



## General Assembly adopts the Fifth Review of the Global Counter- Terrorism Strategy by Consensus

On 1 July 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus, resolution (A/RES/70/291) on the Fifth Review of Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy reinforcing global consensus in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.

The 15-page resolution “calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and sub-regional organizations to step up their efforts” to implement, in an integrated and balanced manner, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, an instrument adopted by the Assembly in 2006 to enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism.



The General Assembly also recognized the importance of preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism and, recommended that Member States consider the implementation of relevant recommendations of the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, as applicable to the national context.

The General Assembly encouraged UN entities, in line with their mandates, to implement relevant recommendations of the Plan of Action, including by providing technical assistance to Member States upon their request, and invited Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations to consider developing national and regional plans of action to prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with their priorities and taking into account, as appropriate, the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action.

The Assembly reviews the Strategy every two years. The adoption of the new resolution came on the second and last day of the fifth review held at UN Headquarters in New York, on the tenth anniversary of the Strategy. In a statement from his spokesperson, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the move. “The adoption by consensus of this resolution symbolizes the international community’s strong resolve unison and without delay to address terrorism and violent extremism,” he said.



The General Assembly also reiterated “its strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes.”

The General Assembly recognized the difficulties faced by the international community in addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism that can be conducive to terrorism, and urged Member States and the UN system to take measures, pursuant to international law and while ensuring national ownership, to address all drivers of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, both internal and external, in a balanced manner.

For more information, visit  
[www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctif](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctif)

## At the Fifth Review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, top UN officials call for global consensus and preventive approach

The unprecedented levels of terrorism and violent extremism on a global scale requires balanced implementation of commitments made through collective action, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasized, calling on the international community to act with unity and resolve to address “this major scourge of our time”. “We have an urgent moral duty to do all we can to prevent and end this carnage,” the Secretary-General said on 30 June, at the opening of a two-day on the Fifth Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

*“Taking collective preventive action against terrorism, in the spirit of our United Nations Charter, is the only way to secure peace and prosperity for succeeding generations”* Mr. Ban Ki-moon

While there has been progress in the implementation of the counter-terrorism strategy since it was adopted 10 years ago, important shifts have occurred in the global terrorism landscape since then, with the strategy encountering “unforeseen challenges.”

The Secretary General referred to information technologies, which spread “poisonous” and violent extremist ideologies, the easy availability of arms, as well as the flow of foreign terrorist fighters across borders and heightened media attention, which have contributed to creating an environment where terrorists have taken control of vast swaths of territory, resources and populations in a “vortex of protracted conflicts, ungoverned spaces and terrorism.”

“Terrorism transcends cultures and geographical boundaries. It cannot be associated with any religion, nationality or ethnic group. It affects all countries,” he stressed. The Secretary-General underlined that, as outlined in his Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE), a more systematic preventive approach is necessary to address the drivers of violent extremism.

Mr. Ban highlighted the four pillars of the counter-terrorism strategy (A/RES/70/291) as they relate to

addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; preventing and combatting terrorism; building States’ capacity and strengthening the role of the UN; and ensuring human rights and the rule of law.

“The General Assembly is the forum to forge and reinforce a global consensus in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism”, he noted, adding that “now, more than ever, we need strong and effective international cooperation at the bilateral, regional, interregional and global levels, and balanced implementation across all four pillars.”

Also speaking at the opening, the General Assembly President, Mogens Lykketoft, stressed that consultations on the global counter-terrorism strategy were a “unique opportunity to discuss how to make the UN more relevant, more credible, more legitimate and more capable in responding to terrorism.”

“In these last years, we have been alarmed by the acts



of intolerance, and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, violence, including sectarian violence, and terrorism in various parts of the world, which claim innocent lives, cause destruction, displace people and divide communities,” he said.

The Secretary General stated that taking collective preventive action against terrorism, in the spirit of our United Nations Charter, is the only way to secure peace and prosperity for succeeding generations.





