

PILLAR IV:

Measures ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States ensure respect for human rights as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism (Outcome 3, UNCCT 5-Year Programme)

Output 3.1: Through UNCCT support, requesting Member States have access to good practices on ensuring respect for human rights while countering terrorism and are enabled to apply them

Counter-terrorism measures may interfere with or restrict human rights and consequently generate or fuel grievances that may create the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent reviews, as well as several General Assembly and Security Council resolutions underscore the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism, in accordance with States' obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law. UNCCT supports requesting Member States in implementing their human rights obligations under international law in the context of counter-terrorism. The Centre's technical assistance in this regard includes human rights training of law enforcement officials, developing human rights training modules for border officials and delivering regional trainings, producing publications on key human rights principles applicable to screening at borders, developing a handbook on key principles to ensure the human rights-based treatment of children accompanying or associated with foreign terrorist fighters, and mainstreaming human rights into all areas of the Centre's programme of work.

UN Photo / MINUSMA



UNCCT-2015-40: Training and Capacity Building of Law Enforcement Officials on Human Rights, the Rule of Law, and the Prevention of Terrorism

Status: Ongoing

The global project of the Global Compact Working Group on Human Rights, co-implemented by OHCHR and UNCCT, seeks to strengthen the knowledge, experience and skills of law enforcement and security officials to comply with international human rights while countering terrorism. Through its four phases, the project aims to build their capacity in the areas of pre-trial and detention. Trainings are held for law enforcement and security officials under Phase I and Phase II. The project's Phase III will implement a Training of Trainers Programme to integrate the international training curriculum into the curriculum of national police training academies, and Phase IV will monitor and evaluate the project. The international training curriculum, implemented in Phase I and Phase II, consists of a five thematic modular course that includes detention, human rights framework, use of force, special investigative techniques, and investigative interviewing.

During 2018, the project, in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa of OHCHR, held two trainings in Cameroon, one in Maroua on 26-30 March and the second in Kribi on 2-6 April. Approximately 50 officials, consisting of gendarmerie, police, prosecutors, judges, including three vice presidents of the Military Court of Appeal, prison

officials, human rights instructors at the Advanced Police Academy, officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice, and members of the National Human Rights Commission attended Phase I and Phase II trainings.

During the reporting period, the start of Phase III of the project was implemented in Nigeria, Cameroon and Tunisia. Phase III focuses on implementing a Training of Trainers programme that will adapt the international training curriculum to the national context and integrate it into the curriculum of national police training academies for each participating Member State. National legal consultants in Nigeria and Cameroon worked on adapting the international training curriculum to the national context, taking into account national laws, and developing a Training of Trainers programme. A national gender expert was also hired for Tunisia to conduct research into how to mainstream gender considerations into the Training of Trainers programme.

Results/Impact

The project contributes to the implementation of Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which provides that all counter-terrorism measures must comply with human rights. The human rights trainings for Cameroonian law enforcement, security, judicial, and human rights officials were constantly monitored and evaluated, both with daily feedback and an evaluation questionnaire at the end of the training. According to this feedback, many participants commented that the good initiative should be multiplied as such a forum is very rare.

A senior level meeting with Cameroonian representatives from the gendarmerie, police, prosecutors, judges, prison officials, as well as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice was held on 9 April to inform the Government of Cameroon on the outcomes of the two trainings and to discuss the project's next steps. To this effect, the Government agreed to continue the implementation of the project and recommended to implement Phase III of the project in 2019, which is a training of trainers programme that aims to further build the capacity of police trainers who were already trained under Phase I and Phase II.

Legal consultants in Cameroon, Tunisia and Nigeria drafted research reports on the national human rights legal frameworks and how these principles could be integrated into and shape the international training curriculum to the national context. The adapted curriculum will be used by national police academies to strengthen their training curriculum so that national police cadets have enhanced knowledge, understanding, and skills on how to comply with national and international human rights whilst countering terrorism. In addition, the consultant in Tunisia looked at how gender considerations could be incorporated into the international training and will support the integration of gender into the newly adapted national training curriculum.

