Press Release

Heads of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Bodies conclude a joint visit to Indonesia

Jakarta, Indonesia, 28 February 2020 – Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and Mr. Edmund Fitton-Brown, Coordinator of the ISIL (Daesh)/Al-Qaida/ Taliban Monitoring Team, concluded a two-day visit to Indonesia at the invitation of the Government.

The high-level visit aimed at strengthening the partnership with Indonesia on counter-terrorism and P/CVE and exchange views on common priorities and explore programmatic cooperation. The visit was planned within the framework of joint efforts to promote and facilitate Member States’ implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism.

Over the past two days, the delegation met with H.E. Mr. Mahfud MD, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs; Gen. Suhardi Alius, Head of the National Counter Terrorism Agency; H.E. Mr. Mahendra Siregar, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Kiagus Ahmad Badaruddin, Head of the Financial Intelligence Unit as well as representatives from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights and other relevant ministries.

Acknowledging the important role that Indonesia plays in the region and beyond on counter-terrorism matters, the delegation reiterated its readiness to strengthen its cooperation with Indonesia to support relevant efforts, including as a follow-up to the CTED assessment visit conducted on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in July 2019, and identify good practices in areas such as de-radicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration of terrorist offenders as well as prisons management. The joint delegation also discussed the challenge of repatriating foreign terrorist fighters, and women and children associated with them. In this regard, the importance of Council resolution 2396 (2017) and the Addendum to the Madrid Guiding Principles were also highlighted.

Meeting with victims of terrorist attacks and representatives of civil society organizations, the delegation underscored the importance of listening to the voices of victims, and highlighted the vital role of civil society in promoting a “whole-of-society” approach to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. The delegation also visited the Handayani rehabilitation center and the Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Justice.

In a meeting with the United Nations Country Team in Indonesia, the delegation underscored the importance of supporting the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through a well-coordinated “All-of-UN” approach in the field.

During the visit, Mr. Voronkov, Ms. Coninsx, and Mr. Fitton-Brown also met with H.E. Mr. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to discuss regional cooperation and joint efforts to combat the scourge of terrorism.