## At Geneva Conference, Ban calls for global partnership to prevent violent extremism

The objective of extremists “is for us to turn on each other [and] our unity is the ultimate rebuke for that bankrupt strategy,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on 8 April, underscoring that the PVE Plan of Action he presented to the United Nations General Assembly in January 2016 (A/RES/674) contains concrete recommendations and could be the basis of a global partnership to defeat violent extremism.

**“Let this conference – and our unity today – be the ultimate rebuke to that bankrupt strategy.”**

While it may be inevitable to draw on examples, such as Da’esh [also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL] or Boko Haram, “the phenomenon of violent extremism conducive to terrorism is not rooted or confined to any religion, region, nationality or ethnic group,” the Secretary-General told the Geneva Conference on Preventing Violent Extremism – The Way Forward, co-hosted in Geneva by the Government of Switzerland, where he stressed: “Let us also recognize that today the vast majority of victims worldwide are Muslims.”

Violent extremism is clearly a transnational threat that requires urgent international cooperation, Mr. Ban said, explaining that his Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism puts forward a comprehensive and balanced approach for concerted action at the global, regional and national levels.

The Plan was first submitted to the General Assembly on 15 January. Then, on 12 February, the 193-nation body adopted a resolution (A/RES/70/254) that welcome Mr. Ban’s initiative, pledging to give further consideration to the Plan, including in the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy review in June 2016, as well as in other relevant fora.

The Geneva Conference provided an opportunity for the international community to share experiences and good practices in addressing the drivers of violent extremism and to build support for the Plan of Action. The first day was dedicated to a meeting of senior experts on key issues related to the prevention of violent extremism.

## The Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in brief

Violent extremist groups present a **serious threat to all four core areas of work** of the international community: peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and the rule of law as well as humanitarian action.

In the Plan, the Secretary-General calls for a **comprehensive approach encompassing not only essential security-based counter-terrorism measures but also systematic preventive** steps to address the underlying conditions that drive individuals to radicalize and join violent extremist groups .

The Plan is an appeal for concerted action by the international community. It provides **more than 70 recommendations to Member States and the United Nations System** to prevent the further spread of violent extremism, at the local, national, regional and global levels.

The Secretary-General puts forward an **“All-of-UN” approach** both at Headquarters and in the field to support global efforts to prevent violent extremism and assist Member States in developing National Plans of Action.

The Plan (A/70/674) is accompanied by a Letter of the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly (A/70/675).

During a press conference (5 April, 2016), **Dr. Jehangir Khan**, the Director of UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), noted that there was unprecedented attention to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism. He stressed that the Secretary-General’s plan was not only a call to action, but also a call to unity.

## UNESCO - Teacher’s Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism

UNESCO’s Teacher Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism was launched in May 2016. The guide provides practical tips to educators seeking guidance on how to discuss the subject in classrooms.

As part of its work on Global Citizenship Education and following a request of Member States for assistance in strengthening the responses of the education sector to violent extremism, UNESCO launched a guide intended for educators. The guide seeks to help teachers create a classroom climate that is inclusive, and conducive to respectful dialogue, open discussion and critical thinking on the subject of violent extremism. The publication recommends resources to develop a deeper understanding of the phenomenon and responds to frequently asked questions. A well-managed conversation on the prevention of violent extremism should seek to reinforce skills that enable learners to participate more generally in civic life as informed global citizens. This implies ensuring that the information exchanged during the discussion, as well as the way the debate is handled, instils skills, attitudes and behaviours that foster mutual respect, critical thinking and a sense of belonging to a common humanity.

The Guide constitutes the first contribution to the implementation of the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action

to Prevent Violent Extremism. It will be followed by a second guidance document, to be released in September 2016, aimed at policy-makers within ministries of education. This tool will provide a set of resources that can help reinforce national capacities to address the drivers of violent extremism through holistic and pragmatic education sector-wide responses.



The publication was peer reviewed by a host of international experts in the field of education as well as the Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) schools and students of the Teachers College of Columbia University. It will also be used as a basis for capacity building workshops on the prevention of violent extremism through education.