UNCCT-2017-65: Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism (under BSM Programme)

Status: Ongoing

This project, which is a joint initiative of UNCCT and OHCHR, aims to assist Member States in complying with international human rights standards in their border security and management, thus filling an important gap in existing tools and practices to protect human rights at borders while countering terrorism. During the reporting period, the Centre developed a three-day training module for border practitioners on how to comply with international human rights standards while performing their official responsibilities. The module is based on the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders* produced by OHCHR in 2014, which provides a comprehensive overview of applicable international human rights standards at borders. The module contains six sections: (1) introduction to human rights, including basic human rights concepts and rights at risk at borders; (2) individuals facing vulnerable situations at borders, including in the context of migration; (3) rescue, interception and immediate assistance, including when and how force may be used by officials; (4) screening and interviewing with role play exercises to put into practice relevant human rights concepts; (5) avoiding detention and inadequate conditions of detention; and (6) human rights based-removal to the country of origin and steps to protect human rights in the return process.

In 2018, the draft module was piloted during four regional trainings organised for countries in South-East Asia (11-13 June), Southern Africa (3-5 July), G5 Sahel (3-5 September), and Northern Africa (13-15 November). The training covering Southern Africa was held within the overall framework of UNCCT's support to the implementation of the Southern Africa regional counter-terrorism strategy with the support of SADC. The Sahel regional training was undertaken with the support of the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat with the participation of all five countries. A total of 100 individuals from 26 countries, including 35 women, took part in these trainings.

Results/Impact

The project, which is part of UNCCT's Border Security and Management programme, contributes to the implementation of Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which provides that all counter-terrorism measures must comply with human rights.

During the reporting period, the project made substantial progress in developing a human rights training module for border practitioners. Participants in regional trainings mainly came from border security agencies and counter-terrorism organisations of their countries. Participants from almost all countries expressed desire to have the same training delivered at the national level. While all six training sessions were found useful, the first session on introduction to human rights was particularly popular among participants, which signalled the limited opportunities available for border security officials to learn about human rights. The session on screening and interviewing, which included practical exercises, was also of particular interest. During the training workshops, participants shared their challenges in the performance of their daily operations and provided important feedback in terms of issues to focus. This feedback from participants and the questions and issues they have raised during the trainings are being used by UNCCT to further revise the training module. Overall participants indicated increased awareness and understanding about international human rights standards applicable to their daily work which is expected to contribute to better compliance with such standards by border officials, especially in the counter-terrorism context.

UNCCT plans to finalise, translate, and publish the module by June 2019 as a joint publication of OHCHR and UNCCT. The Centre is also considering the implementation of the second phase of the project to develop a tailored programme at the national level for requesting countries to deliver human rights trainings to national authorities involved in border security and management using the module being developed.

"All the topics we learned about today were very important and eye openers. As border officials we have to apply them."

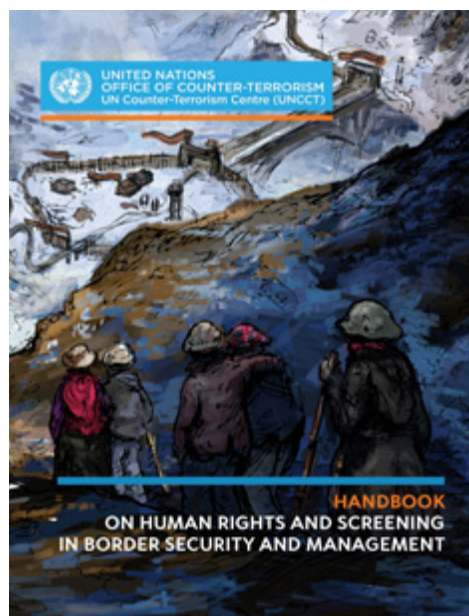
— Participant in the human rights workshop for the Southern Africa region held in Gaborone, Botswana in July 2018

UNCCT-2013-14-Rev: Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards in Screening and Controlling Persons at Borders in the Counter-Terrorism Context

Status: Ongoing

The return and relocation of foreign terrorist fighters have increased the importance of screening of individuals at borders using various methods, including automated screening and face-to-face screening. At the same time, such screening practices may have human rights implications, including on the right to privacy and the principle of non-discrimination. This project provides in-depth guidance to policy makers as well as practitioners in requesting Member States on how to comply with international human rights standards in the process of screening persons at borders.

