UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

STATE OF KUWAIT

REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE | Strengthening International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Building Agile Border Security Mechanisms

THE KUWAIT PHASE OF THE DUSHANBE PROCESS

KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT • 4-5 NOVEMBER 2024

Draft Programme Outline

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4 November 2024 – Opening Session	
10:00–11:00	**High-Level Opening Session**
	Introductory Remarks: • **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov,** Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, United Nations (6 min)
	Keynote Speakers: • **High-Level Dignitary from the State of Kuwait** (TBC) • **H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon,** President of the Republic of Tajikistan • **Other selected officials**
11:00-11:15	**Coffee break**
11:15 – 13:00	**Ministerial Session: Leveraging Multilateralism to Achieve Enhanced Counter-Terrorism Cooperation around the World**

	Statements by Ministers and others (4-minutes each)
	
	[A list of speakers will be issued separately. Each speaker will have 4 minutes to deliver his or her statement.]
	
	Key issues to be addressed:
	
	• **Strategic priorities to strengthen Multilateral Counter-Terrorism Cooperation**
	  o What are some successful examples of multilateral cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts?
	  o What are the benefits of regional counter-terrorism initiatives?
	  o How can neighboring countries collaborate to better address cross-border terrorism threats?
	• **Strategic Risks in Multilateral Approaches**
	  o How can countries navigate differing national interests and priorities to foster effective collaboration?

	o What mechanisms can be put in place to mitigate potential risks and ensure sustained cooperation?
	• **Avenues for Change and Improvement**
	   o In what ways can multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation be enhanced to address emerging threats?
	   o How can updates on BSM good practices and knowledge products from organizations like CTED, UNOCT, UNODC, World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) contribute to these efforts?
	• **Linkages Between Counter-Terrorism Efforts, Threat and Risk Analysis, and Law Enforcement**
	   o How can counter-terrorism efforts be linked with threat and risk analysis to develop effective law enforcement and border security capacities?
	   o What holistic approaches can be adopted to ensure these efforts comply with human rights requirements and are gender-responsive?

	• **Panelists (TBD)**
13:00 – 15:00	**Lunch Break**
13:15-14:45	**Side event "The Addendum to the GCTF BSM Good Practices and the Integrated Border Stability Mechanism: A New Tool for Enhanced Border Cooperation and Coordination" (organised by the UNOCT Border Security Management Programme)**
15:00-18:00	**THEMATIC SESSION I: Addressing Global Border Security Challenges: Regional Insights from Central Asia, League of Arab States and Africa** **Key issues to be addressed:** • **Overview of Global Border Security Challenges** o What are the primary global border security challenges currently faced by countries worldwide?

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- o How do these challenges manifest differently in Central Asia, the League of Arab States countries, and Africa? What are the best practices?
- o What are the common factors contributing to border security vulnerabilities across different regions?
- **Regional Insights on Border Security Challenges**
  - o What specific border security issues are faced by countries in Central Asia, the League of Arab States and Africa?
  - o How have the above-mentioned regions and countries addressed these issues, and what lessons can be drawn from their experiences?
  - o How do regional security dynamics impact border security strategies in these areas?
- **UNOCT's Border related capacity building programmes (border security, counter-terrorism travel, autonomous and remotely operated systems)**
  - o What are the expected outcomes and benefits of implementing these programmes?
- **Policy and Legal Frameworks**
  - o How do existing policy and legal frameworks support or hinder effective border security in these regions?
  - o What reforms are needed to strengthen the legal and regulatory environment for border security?
  - o How can countries ensure that robust border security measures comply with human rights requirements?