## Security Council requests UN panel to propose global framework on countering terrorist propaganda

Reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, the United Nations Security Council requested, on 11 May 2016, a proposal by 30 April 2017 for a comprehensive international framework on the matter.

In a Presidential Statement adopted during an open debate on countering the narratives and ideologies of terrorism, the Security Council asked its Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) to undertake the work and recommend guidelines and good practices to effectively counter the ways the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals and groups use their narratives to encourage and recruit others to commit terrorist acts.

To develop this comprehensive framework, the CTC will work closely with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and other relevant bodies as well as interested Member States.

In its statement, the Council noted with concern that ISIL, Al-Qaida, and associated groups “craft distorted narratives that are based on the misinterpretation and misrepresentation of religion to justify violence,” which are utilized to recruit supporters and foreign terrorist fighters, mobilize resources, and garner support from sympathizers, in particular by exploiting information and communications technologies, including through the Internet and social media.

**“The best narrative to counter violent extremism may perhaps not be a narrative. This whole discussion is not about a story. It is about action to build peace, development and human rights.”**

Addressing the open debate, **Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson** emphasized that terrorist groups are exploiting religious beliefs in order to incite hatred and violence, and to cause division and polarization in our societies.

“Terrorists and violent extremists blatantly challenge the values enshrined in the United Nations Charter, the



Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as our shared pursuit of peace, justice and human dignity,” he said.

“Terrorist bombs not only devastate human lives, but also target common values,” he added, noting that the global community has a responsibility to shield people from harm and protect universal values from erosion.

With young people falling prey to terrorist narratives and ideologies, he called on Council Members and all Member States to translate into practice its historic resolution 2250 of December 2015 that recognized the value and role of young people and young peacebuilders.

**“We must do more than repeat general statements about youth being the ‘leaders of the future’”**

With superior communications skills, extensive social media networks and often more influential voices than their elders, the current generation of youth can amplify messages of common humanity.

Incitement and recruitment by terrorists, as well as conditions conducive to terrorism, have also been addressed in several Security Council resolutions, the General Assembly’s Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

Stressing that security and military responses are not enough, Mr. Eliasson said that the Secretary-General’s action plan strongly focuses on preventive approaches and cautioned against the ‘us against them’ mentality prevalent across the world today.



## At annual retreat, CTIFF entities commit to Deliver as One

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) of the Department of Political Affairs hosted a CTITF Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting for the Task Force's entities at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, on 17 March 2016. The meeting included a working lunch session with the Secretary-General and brought together senior officials from all CTITF entities including 18 USGs and ASGs, which demonstrated senior-level commitment to addressing terrorism and violent extremism in a strategic and comprehensive way, leveraging resources across the UN system to Deliver as One.

Since the last CTITF Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting, the membership of the Task Force has grown to a total of 38 entities. Three new CTITF members include the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth.

Participants at the Retreat agreed that the terrorist and violent extremist landscape remains grim. These threats are now central to the international peace and security agenda, and affect all pillars of our work—including our efforts to foster sustainable development, protect human rights and the rule of law, and deliver humanitarian assistance. Terrorist group attacks have become more complex. Their abilities to radicalize, particularly targeting youth, are becoming stronger. In turn, violent extremism is fuelling terrorism around the world, feeding into a dangerous vortex of unpredictable consequences.

The discussions at the Retreat focused on the evolving terrorist and violent extremist landscape and the work of the United Nations to address these threats; the Fifth Review – and 10th Anniversary – of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as well as the Report of the Secretary-General that informed Member States' discussions prior to the General Assembly's Fifth Review of the Strategy in June; and the way forward on the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE).

## The 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in Baku, Azerbaijan (27 April, 2016)

The 7<sup>th</sup> Global Forum convened by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in Baku, Azerbaijan on 27 April 2016, provided an opportunity for participants to renew their commitment to creating inclusive societies.

The meeting brought together more than 4,300 participants from 147 countries including Heads of State and Government officials, civil society representatives, religious and youth leaders, who exchanged their views during one of the main sessions on 'Living Together in Inclusive Societies: A Challenge and A Goal.' At the end of the Forum, participants adopted by consensus the Baku Declaration, a political document that will guide future efforts towards achieving the goals of UNAOC – a body mandated to promote harmony, understanding and peaceful dialogue among nations.