During the reporting period, UNCCT finalised and published a Handbook, the main project output, which summarises relevant international human rights



law and key factors to be considered by Member States while undertaking a screening process. The Handbook covers several issues at the policy level, such as location of screening, and criteria for entry and visas. It also covers human rights guidance on specific screening practices, such as automatic screening, face-to-face screening, and screening to identify foreign terrorist fighters. The target audience for the Handbook are border authority officials, policy makers, and trainers in relevant fields. In addition, the Centre produced a Pocketbook which summarises the key principles identified in the Handbook, such as non-discrimination and right to privacy. This product, which includes graphic aids, enables beneficiaries to easily access key

human rights principles and standards applicable to border screening. The Pocketbook seeks to encourage relevant officials on the ground to familiarise themselves with relevant international human rights principles as much as possible.

In 2018, UNCCT undertook missions to Indonesia, the Philippines, and Mauritania to understand how screening is done on the ground and to identify good practices and challenges. Based on the input from the field as well as relevant UN agencies working in this area, the Centre completed both the Handbook and the Pocketbook, which were translated into French and Arabic and printed.

Results/Impact

During the reporting period, UNCCT delivered the two key project deliverables. The Handbook and Pocketbook are expected to increase the awareness of policy makers and practitioners on relevant international human rights standards to screening, and to encourage screening policies and practices that are more compliant to such standards. These publications will contribute to building the capacities of border officials to ensure human rights compliant border security and management, as called for by a number of Security Council resolutions, such as resolution 2178 (2014) and resolution 2396 (2017). To maximise the use and impact of the Handbook and Pocketbook, these will be distributed during trainings that will be held under the Centre's project 'Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism' (see project UNCCT-2017-65 above), as well as in other relevant capacity-building and outreach events.

UNCCT-2014-31: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism Through Community Engagement through Human Rights Led Policing

Status: Ongoing

The project aims to develop a training module on community policing and resilience and is jointly implemented with the United Nations Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) of DPO. UNCCT has collaborated with DPO to ensure that project activities are aligned with DPO's efforts to develop a UN system-wide guide on community policing, and to ensure that the project contributes to strengthening PVE efforts at community level. In 2018, UNCCT and OROLSI worked together to develop a generic training module on human rights-based community policing to prevent and counter violent extremism. In 2019, UNCCT will explore the best implementation modalities for the training, with likely pilot testing in a few Member States, subject to agreement with OROLSI.

UNCCT-2017-55: Security Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women's Rights in the Sahel Region (UNCCT – UN Women)

Status: Ongoing

UN Women and UNCCT are implementing a project to enhance the capacity of security sector actors in the Sahel region to protect and promote women's rights while preventing and countering terrorism. The project aims to ensure that counter-terrorism units across the G5 Sahel region strengthen and uphold women's rights through a number of key activities dedicated to mainstreaming women's rights, including research on gender sensitivity and national training workshops. Although the project has received a no-cost extension to December 2019 due to delays in implementation, several start-up activities were undertaken during the reporting period, including outreach to key partners, creation of a project coordination team, and finalisation of terms of reference and recruitment process for required expertise to conduct research, prepare relevant documentation and hold national training workshops.

Planned activities in 2019 include the finalisation of recruitment of consultants, research and analysis on human rights compliance and gender sensitivity of the security sector, development of a Guidance Note on human rights and gender equality for security forces tailored to counter-terrorism units, development of

tailored gender and human rights training modules, and delivery of five national level trainings on gender and human rights for security sector actors across the region. Through these activities, the project is expected to strengthen the capacity of the security sector in the G5 Sahel countries to protect and promote women's rights while preventing and countering violent extremism.

