



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022

FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SHURA COUNCIL  
————— OF THE STATE OF QATAR —————





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# Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1 Introduction .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2 Strengthening Coordination, Coherence and Common Action .....</b>	<b>15</b>
2.1 The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.....	15
2.2 Partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate .....	22
2.3 External partnerships.....	24
2.4 High-level events .....	30
2.4.1 Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance .....	30
2.4.2 Regional conferences.....	32
2.4.3 High-level events in 2023 .....	40
<b>3 Overview of Programme Implementation .....</b>	<b>42</b>
3.1 UNOCT Programme Offices .....	42
3.2 Global Programme on the Security of Major Sporting Events and Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism.....	43
3.3 Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats against Vulnerable Targets.....	48
3.4 Global Programme on Counter-Terrorism Investigations.....	52
3.5 Global Counter-Terrorism Programme on Autonomous and Remotely Operated Systems.....	54
3.6 Global Fusion Cells Programme .....	56
3.7 Countering Terrorist Travel.....	59
3.7.1 United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme.....	59
3.7.2 Global Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security.....	62
3.8 Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme .....	65
3.9 SPIB “Surge Capacity” .....	71
<b>4 International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism.....</b>	<b>73</b>

<b>5</b>	<b>UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism .....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Gender .....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Human Rights .....</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Risks and Challenges .....</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Communications and Visibility .....</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Monitoring, Evaluation, and Oversight.....</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Financial Overview .....</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Conclusion and Way Forward.....</b>	<b>113</b>

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

While the international community has made significant strides in dismantling terrorist networks, disrupting terrorist attacks, and combating terrorist financing, the threat of terrorism to international peace and security has remained high, become more ideologically diffuse, and geographically widespread, and increased in and around conflict zones. Terrorist groups such as Da'esh, Al-Qaida and their affiliates continued to exploit conflict-related fragilities and instability to advance their agendas and intensify attacks, contributing to cycles of violence, undermining peace efforts, crippling state institutions, setting back development goals, and hindering responses to humanitarian emergencies.

The threat posed by terrorism has spread particularly across parts of Africa, with terrorist activity continuing to intensify in West Africa and the Sahel and reaching areas such as the Gulf of Guinea, which had been largely spared from this type of violence. Da'esh, Al-Qaida and their regional affiliates also expanded their operations in Central and East Africa. Since August 2021, the Taliban have consolidated their administrative control over Afghanistan, where Al-Qaida remains present in the country, and attacks by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan have grown, raising serious concerns that Afghanistan has once again become a safe haven for terrorist groups, with potential destabilizing effect on neighbouring countries and the wider region.

Outside conflict zones, terrorist groups sought to inspire or direct attacks to generate public attention. They continued to use the Internet, including social media and gaming platforms, for propaganda and recruitment,

as well as new and emerging technologies, such as unmanned aerial systems and virtual assets, for surveillance and attacks and to finance their operations. Further, lone actors and small cells continued to present a persistent terrorist threat outside of conflict zones that is challenging to detect, monitor and counter. Any revival or enhancement of external operations capability of Da'esh and Al-Qaida may have severe security consequences in Africa, Central and South Asia, and the Middle East.

The interconnected and complex nature of global challenges, including terrorism, featured prominently during the General Debate of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly held from 20-26 September, with the Secretary-General expressing concern about terrorist activity in the Sahel, and calling for the prioritization of prevention and peacebuilding, including preventing and countering terrorism. Among Member States, 40 per cent of the United Nations membership referred directly to substantive issues around terrorism, violent extremism and/or countering and preventing these threats. They raised significant concerns about the terrorist threat in the Middle East, Afghanistan, and Africa, particularly in the Sahel, Lake Chad Basin, Gulf of Guinea, and the Horn of Africa, and called for further efforts in countering terrorism financing and cybersecurity. Several countries expressed support to the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and its initiatives, including planned high-level conferences in Tashkent and Dushanbe.