The Declaration rejects any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audio-visual or electronic media or any other means. It also stresses the importance of implementing UNAOC's goals at the national level and supports the High



Representative in his efforts, including the advancement of UNAOC programmes as an instrument to address conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism.

Speaking to the media at the conclusion of the Forum, UNAOC High Representative Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser said that the dimensions and causes of violent extremism, and measures to prevent such a scourge in the future, were largely discussed. He also stressed the importance of the event to the Alliance in light of UNAOC's engagement to contribute to the implementation of the SG's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

## UN urges prevention address threats of violent extremism to children and youth

Children and youth are often the most vulnerable victims of the scourge of radicalization and violence, the President of the United Nations General Assembly emphasized on 3 June 2016, urging the international community to advance its own thinking and refine its responses to addressing the challenges of violent extremism.

"This is a subject that, in many ways, I wish we did not have to discuss," **said Mogens Lykketoft, President of the UN General Assembly**, at the opening of a High-level Thematic Conversation on Children and Youth affected by Violent Extremism.

**"And it is frightening to think that at a given moment, our youngest people could have their lives, hopes and futures so deeply affected by violent extremism"**.

Mr. Lykketoft also noted that the event presented an opportunity for the General Assembly to achieve broader understanding of the issue, particularly in light of the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism issued prior to the 10-year review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In his remarks, **Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson** emphasized the role of youth in countering violent extremism and promoting peace, and reminded the importance of Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security in this regard.

Noting that today 46 per cent of the world's population is under the age of 25, Mr. Eliasson said young people are disproportionately affected by inequality, marginalization and not least by unemployment. "With these figures and facts in mind, we should understand that young people may be vulnerable to the lure of violent extremists, who



offer them a salary, a sense of belonging, and a promise of glory," Mr. Eliasson said.

### Children and youth represent promises – not perils

"We need to engage and empower our young people. We should not only work for young people – we should work with them. They are subjects, not objects. We have a duty to unleash the great potential of young people to promote peace, development, justice and understanding," the Deputy –Secretary added. "Through dialogue, inclusion and good governance, our children and young people can become the empowered citizens they strive to be and deserve to be," he stressed. He also noted that it is necessary to fight discrimination and exclusion, which often underlie the grievances that lead to radicalization and violence.

"We must better and more effectively communicate our common values of peace and justice. We must stand together against the intolerance and hatred which is spread by extremist groups," Mr. Eliasson said. "In the spirit of the United Nations Charter, we must act now to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to live lives in larger freedom."



## UNODC presents initiative to address the use of children by violent extremist and terrorist groups

Coinciding with the 25th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) that took place in Vienna in May 2016, UNODC launched a project entitled 'Capacity Building on Justice and Security Challenges Concerning Children Associated with Violent Extremist Groups, Including Terrorist Groups'.

"Ensuring that justice processes cannot only promote accountability, but also take into account the special needs and the level of development of children, fostering their sense of dignity and worth, and providing them with a real chance to assume a positive

and constructive role in society is our primary objective," said UNODC Deputy Executive Director Aldo Lale-Demoz at the CCPCJ event.

## Capacity-Building for Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in South Asia

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy notes that youth unemployment is a key condition that is conducive to the spread of terrorism. As part of the UNCCT's efforts to engage youth populations in South Asia, the Centre convened a five-day capacity-building workshop for technical and vocational training (TVET) institutes in Pakistan in May 2016 aimed at managers and senior instructors. The training was organized in partnership with the Pakistan Prime Minister's Youth Programme and with technical support from the International Labour Organization Islamabad Office. The project is part of a series of activities planned for South Asian countries on youth employability and skills development, especially of vulnerable youth, thereby reducing the chances of their exposure to radicalization and extremism.