Output 3.2: Through UNCCT support, Member States have enhanced capacity to provide support to victims of terrorism, including by strengthening their voices

The General Assembly, through its resolution on the Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/72/284), recognises "the role that victims of terrorism can play, including in countering the appeal of terrorism, and [emphasizes] the need to promote international solidarity in support of victims of terrorism." It further encourages States to include building resilience of victims and their families in their national counter-terrorism strategies, "including by providing victims and their families with proper support and assistance immediately after an attack and in the long term and sharing on a voluntary basis best practices and lessons learned related to the protection of victims of terrorism, including regarding the provision of legal, medical, psychosocial or financial support." Promoting and protecting the rights of victims of terrorism and addressing their needs is a top priority for UNCCT. The Centre's global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme seeks to strengthen solidarity with the victims of terrorism and raise awareness of their experiences, to strengthen victims' voices and their role in preventing and countering violent extremism, and to increase the capacities of Member States and civil society organisations to assist and support victims of terrorism.

Photo: UN DGC Video



UNCCT-2018-04-83: Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

Status: Ongoing

The Victims of Terrorism Support Programme was launched by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and UNCCT Executive Director during Counter-Terrorism Week in June 2018. The Support Programme aims to stand in solidarity with victims, strengthen victims voices and their role in preventing and countering violent extremism, establish stronger mechanisms to provide practical resources to victims, and strengthen the capacity of Member States and civil society organisations to assist and support victims of terrorism in protecting and promoting their rights and needs. The Programme brings together existing activities on victims implemented by UNCCT as well as new activities. These include the integration of victims of terrorism into national and regional strategies, capacity-building workshops for victims, documentaries, handbooks and guidelines, and the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal.



During the reporting period, 20 guest interviews were held and hosted by the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, including interviews with victims from France, Mali, Iraq, the United States, and Afghanistan. On 26 June, UNCCT organised an event, 'Standing in Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism' on the occasion of the Counter-Terrorism Week, where the Mali documentary, *Seeking Justice in the Face of Terrorism in Mali*, and the *Handbook of Good Practices to Assist, Support and Empower Victims of Terrorism Organizations in Africa and the Middle East* were launched. An interactive roundtable discussion with victims and victims' associations from Mali, France, Iraq

and the United States preceded the launch of the Handbook to discuss the importance of tools such as the Handbook in assisting civil society organisations to better support victims of terrorism. The event was broadcast live through UN WebTV and is also available on the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal.

UNCCT organised an exhibition, 'Surviving Terrorism: Victims' Voices', which was displayed at the Visitors' Lobby of the UN Secretariat from 1 August to 4 September to commemorate the first International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The exhibition featured the personal stories of 16 victims and representatives of victims' associations, as well as two documentaries profiling victims from Mali and Norway. The interviews provided an opportunity to understand the resilience and strength of victims and the importance of hearing their voices, and were produced in English, Arabic, French and Pashto. The exhibition was made available for viewing on the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal and 14 United Nations Information Centres displayed all or parts of the exhibition.

The exhibition was launched by the Secretary-General on 17 August, and co-organised by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, CTED, and the Permanent Missions of Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria and the United States. The Permanent Representative of Afghanistan, H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Saikal, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, and the Deputy Executive Director of CTED, Mr. Weixiong Chen, delivered remarks. Four victims of terrorism and a victims' association representative from Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria, and the United States were keynote speakers. Over 200 guests attended the event, with representation from more than 67 Member States. The launch was webcast live by UNWebTV.

UN Photo





UN Photo

On 20 August, UNCCT organised a brown bag discussion at UN Headquarters with the participation of 40 individuals from Member States, regional organisations, and Global Compact entities on the theme, 'Surviving Terrorism: Victims Voices – sharing the experiences of terrorism'. Panellists included victims from Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria and a victims association representative from the United States. The panellists discussed the impact of terrorism and their experiences and explored how the United Nations and Member States can better support victims, as well as how to raise awareness on victims' issues through the International Day. Forty people attended, including from Member States and organisations such as Greece, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Kazakhstan, the United States, the United Kingdom, Morocco, Malaysia, and the European Union, as well as from Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, including CTED, OHCHR, ODA, and DPO.

