



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

Head of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism participates in international conference on countering the financing of Terrorism

Paris, 27 April 2018 – On behalf of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, Mr. Voronkov, Head of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), participated in the “International Conference on Countering the Financing of Terrorism,” hosted by the Government of France on 25-26 April 2018. His delegation included Ms. Michèle Coninx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), as well as a representative of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities.

“No State is immune to terrorist financing. Today more than ever, all States should redouble their efforts to ensure that terrorists are deprived of any means available to raise, transfer, and deploy funds,” Mr. Voronkov said in his statement. He further called for the full respect of human rights standards, gender equality, international humanitarian law, and the principles of fairness and transparency in all efforts to counter the financing of terrorism, and to ensure that these efforts do not harm grassroots level organizations that are doing critical work to prevent violent extremism and address conditions conducive to terrorism.

At the conclusion of the conference, Mr. Voronkov welcomed the adoption of the Paris Declaration that will help increase collaboration in fighting terrorism in three main areas: cyberspace, national territories, and prisons. Mr. Voronkov was looking forward to the holding of a follow-up meeting to be held in Paris in 2019, and a side event during the UN General Assembly in September 2018.

On the margins of the Paris conference, Mr. Voronkov held bilateral meetings, including with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, as well as with the Under Secretary of Federal Intelligence and Investigation and Deputy Minister of Interior of Iraq, and the Minister of State with the UK Home Office.

The Under-Secretary General also met with the President and Executive Secretary of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). They discussed ways to foster collaboration between FATF and the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, highlighting that the financing of terrorism will be discussed at the High-level Conference convened by the UN Secretary-General at the end of June 2018 in New York.

During the visit, UNESCO’s Director-General Ms. Azoulay and the Secretary-General of INTERPOL Mr. Stock signed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which will further seal their collaboration with UNOCT. This agreement between the Secretary-General and 36 UN entities plus the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization is the largest coordination framework at the United Nations. It aims to ensure that the United Nations system can have a better impact and provide stronger and more efficient counter-terrorism capacity-building support to Member States in implementing the United Nations Global-Counter-Terrorism Strategy, with UNOCT playing a leading coordination role.

For more information, visit www.un.org/counterterrorism or contact Ms. Gerard, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, New York, gerardl@un.org