The training workshop in Pakistan was rooted in the outcome of the UNCCT Needs Assessment Conference on Youth Engagement, held in May 2015, through which the Centre and the Government of Pakistan, together with key UN Country Team agencies and NGOs, identified entry points for engaging youth and offering assistance to help young people grow more resilient to terrorist propaganda. Several regional countries face significant youth bulges, whose promise and energy needs to be supported and effectively harnessed in the national and global efforts against terrorism and

extremism. The Needs Assessment helped prioritize 9 specific areas, including capacity-building of TVET institutes in Pakistan. The training workshop focused on key managerial aspects related to running an effective TVET institute, such as learning models, assessments and appraisals, career guidance, quality control, finances and resource mobilization, industry linkages, public-private partnerships and gender equity. The workshop helped participating TVET institutes develop Institute Action Plans that would help improve their services and help young people acquire skills for job attainment and stability.

In addition, the Centre has explored a strategic partnership with Qatar-based Silatech, which specializes in youth employment and skills development and runs a number of youth-focused programming in the Arab world. Through collaborative ventures and institutionalized relationships, such as with the ILO, Silatech and national youth commissions, the UNCCT has identified a number of additional projects in South Asia that could help catalyse support for young people through concrete platforms and sustained trainings. Going forward, the UNCCT will seek to deepen its collaboration with ILO, UNDP and Silatech in order to expand TVET training in South Asia with a focus on highly vulnerable youth populations.



FRAMING DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS FOR  
**THE PREVENTION OF  
VIOLENT EXTREMISM**  
D U S H A N B E 2 0 1 6

UNDP's Istanbul Regional Hub and Tajikistan Country Office co-organized with the Tajik Government a "High-Level Experts Meeting on Finding Development Solutions to Preventing Violent Extremism" on 13-15 June 2016 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The goal of the meeting was to advance understanding of radicalization, which leads to violent extremism in Central Asia and the broader region, and to find human rights-based development solutions for national and regional responses to this phenomenon as the basis for developing programmes to address radicalization in the region.



## ‘Justice may be delayed, but not denied,’ Security Council told at debate on sexual violence in conflict

At a Security Council debate held on 2 June on sexual violence in conflict, senior United Nations officials stressed that in the past decade, the world has witnessed a fundamental shift in the way the issue is understood and addressed as a peace and security concern.

### *Sexual violence as ‘tactic of terrorism’*

“One extremely disturbing aspect is the use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism. Da’esh (also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL), Boko Haram and other violent extremist groups are using sexual violence as a means of attracting and retaining fighters, and to generate revenue,” the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said.

The UN chief warned that sexual violence is widely recognized as a deliberate strategy used to shred the

fabric of society; to control and intimidate communities; and to force people from their homes:

“It is rightly seen as a threat to international peace and security, a serious violation of international

humanitarian and human rights law, and a major impediment to post-conflict reconciliation and economic development,” he stressed.

Mr. Ban noted that the Security Council has played a significant role in ushering in this change, in particular through several landmark resolutions that confirm sexual violence as a war crime, a crime against humanity, and a constituent act of genocide.



## Preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism as related to foreign terrorist fighters in the spotlight of UNODC-Hedayah Conference

The International Conference on Preventing and Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism as related to the FTF Threat was organized by UNODC in cooperation with the Hedayah Centre of Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism in Abu Dhabi from 26 to 28 April 2016.

The purpose of the conference was to address policy and criminal justice strategies to radicalization to violence, in the context of the FTF-related threat, through the exchange of experiences and good practices among the Gulf, Middle Eastern and North African countries as well as Afghanistan.

Gathering more than 70 senior experts from Africa, Asia, Europe and North America, the event provided a framework for presentations and in-depth discussions on practical aspects, such as building and implementing an efficient and rule of law-based national strategy for

countering violent extremism, addressing investigative and prosecutorial challenges of violent extremism related terrorist offences, the use of the Internet for recruitment and training purposes by terrorist organizations, as well as radicalization to violence in prison settings and challenges related to returning FTFs.

The conference also focused on the key role of civil society, in particular through victims of terrorism representatives, in developing preventive approaches and countering terrorist narratives as well as of the private sector, particularly in light of the essential cooperation with relevant national entities.

