.

The meeting was part of UNCCT project entitled “Enhancing south-south exchange of expertise between experts from selected countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean in countering terrorism and in preventing and countering violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism.” This project was launched in March 2019, on the margins of the second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation held in Buenos Aires, known as BAPA+40, where the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, emphasized that “South-South Cooperation is a global exercise of all countries of the South to benefit everyone, including the Least Developed Countries. Every country, every partner has something to share or teach, whatever their circumstances.” UNCCT will be working closely with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in the implementation of the project, which is funded through a generous contribution.
from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund, established thanks to the support from the Government of China.

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), was established in June 2017 to provide leadership on the implementation of General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates, to enhance coordination and coherence through the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact, and to strengthen the delivery of the United Nations counter-terrorism capacity building assistance to Member States, through the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT).

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