In support of Member States' efforts to address the evolving terrorist threat, UNOCT,

with the generous support provided by the State of Qatar, continued to make important progress throughout 2022 in delivering its mandated functions in the areas of policy leadership on counter-terrorism mandates, coordination and coherence of United Nations system-wide efforts, provision of capacity-building assistance, and visibility, advocacy, and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts.

In the area of policy leadership, UNOCT continued to prepare reports on behalf of the Secretary-General on key thematic priorities for the United Nations system addressing Member States' counter-terrorism challenges. These include the Secretary-General's 14th and 15th report on the threat posed by Da'esh to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat, developed in coordination with the United Nations Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team (AQMT) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and issued on 28 January and 26 July, respectively, as well as the Secretary-General's report on terrorist attacks based on xenophobia, racism, and other forms of intolerance or in the name of religion or belief issued on 3 August in response to the General Assembly's request through its resolution 75/291 on the seventh review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to develop a greater understanding of this emerging threat. A high-level event organized by UNOCT on 30 November presented the main findings of the Secretary-General's report and discussed its programmatic implications.

Additionally, the Office provided policy leadership through its diplomatic engagement with high-level government officials and representatives of international and regional organizations; participation in senior executive bodies, inter-agency mechanisms, and briefings of the United Nations governing bodies; strategic dialogues with counter-terrorism partners, such as the Fourth

European Union-United Nations Leaders' Dialogue on Counter-Terrorism held on 8 April; and its Quarterly Briefings to Member States on UNOCT's counter-terrorism efforts and priorities.

In 2022, UNOCT developed guidance materials that help build understanding of new and emerging terrorist threats and provide measures to address them. On 6 September, UNOCT, in partnership with CTED, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), launched five specialized guides on the protection of vulnerable targets against terrorist attacks. In addition, a research report titled "Examining the Intersection between Gaming and Violent Extremism", commissioned by UNOCT, was launched during a virtual high-level event on 5 October.

During the reporting period, with the strong support of the State of Qatar, UNOCT organized a series of high-profile global and regional events, which helped enhance understanding and awareness of priority counter-terrorism issues and initiatives, promote multilateral cooperation and partnerships, and facilitate dialogue and exchange of experiences and good practices.

On 3-4 March, UNOCT, together with the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), co-organized the high-level international conference on "Regional cooperation among Central Asian countries within the framework of the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy" in Tashkent, which concluded with the endorsement of the updated Joint Plan of Action and the adoption of the Tashkent Declaration.

On 10-11 May, UNOCT and the Kingdom of Spain co-organized the first high-level international conference on “Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism” in Málaga, which called for better integration of human rights, the rule of law and civil society voices and perspectives in international counter-terrorism responses. On 8-9 September, UNOCT held the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, which brought together more than 400 in-person participants, including over 100 victims of terrorism and victims’ association representatives from 25 countries across the globe, and concluded with a Chair’s Summary comprising a seven-point action plan to guide the international agenda in advancing the rights and meeting the needs of victims of terrorism.

And concluding the year, on 18-19 October, UNOCT, in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, UNRCCA, OSCE, and the European Union (EU), jointly convened the international high-level conference on “International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movement of Terrorists” in Dushanbe. The conference promoted regional and international cooperation to improve border and customs controls to prevent the movement of terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters, and to strengthen measures on border security and management, criminal justice, and information sharing in accordance with international law.

In the area of inter-agency counter-terrorism coordination, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (“Counter-Terrorism Compact”) continued to promote greater coherence within and beyond the United Nations system in support of Member States’ counter-terrorism efforts. In April 2022, the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh/ISIL (UNITAD) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) joined the Counter-Terrorism Compact, increasing the Compact’s membership to 45 entities.

