Dutch Gifts IT Software Solution to UN to Strengthen Global Counter-Terrorism Efforts

New York, 26 September 2018 - Today, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mr. Stef Blok, signed an Administrative Agreement to transfer ownership of a Travel Information Passenger (TRIP) system to the United Nations. The Agreement was signed in the presence of the Secretary-General, António Guterres, the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Mark Rutte, and the United Nations Legal Counsel.

“Tracking travel movements of terrorists and international criminals across borders requires advanced tools to identify and analyse these potential threats, even before travelers depart from the airport. The system handed over to the United Nations for worldwide use makes this possible,” Mark Rutte said.

The TRIP system, an IT-software solution developed by the Dutch Government, provides the possibility to receive and analyze passenger data (Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record) to identify suspected terrorists and other high-risk passengers. When a threat occurs, a direct link can be made to law enforcement authorities. The system will be offered by the United Nations to support Member States’ efforts to prevent, detect and investigate terrorist offenses and related travel, in compliance with Security Council resolution 2396 (2017).

“I thank the Government of the Netherlands for its generous contribution of their TRIP system. It will become an integral part of a new UNOCT project, implemented by its capacity building arm, the UN Counter Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Office of Information Communication Technology (OICT) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). A complete package of support that includes technical assessments, legal assistance, institution building, as well as the TRIP system, will be offered to Member States seeking to enhance their capacities to use passenger data in the fight against terrorism,” Mr. Voronkov said.

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