



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

**Side Event “Preventing and Countering Terrorism and  
Violent Extremism in Central Asia. How the United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-  
Terrorism Facilitates Coordinated UN Action”**

**19 October 2022, 08:00-9:00 (GMT+5)  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

Thank you, Mr. Avanesov.

Let me join you in welcoming the distinguished delegates and colleagues from across the United Nations system here in the room and joining us online.

I am pleased that our discussions throughout the first day of the Conference showed that there is a shared resolve among Member States, intergovernmental organizations, civil society partners, and the private sector to counter the multi-dimensional and interrelated threats associated with terrorism - and that there is broad agreement on the need to not only sustain but increase the resources required to address them.

In order to maximize our collective impact on the ground, we have joined efforts under the United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism, which is a key initiative underpinning our collaborative work across the system.

Launched during the Counter-Terrorism Week in June last year, the current Appeal includes 52 thematic global programmes and regional and country-specific projects implemented by 12 entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

We implement these projects together with a host of partners.

Let me highlight just three ways, in which the Appeal has made a critical difference to date:

First, the Appeal facilitates comprehensive ‘all-of-UN’ approaches to address common priority challenges. Joint, multi-partner projects build on the strengths of each entity while avoiding duplication and overlap.

Second, the Appeal serves as a one-stop-shop for our donors and partners by consolidating projects from across the United Nations system in a user-friendly dashboard on the website of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism.

Third, the Appeal has grown into an information management platform that ensures transparency and helps raise awareness of what the United Nations can deliver to requesting Member States in addressing their counter-terrorism needs and priorities.

I would like to thank the Government of Canada and the other 17 donors who are supporting the Appeal for their political and financial commitment.

It is my hope and expectation that next year’s Appeal will encompass an even broader alliance of United Nations entities and partners.

Distinguished delegates,  
Dear colleagues,

Now is a critical time to double down on investing into preventing and countering terrorism.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the spread of violent extremism online and offline, across the ideological spectrum, compounded by hate speech and antigovernment sentiments.

The developments in Afghanistan have raised security concerns for neighbouring countries in Central Asia, underscoring the need for more coordinated and collaborative efforts to counter the threat of terrorism and violent extremism from spreading further.

Our responses must reflect these new realities. Unilateral approaches by individual entities that treat specific thematic issues in isolation are no longer viable.

What we need are comprehensive responses that transcend borders, actors, and thematic silos.

The initiatives under the United Nations Multi-Year Appeal seek to deliver just that.

Today’s presentations will demonstrate how the United Nations system is committed to play its part.

We invite you to support our work and collaborate with us in ensuring an effective multilateral response to the evolving scourge of terrorism and violent extremism.

Thank you.