In 2022, the Counter-Terrorism Compact held one Coordination Committee meeting chaired by Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, with the participation of all Heads of Compact entities, 32 Working Group meetings, and five dedicated, region-specific briefings on the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism, which also helped enhance the Compact’s engagement with Member States. The Counter-Terrorism Compact further strengthened the close relationship with the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) particularly through the implementation of the Joint Options Paper adopted in September. UNOCT continued to enhance its collaboration with CTED through regular coordination meetings at the principals’ level, semi-annual joint briefings to the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and agreeing on several practical steps to integrate the Directorate’s recommendations and analysis into the Office’s work.

With regard to the delivery of UNOCT’s capacity-building mandate, 2022 saw substantial progress in the implementation of the global programmes funded by the State of Qatar. For example, as of 31 December, the Countering Terrorist Travel (CT Travel) Programme supported 60 Member States, including 11 new Member States joining in 2022. The major milestone achieved in 2022 was the full deployment of ‘goTravel’ in production in Botswana and Norway to enable the two countries to absorb and analyse ‘live’ passenger data. Additionally, the Programme developed implementation roadmaps for nine beneficiaries; inaugurated three Passenger Information Units (PIUs) in Azerbaijan, Botswana and Norway; initiated pre-production deployments of the goTravel software in testing environments in Moldova, Sierra Leone, the Philippines, Luxembourg, Mongolia, and Namibia; and established a regional Informal Working Group (IWG) in Southern Africa, in addition to the two IWGs previously established in Eastern Europe and West Africa.

As UNOCT continues to consolidate its programme implementation in its field-based programme offices, the Doha-based International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism strengthened its partnerships with relevant United Nations system working groups and advisory bodies, as well as academic institutions and think tanks, specializing in behaviourally informed innovative solutions; delivered geographically focused workshops addressed to policymakers, practitioners and experts of Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East that facilitated knowledge sharing in the application of behavioural insights to prevent violent extremism; developed several knowledge products including a guidance paper, knowledge bank, and podcast series; and delivered high-level outreach events such as the Global Youth Town Hall on a “Future Without Terrorism” in March and a hybrid interactive briefing for Member States in New York in November, among others.

In its second year of full operationalization, the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism in Doha, with the support of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, successfully organized several high-level meetings and conferences while continuing national legislative analysis for requesting Member States and development of legal tools such as compendiums, guides and handbooks, to support the work of parliamentarians worldwide. Among key results achieved in 2022 include the organization of the High-Level Parliamentary Conference on Understanding the Terrorist Threat in Africa in Doha (March); the launch of the Online Global Parliamentary Network for parliamentarians and parliamentary assemblies (March); the High-Level Conference on Parliamentary Support to Victims of Terrorism in Rome (June); and the Second Coordination Meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies in Naples (June). These undertakings helped enhance the technical capacity of parliamentarians, increased the sharing of best practices and

information, and supported the development of legislative instruments to meet challenges posed by terrorism.

Underpinning all aspects of UNOCT’s work remained an unconditional commitment to mainstreaming human rights and gender obligations, reinvigorated with the creation of a dedicated Human Rights and Gender Section within UNOCT in January. In line with the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights, UNOCT launched the implementation of its Global Human Rights Programme to ensure effective and coherent integration of human rights in its programmatic, policy, and coordination functions, assist the United Nations and its Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter terrorism based on international human rights law and the rule of law, and advance Office-wide compliance with the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). In 2022, the Office initiated the implementation of its Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan, which provides strategic guidance and outlines the values, actions, and targets for gender mainstreaming across the Office, including processes to prevent and counter terrorism in a gender responsive manner in line with the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, relevant standards on gender equality, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its periodic reviews.

In 2022, UNOCT mainstreamed lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustment of its business model to COVID-19 realities and fully adapted to the post-pandemic operational environment. The Office consolidated its working methods to adopt a hybrid modality, while resuming in-person meetings and engagements, and invested heavily in further developing its digital capabilities for broader participation and outreach, including e-learning platforms such as UNOCT Connect & Learn platform, e-training modules, and other digital resources. UNOCT’s efforts to expand and deepen partnerships with civil society, academia, and the private

sector have also yielded positive results in raising awareness of the Office's programmes and priorities, garnering good practices and expertise, and creating synergies and cooperation opportunities. The three Civil Society Roundtables held in 2022 under the leadership of the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General and Director of UNOCT, Mr. Raffi Gregorian, offered a platform for frank exchange between UNOCT and civil society partners on human rights and civic space, youth engagement and empowerment, and African security, among other topics.

