



**UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM**

**Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General  
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism**

**Virtual Side Event**

***Preventing Terrorists from Acquiring Weapons: Towards technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017), related good practices and international standards***

**24 June 2021, 12.30pm – 2pm**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this side-event in the framework of the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations.

Today we will have an opportunity to gain some insights from the new *Guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017)*, developed by the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism.

I would like to express my gratitude to Ms. Michèle Coninx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and Dr. Robin Geiss, Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) for taking the lead in the development of the guidelines together with my Office.

Likewise, I would like to thank the Russian Federation, Ambassador Kuzmin for co-organizing this event and supporting our joint efforts.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Terrorists continue to use small arms and light weapons, unmanned aircraft systems, and improvised explosive devices to carry out attacks – a threat which is only exacerbated by the growing nexus between terrorism, arms trafficking and criminal networks.

Security Council resolution 2370 (2017) urges Member States to take appropriate legal actions against those who are providing terrorists with weapons.

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy also explicitly highlights the connection between terrorism and illicit arms trafficking and encourages Member States to improve border and customs controls.

The Guidelines discussed today will help to increase awareness and knowledge of Security Council resolution 2370 and improve the capacity of Member States to implement its provisions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

My Office and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with CTED and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, are actively implementing a project in Central Asia on *Addressing the nexus between terrorism, arms and crime*.

This project, which started in 2020, has already demonstrated tangible results, including through providing of capacity-building activities to 220 officials from the region.

The guidelines will be an important input for and provide impetus to the implementation of this project, as an example of the harmonization of theory and practice within the United Nations.

Let me conclude by expressing our deep gratitude to the donors of these projects – the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Russian Federation.

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

Thank you.