The Abu Dhabi conference was a follow-up to two previous regional events held in the United Arab Emirates in 2013 and 2014.

## 'They are our strongest allies,' UN political chief says, urging efforts to engage terrorism victims



*A minute of silence is observed during the conference on Human Rights of Victims of Terrorism*

At a Headquarters conference on the [human rights of terrorism victims organized by the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre \(UNCCT\)](#), on 11 February 2016, the top United Nations political official urged Member States to engage with victims of terrorism and violent extremism, especially the young and the vulnerable, to build on previous commitments and ensure that their human rights are fully respected.

**Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman** said that terrorism victims can bring a perspective that shapes the debate, counters hateful narrative and influences attitudes and help in reaching out to marginalized and at-risk communities.

**“Victims of terrorism are the strongest, most sincere and most convincing allies we have in preventing others from being lured to terrorist and violent extremist groups”**

Noting that many victims have shown their willingness to be engaged, Mr. Feltman emphasized that more must be done to “help them to help us” in devising responses to narratives and thus preventing terrorist and violent extremist groups from attracting additional followers. “If the unspeakable horrors and false promises of these groups are exposed by those who sadly have first-hand experience, potential followers will be able to draw informed conclusions.

And thereby the sorrow and suffering victims have endured will serve the common good and hopefully also contribute to their own healing,” he said.

### *The specific needs of victims of terrorism*

Mr. Feltman emphasized that the existing legal framework relating to victims of terrorism must take into account their specific needs and be strengthened, as should national mechanisms that assist victims with the appropriate medical, psychological and legal services. He called on participants to create momentum for change in addressing victims' needs in criminal justice processes, with appropriate confidentiality and witness protection measures in place, and through establishing multi-dimensional responses to reparations.

The conference continued for the full day and included panels on the obligation on public authorities to use reasonable care in preventing and responding to acts of terrorism; the rights of victims of terrorism within the criminal justice process; reparation to victims of terrorism for acts of terrorism and the role of victims in preventing violent extremism.

A report of the conference will be issued online later this year.

UNODC publication: [Good Practices in Supporting Victims of Terrorism within the Criminal Justice Framework](#) (<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/news-and-events/victims-of-terrorism.html> )

## ICAO Secretary-General briefs the Counter-Terrorism Committee

On 23 June the Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Dr. Fang Liu briefed the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) on ICAO's policies, programmes, and priorities in the field of security and counter-terrorism. Civil aviation remains a target for terrorist attacks and can be exploited by terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters (FTF), for their travels.

Dr. Liu said that the attacks at Brussels Airport on 22 March 2016, and the events which followed, were a tragic reminder of the enormous challenges faced in securing public areas; the inseparability of aviation security and national security; the economic and social consequences of terrorism; and the historic resilience of civil aviation.



In the briefing, she stressed that effective aviation security requires strong political commitment at the State level to decide policies, adequately fund programmes, set targets, and achieve results. She also highlighted the need for increasing the level and sources of assistance support.

## Raising awareness on Advance Passenger Information and determining their Related Technical Assistance Needs (API)

In furthering the objectives of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014), the UNCCT launched the Advance Passenger Information (API) project in November 2015. The resolution requires that Member States prevent individuals believed to be FTFs from entering or transiting through their territories. Specifically, the Council calls upon Member States to “require that airlines operating in their territories provide advance passenger information to the appropriate national authorities in order to detect the departure from, or attempted entry into or transit through, their territories, by means of civil aircraft, of individuals designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011)” concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities.

The API project has enabled the UNCCT to bring together all entities that play a role in API implementation, including CTED, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), INTERPOL, and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).



The objective of the project is to contribute to an improved awareness by Member States of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) and its requirement to implement API, as well as recognize the benefits of API systems as an effective border management tool to stem the flow of FTFs. In order to achieve this, five regional workshops have been organised in 2016, which will be followed by four capacity-building consultations with selected Member States.



## Training for West African States on Asset-Freezing and Contacts database for Third-Party Requests

Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and their successor resolutions underscore the importance of preventing terrorists acquire funds to operate and recruit. The UNCCT runs a global capacity-building project to help national financial intelligence centres and regulatory bodies acquire or improve the mechanisms and regimes in place to designate terrorist organizations and freeze their assets.