- **Panelists (TBD)**

Questions and Observations from the Floor (3 minutes max. per intervention)

| 18:30 | **Official Reception for the Conference participants** |

5 November 2024	
8:30 – 9:45	**USG Voronkov's informal dialogue with CSOs**
8:15 – 9:45	**Side event on "Protecting critical energy infrastructure from terrorist threats" (organized by the UNOCT Vulnerable Targets Programme)**

10:00 – 13:00	**THEMATIC SESSION II: Border Security in the context of porous borders and new technologies: Tackling Capacity Gaps and Enhancing Cooperation**
	
	Key issues to be addressed:
	
	• **Understanding Porous Borders**
	   o How do porous borders impact national and regional security?
	   o What are the most significant challenges faced by countries with porous borders?
	   o What are the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a community around porous borders?
	   o Experiences in Building Community Resilience in Border Areas: presentation of the Handbook of Good Practices "To promote community resilience against radicalization and violent extremism in the G5 Sahel Countries"
	• **Leveraging New Technologies and Behavioral Science Approaches**
	   o What technological advancements can be leveraged to strengthen border security? How can autonomous and remotely operated systems, including Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), be used in support of border security and territorial surveillance?
	   o How can countries leverage and integrate new technologies, including AI and UAS, into existing border security frameworks effectively?
	   o What are the potential risks and challenges associated with implementing new technologies in border security?
	   o What are the requirements related to human rights that need to be integrated into the use of new technologies in border security?

	- **Addressing Capacity Gaps**
	    ○ What are the most critical capacity gaps in current border security efforts?
	    ○ How can countries assess and prioritize their border security capacity-building needs?
	    ○ What role can international organizations and donor countries play in addressing these capacity gaps?
	    ○ How can CSOs effectively contribute to building local capacities for border security in regions with limited resources and infrastructure?
	
	- **Enhancing Regional and International Cooperation**
	    ○ How can countries improve regional and international cooperation to address border security challenges?
	    ○ What best practices exist for fostering cross-border collaboration and information sharing?
	    ○ What is the role of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Border Management and Law Enforcement relating to Counter-Terrorism Working Group and how can it be further leveraged to strengthen international cooperation?
	    ○ How can regional organizations facilitate enhanced cooperation among Member States?

	- **Panelists (TBD)**
	Questions and Observations from the Floor will be asked through the online app
13:00 - 15:00	**Lunch Break**
13:15 – 14:45	**Side-event "Behavioral Analysis and AI for Border Security" organized by BI Hub**
15:00 – 17:00	**THEMATIC SESSION III: The Way Forward: Building Robust and Effective Border Security Management Strategies and National Action Plans**

Key issues to be addressed:

- **Principles of Rule of Law in Border Security**
  - What are the key principles of the rule of law that should guide border security management strategies?
  - What are the challenges in implementing rule of law-based border security strategies
  - What are possible solutions to these challenges?
- **GCTS Prioritization of BSM Strategies**
  - What comprehensive approaches might be considered in the design and implementation of BSM strategies in line with GCTS priorities?
  - How can countries align their national BSM strategies with the priorities set out by GCTS?
- **Developing Effective National Action Plans**
  - What are the essential components of a comprehensive national action plan for border security?
  - How can countries develop and implement these plans in a way that addresses their specific security needs?
  - What roles do different stakeholders (government, security forces, civil society, private sector, academia, think tanks, and international partners) play in the development and implementation of these plans?
- **Promoting compliance with human rights**
  - How can border security strategies be designed to comply with human rights requirements?
  - What are the possible guidelines for use of behavioral science in security?
  - How can countries ensure that vulnerable populations and border communities are protected in the context of border security operations?
- **Promoting gender-responsiveness**
  - What are the best practices for integrating gender considerations into border security management?
- **Monitoring and Evaluating Border Security Strategies**
  - What metrics and indicators can be used to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of border security strategies?

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	o How can countries ensure that their monitoring and evaluation processes are robust and evidence-based? o What are the challenges in collecting and analyzing data for border security management, and how can they be addressed?
	• **Panelists (TBD)**
	Questions and Observations from the Floor (3 minutes max. per intervention)
17:00-17:30	## Closing Session **Chair** • **H.E. Mr. Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya,** Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait **Summary Conclusions and Closing Remarks** • **H.E. Mr. Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya,** Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait • **H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhriddin,** Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan • **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov**, Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, United Nations