



**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM**

**Opening remarks of Mr. Vladimir Voronkov,
Under-Secretary-General
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)**

Virtual Launch

***Technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council
resolution 2370 (2017), related good practices and international standards***

18 March 2022, 10:00am - 12:00 pm EDT

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the launch of *the Technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017) on preventing terrorists from acquiring weapon.*

These guidelines aim to contribute to the enhancement of Member States' legislative, strategic, and operational capacities to prevent, detect and counter the acquisition, illicit trafficking and use of different weapons, systems, and components.

I would like to thank all the members of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism for supporting the development of the guidelines.

In particular, I would like to convey my gratitude to the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), represented today by Mr. David

Scharia as Officer in Charge, and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), represented by Director Robin Geiss.

CTED, as Chair of the Working Group, and UNIDIR, as the main drafter of the document, worked closely with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre of my Office to develop and promote the guidelines in the context of a joint project generously funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues,

The threat of terrorism is complex, multifaceted, and evolving. Many factors play a role in worsening the nature of this threat. One in particular is central to the very modus operandi of terrorism and, indeed, of critical importance in our response to prevent and combat it, namely, the acquisition of weapons by terrorists.

The increasing diversion of small arms and light weapons to terrorists; the increasing use of improvised explosive devices; and the emerging issue of the use of unmanned aircraft systems by terrorists, are particularly concerning trends and developments – both old and new – that merit greater attention in our collective fight against terrorism.

To tackle these challenges in a comprehensive manner, the Security Council adopted resolution 2370 (2017) with concrete measures to be undertaken by Member States.

This is the first Security Council resolution specifically dedicated to addressing the linkages between terrorism and the supply of a wide range of weapons, including those I just mentioned.

Moreover, in the Seventh Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2021) the General Assembly strongly condemned the continued flow of weapons to and between terrorists and encouraged Member States to prevent and disrupt procurement networks.

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues,

The guidelines we launch today provide technical guidance for Member States to facilitate and support the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017), relevant subsequent resolutions, good practices, and international standards in the area of

small arms and light weapons, improvised explosive devices and unmanned aircraft systems.

The guidelines also seek to identify challenges and opportunities within and beyond existing frameworks, as well as initiatives to strengthen preventative, preparedness and response measures and approaches.

I am pleased to announce that a number of regional workshops to roll-out and promote the use of the guidelines will be organized in the Caribbean, Europe, the Sahel and Maghreb regions. The workshops will be part of the working group joint project and will be held between April and September 2022. We look forward to working with Member States on these important engagements.

I would like to conclude by highlighting that both the technical guidelines and working group joint project reinforce the all-of-UN approach and presents a clear example of the harmonization of theory and practice within the United Nations.

I am confident both efforts will contribute to our common goal of making the world more secure and free from terrorism.

And I thank you.