In May 2016, the Centre engaged for the first time with the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) to deliver a capacity-building workshop on this topic to FIU officials from 16 West African States at the GIABA Plenary meeting in Cabo Verde. The training included case studies and group exercises that helped officials acquire knowledge on recent terrorist fundraising typologies and administrative, legal and enforcement aspects necessary for an effective regulatory regime.

Asset-freezing request to a foreign jurisdiction



In addition, in its dialogue with Member States on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, CTED identified an urgent need to strengthen communications between Member States in initiating and processing terrorist asset-freezing requests.

In April 2016, CTED therefore launched a third-party terrorist-asset-freezing request contacts database, which is intended to facilitate and accelerate the process of making terrorist asset-freezing requests and speed communication.

## International legal instrument key to preventing nuclear terrorism enters into force

On 8 May 2016, the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material entered into force. It is one of the 19 international legal instruments against terrorism. Its entry into force and implementation will contribute to the enhancement of nuclear security worldwide.

While the instrument was unanimously adopted by Member States in 2005, its Amendment extends the scope of the 1980 Convention to also cover the physical protection of nuclear material in domestic use, storage and transport, and of nuclear facilities.

It includes important new offences and provides for expanded cooperation regarding rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material and mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage. The Amendment is also very important for countries with no nuclear material as it provides tools enabling Member States to prosecute the smuggling of nuclear materials into their territory.

Over the past years, UNODC has devoted many of its efforts to promotion of this crucial international legal instrument.

## International Good Practices on Addressing and Preventing KFR

Kidnapping for ransom is a growing threat, and States in northern, eastern and Sahel regions of Africa, in particular, are witnessing a rise in KFR incidents that could fund terrorist organizations. In order to help address the threat, the UNCCT has launched a project on building capacity to address and prevent KFR through the promotion and effective implementation of international good practices. A capacity building workshop was convened in Addis Ababa for Government officials from East African States on 28 - 29 June 2016, to deliver a programmatic programme for law enforcement officials and hostage incident responders

on skills, techniques and strategies related to hostage recovery and non-payment of ransoms. The sessions focused on key practical issues, such as terrorist KFR trends and case studies, principles of hostage incident management, stakeholder cooperation, family liaison, the role of media, principles of communication with kidnappers, legal aspects, involvement of third parties (interpreters, intermediaries), government perspectives, NGO perspectives, and post-incident hostage reintegration issues. Additional workshops are to be organized, including for NGOs, for States in North and West Africa.

## UNCCT-GCTF Border Security Initiative

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) organised a series of events in the area of border security and management (BSM) to strengthen Member States' capacities to counter terrorism, fighting cross-border organised crime and stemming the flow of foreign-terrorist fighters (FTF). In total, three regional workshops were organised as part of the UNCCT-GCTF Border Security Initiative (BSI) namely in Nairobi (Kenya) and in Djibouti city (Djibouti) for the Horn of Africa, as well as in Dakar (Senegal) for the Sahel region.

The objective of the workshops was to bring together senior border officials from countries of the regions and international experts in the area of BSM in order to identify challenges and good practices accordingly.

National border practitioners and international border experts discussed the crucial role that BSM plays in combating terrorism, stemming the flow of foreign terrorist-fighters (FTF), and fighting cross-border organized crime.

They also elaborated on a range of models related border community engagement, border community policing, effective border surveillance methods, risk analysis and management, gaps and needs assessments, and cross-border cooperation. They highlighted the importance of balancing well trained border control officers and technology-based solutions for effective response.

The workshops built on the 2013 Rabat Conference, the Inaugural Conference of the UNCCT-GCTF Border Security Initiative in El Jadida, Morocco (July 2015), the Study Visit in Cairns, Australia (August 2015), and the Experts Seminar in Vienna, Austria (September 2015).

The events elaborated a global non-binding good practices document, which will provide border security and management policy makers and practitioners with useful guidance on strengthening border security and management to counter terrorism and stem the flow of FTF.