In 2018, UNCCT continued to raise awareness, advocate and outreach to both Member States and civil society on victims' issues. UNCCT established a civil society network in February that includes victims associations from Africa, the Middle East, North America and Europe. The network aims to bring together victims associations, stand in solidarity with these organisations, coordinate activities, especially around the International Day, and support civil society activities on victims.

The UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal continued to increase both its content and viewing figures during the reporting period. In 2018, there were 271,120 page views, an increase of 35 per cent from 2017 figures. New content, such as the guest interview series, relevant news, and multimedia coverage of victims' events, was regularly uploaded to the Portal. During this period, a major spike of users was registered after car bombings, shootings, kidnappings, and suicide bombing attacks in Nigeria, Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria. The most visited page continued to be the *English Homepage*, with approximately 40 per cent of page views, followed by the *English Directory of Support Organisations* page.

Under the global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme, an exploratory meeting with civil society organisations in the Asia-Pacific region was held on 6-7 November in Tokyo, as the first activity to develop *Guidelines and Principles for Victims' Associations* to better support victims in the region. Twenty participants from Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, China, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, and South Korea participated in this meeting, in addition to UN Women and UNODC, to determine the focus of the guidelines and the issues most relevant to the Asia-Pacific region.



The Guidelines and Principles to be developed will have been 'tried and tested' by a number of victims' associations in the region, international organisations, and victims themselves so that they present the best approach towards helping to realise and protect victims' rights and needs. Further, these will provide a good repository of information and good practice for victims associations and indicate where actions can be implemented in the best interest of victims. The Guidelines and Principles will provide support and guidance on four topics that victims associations address almost on a daily basis: (1) assistance and support for victims of terrorism; (2) protection of the rights of victims of terrorism; (3) collaboration between civil society and Member States to assist, support, and protect victims of terrorism; and (4) participation of victims of terrorism in decision-making processes. The meeting also sought to identify the participation of relevant civil society organisations in the forthcoming expert group meetings that will be held in 2019.

Results/Impact

With the launch of the global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme, UNCCT has further expanded its work on and for victims of terrorism and broadened and strengthened its outreach and advocacy work to strengthen Member States and civil society efforts on victims of terrorism. Through its awareness raising

campaigns, use of multi-media, and resource tools, such as the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, UNCCT was able to contribute to greater awareness and understanding on the need to uphold the rights of victims and support their needs. The documentary on Mali, the public exhibition to commemorate the International Day, the discussions and interviews have all contributed to a greater awareness on victims, and its outcomes have helped to shape the Victims Programme to make it more relevant and timely to victims' needs. The Programme has contributed to Pillars I and II of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent review which has further emphasised the importance of victims as an important actor in preventing and countering violent extremism. The global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme will continue to build on its activities from 2018, with the development of *Guidelines and Principles* for victims associations in the Asia-Pacific region, documentaries and interviews, as well as the enhancement of the Support Portal, amongst other activities in 2019.

UNCCT-2017-56: Good Practices Handbook to Empower and Strengthen Victims of Terrorism Associations to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism

Status: Completed, Quarter 3

A validation conference on *the Handbook of Good Practices to Empower and Strengthen Victims of Terrorism Associations to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism* was held in Accra, Ghana from 31 January to 2 February. This conference brought together 20 experts and victims from Africa, the Middle East, North America, and Europe to comment and agree on the good practices developed during the four closed expert group meetings held in 2017 that focused on four thematic areas, including: (1) preventing violent extremism; (2) building and sustaining resilience at the community and individual level; (3) outreach and advocacy; and (4) financial and non-financial assistance for victims of terrorism. The Handbook was launched during the Counter-Terrorism Week at the UN Secretariat on 26 June.

Results/Impact

During the reporting period, the project was successfully finalised with the production and publication of the Good Practices Handbook. The Handbook is currently available in English and will be translated into French and Arabic. It has been disseminated to Member States and shared with a broader readership through its publication on the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism website and the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal. The publication was the first official UN publication in this area and will serve as basis for other region-specific handbooks that will be developed under the global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme.