

PRESS RELEASE

UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON THREAT ASSESSMENT MODELS FOR AVIATION SECURITY COMPLETES SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMME IN THE PHILIPPINES AND OPENS A NEW CHAPTER OF PARTNERSHIP

MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES, 28 July 2023 - The Republic of The Philippines became the second Member State to complete implementation of the United Nations Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security ("TAM Programme"). This marks a significant milestone for the Government, which has demonstrated a streamlined, cohesive approach to interagency cooperation for the identification, assessment, and management of terrorist threats against critical civil aviation infrastructure.

The Philippines' successful development and implementation of the new interagency coordination framework is expected to serve as a benchmark for other Member States across the Southeast Asia region and many more around the world.

At a Closing Ceremony marking the Government's successful completion of the TAM Programme, United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i. in the Philippines, Mr. Khalid Hassan noted the momentous occasion and: recognized the critical role of the country's Anti-Terrorism Council-Programme Management Centre (ATC-PMC), which managed all aspects of implementation over these last two years.

Under the leadership of the Anti-Terrorism Council – Programme Management Center (ATC-PMC) Director Rolando M. Aquino, closeout proceedings with the TAM Programme were successfully completed on 28 July 2023 in Manila. Government representatives who participated in the Programme presented on the outcomes from the recent pilot tests conducted on the new interagency cooperation model and were able to demonstrate the new collaborative framework through a scenario-based exercise.

Ambassador Antonio M. Lagdameo, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations in New York, said, "We are pleased to be a pioneer in the TAM Programme. The essence of the TAM Programme in the Philippine setting is for close collaboration among relevant agencies in intelligence-sharing to better assess the threats and risks to civil aviation security at the national level."

The <u>TAM Programme</u> supports global counterterrorism efforts by providing Member States with technical assistance and capacity-building tools to enhance national information-sharing mechanisms on terrorist threats to civil aviation. The Programme works to strengthen national interagency cooperation on threat information and supports risk-based decision-making to secure global civil aviation systems as called for by Security Council resolution 2309 (2016) and in line with the 8th review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Concretely, the TAM Programme bridges the nexus between counterterrorism and aviation security by fostering cooperation at the national level through the establishment of new lines of communication between previously siloed organizations; creating crossagency synergies which provide increased resources and expertise to ensure safe and secure air travel.

The <u>TAM Programme</u> has now finalized the implementation with two Member States and will continue to support other beneficiary Member States in Africa and Southeast Asia through 2023.

The <u>TAM Programme</u> is led by UNOCT, in partnership with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and integrates expertise from the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). It is funded by generous contributions from the State of Qatar, the United States of America, and the Government of Hungary.

For more information:

Ms. Laurence Gerard (<u>gerardl@un.org</u>), Public Information Officer, UNOCT Addressing Counter-Terrorism in Aviation Security Unit (ACTAS) (<u>actas@un.org</u>), UNOCT

Website | Twitter

TAM Programme | actas@un.org

#UNiteToCounterTerrorism