



# UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

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

**Countering Terrorist Travel Programme Donors Forum: Highlighting Achievements, Impact  
and Lessons Learned**

**19 June 2023**

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and all partners of the UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme, let me extend my warm greetings to everyone joining our first CT Week side-event.

Four years ago, we launched the CT Travel Programme – a global, flagship initiative aimed at building Member States’ capacities to prevent, detect, and investigate terrorist offences and other serious crimes.

The Programme was designed in response to UN Security Council resolutions requiring all Member States to establish capabilities to collect and use travel data, namely advance passenger information and passenger name records, in combination with biometrics, to not only detect terrorist travel, but also to enhance information exchange and improve the use of international databases with data relating to known and suspected terrorists and serious criminals.

The Programme aims to provide a complete package of technical and capacity-building support to beneficiary Member States to strengthen national capabilities in accordance with international standards and recommended practices, human rights principles, and relevant privacy laws.

To achieve these objectives, we gathered the best in-house expertise available and enlisted those entities whose mandates were relevant to the effort.

Led by the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Programme is implemented in close partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the UN Office of Information and Communication Technology, the International Criminal Police Organization, and the International Organization for Migration.

Today, we will hear presentations by all implementing partners, highlighting the key expertise that each brings to this very successful Programme.

I use the term 'successful' as an independent evaluation of the Programme has recently been completed, which has highlighted its relevance, coherence, efficiency, impact, and valuable contribution in addressing the critical needs of Member States to establish or strengthen their threat detection capabilities.

The report also highlights the 'All-of-UN' approach as a good practice to be replicated.

Since the Programme's launch, 66 countries have joined this partnership.

In today's event, we will hear from representatives from two of these Member States, Botswana, and Norway, who will reflect on the concrete impact of the Programme, as well as an interactive conversation with existing – and interested – funding partners.

We are able to provide this comprehensive assistance thanks to strategic investments and continued support from our funding partners: the European Union, the Netherlands, Qatar, Germany, Australia, the United States, India, Japan, and Hungary, to whom I am grateful for their continuing trust in our efforts. I am also grateful to our strategic partners who also support through the provision of in-kind expertise and other invaluable assistance.

I look forward to hearing more on this from the Programme partners, as well as our beneficiaries.

Thank you.