## The UNCCT 5-Year Programme Kicks-Off in 2016

On first January 2016, the United Nations Counter Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) started the implementation of a new 5-Year Programme. **The programme establishes the future work of the Centre in the area of counter-terrorism capacity building to support the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.** It focuses on filling strategic gaps in Member State capacities while avoiding duplication or overlap of efforts with other CTITF entities.

The 5-Year Programme details how the Centre will be working with a range of partners, both inside and outside the UN-system, to ensure that beneficiaries have ownership of the outputs and outcomes delivered through the Programme. Given the ever-changing threat from terrorists, the Centre plans to be flexible in implementation of the Programme, including by setting aside funds to address new and emerging threats, to provide surge funding for priority areas, as well as for quick impact projects. The Programme also establishes a clear framework for Monitoring and Evaluation.

It builds on the Secretary-General's Vision for the Future Role of UNCCT, the UNCCT Plan of Action and consultations with the Centre's Advisory Board, as well as with Member States and CTITF entities. It also draws

### Outcome 1: Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism

(Pillar I of the Global Strategy) supporting Member States prevent and counter violent extremism and address the Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon.

### Outcome 2: Combatting terrorism

(Pillar II of the Global Strategy) supporting Member States and regions counter terrorism in a strategic manner, combat the financing of terrorism, and prevent the travel of terrorists and cyber terrorism.

### Outcome 3: Human Rights & Victims

(Pillar IV of the Global Strategy) supporting Member States ensure respect for human rights as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

### Outcome 4: International cooperation

(Pillar III of the Global Strategy) supporting Member States, UN entities and other stakeholders cooperate to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism.

on the accumulated experiences of the Centre since its establishment. **The 5-Year Programme outlines four (4) key outcomes and 12 outputs** that will ensure focus and impact in areas not fully served by other UN entities, such as preventing violent extremism, addressing the FTF phenomenon, the development of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, enhancing border security and management, supporting victims of terrorism and human rights, as well as continued support for an 'All-of-UN' approach to countering terrorism, including through the CTITF Working Groups and I-ACT.

The overriding rationale for the 5-Year Programme is to provide strategic focus on fewer and larger projects with real impact on the ground.

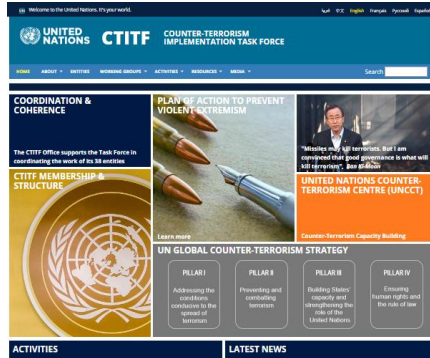
The Programme will ensure a coherent approach to UNCCT capacity building work over the next five years.

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**New Websites**

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, Counter-Terrorism Committee, and the United Nations Action to Counter-Terrorism have launched new websites.



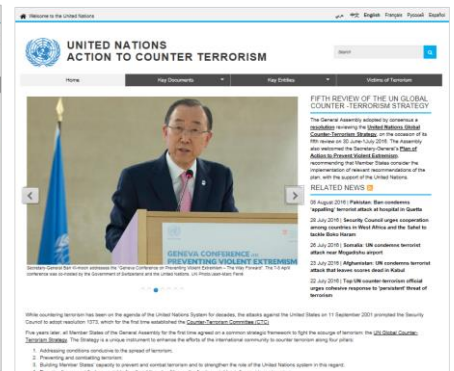
Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)  
[www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf)



United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)  
[www.un.org/uncct](http://www.un.org/uncct)



Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC/CTED)  
[www.un.org/sc/ctc](http://www.un.org/sc/ctc)



United Nations Action to Counter Terrorism  
[www.un.org/en/counterterrorism](http://www.un.org/en/counterterrorism)



The BEAM Editorial contact:  
 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office  
 Email: [DPA-CTITF@un.org](mailto:DPA-CTITF@un.org)  
[www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf)