





**Press Release** 

## The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre launches its first virtual exposition: "UNCCT Virtual EXPO – real impact"

**NEW YORK, 7 July 2020** - The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) launched its virtual exposition (Expo), on 7 July 2020, as part of the UN Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week, which is taking place from 6-10 July 2020.

Responding to the global COVID-19 pandemic, UNCCT has rapidly adapted its planned approach to create an immersive digital exposition to engage a much wider audience across the globe. The Virtual Expo takes visitors on an interactive digital journey, exploring the Centre's history and priority capacity building efforts through key thematic areas of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The launch was hosted by the Chairman of the UNCCT Advisory Board, H.E. Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi, Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations; Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Executive Director of UNCCT and Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism; and Dr. Jehangir Khan, Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre. Ms. Amani Alkhiami, UNCCT Junior Professional Officer also took part in the launch.

The UNCCT Virtual Expo, which has been made possible through the generous support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, showcases the work of UNCCT as a global capacity-building Center of Excellence to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism through capacity building efforts around the world. The Virtual Expo also highlights UNCCT's partnerships with Member States, regional, international and civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders. The UNCCT Virtual Expo emphasizes the importance of UNOCT's "All-of-UN" and "'All-of-Society'' approach to countering terrorism as well as preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

The Virtual Expo illustrates the work of UNCCT in supporting Member States' efforts in implementing programmes across the 4 pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a comprehensive and balanced manner. This includes, for example, the Centre's global programme to support engagement with victims of terrorism. The Virtual Expo also showcases how UNCCT is addressing cutting edge issues such as cyber and bio-terrorism, crisis communications, and border security. The Virtual Expo encourages audience engagement online by using interactive digital elements such as videos, quizzes, and immersive digital simulations.

The UNCCT Virtual Expo will run for four weeks online. During this time, H.E. Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi and USG Mr. Voronkov encouraged "all Member States to continue collaborating with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre to ensure their effective and full implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Only by coming together as a global community can we defeat terrorism".

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For more information: <u>www.un.org/counterterrorism/2020-counter-terrorism-week</u> <u>www.un.org/counter-terrorism-expo</u>