As part of UNOCT's efforts to monitor and evaluate the impact of its assistance to Member States across its policy, coordination and coherence, and capacity-building functions, the State of Qatar and UNOCT held the first Annual Beneficiaries Forum of Technical Assistance in Doha on 28-29 March. The event, which for the first time brought together beneficiaries, providers and funding partners, provided an inclusive and interactive platform to share perspectives on the threat landscape and counter-terrorism priorities, take stock of experiences and lessons learned, demonstrate comparative advantages, identify challenges and opportunities, and put forward suggestions to strengthen the design and delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building support in counter-terrorism.

In the year ahead, UNOCT will step up cooperation with African Member States as a strategic priority to address the growing terrorist threat in the African continent and mobilize global support for African-owned and -led counter-terrorism initiatives. In this regard, the Office will co-organize with the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Morocco the Second Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance in Marrakesh, Morocco that will focus on assessing and strengthening the impact of United Nations technical and capacity-building assistance in support of counter-terrorism efforts of African Member States. In addition, UNOCT will co-organize with the Government of the

Federal Republic of Nigeria a High-Level African Counter-Terrorism Summit on the theme "Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institutional Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa" in Abuja, Nigeria.

In 2023, UNOCT will finalize the Secretary-General's biennial report on the activities of the United Nations system in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and provide substantive secretariat support to Canada and Tunisia as co-facilitators and all Member States in their efforts on the Strategy's eighth review. As one of four co-leads, along with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), and the Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA), the Office will also work with relevant United Nations entities, Member States and relevant stakeholders on developing the New Agenda for Peace, as part of the Secretary-General's Our Common Agenda. The New Agenda for Peace will be submitted as part of the preparations for the Summit of the Future in 2024. A major event in the coming year will be the organization of the Third Counter-Terrorism Week from 19-23 June in New York under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General, which will include (i) the Third High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States; (ii) the Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly for the adoption of the eighth review resolution of the Strategy; and (iii) some 30 side events organized by Member States, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and civil society partners.

The achievements of 2022 across UNOCT's policy, coordination, and programmatic functions were possible through the strong political, technical, and financial support of the State of Qatar. In 2022, the State of Qatar became the largest contributor to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism ("Trust Fund"), continuing to serve as a vital strategic partner for UNOCT's mandate

delivery. Qatar's active contribution to the United Nations counter-terrorism efforts was best demonstrated during the Beneficiaries Forum and reaffirmed during the Fourth High-Level Strategic Dialogue between the State of Qatar and UNOCT held in Doha in March. With the support of Member States, including the State of Qatar, the 2023 United Nations Regular Budget was adopted in December, resulting in the regularization of 25 UNOCT core extrabudgetary posts. This conversion marks a significant milestone towards the further

institutionalization of UNOCT and ensuring the sustainability of capacities needed for the Office to undertake its mandated functions. It also enables the diversion of more resources previously allocated for policy, coordination and other non-programmatic functions to the implementation of high-impact capacity-building programmes. UNOCT will continue to rely on the generous contribution of the State of Qatar and its other funding partners in order to effectively and fully deliver on its counter-terrorism mandate.



Fourth Annual High-Level Strategic Dialogue between the State of Qatar and UNOCT, 29 March 2023, Doha, State of Qatar (from left to right): H.E. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations; H.E. Major General Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Ansari, Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Chairman of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Ministry of Interior; Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT; and Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General and Director of UNOCT. Photo/UNOCT

# 1 INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/291, which endorsed the competencies and functions as set out in the report of the Secretary-General on the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/71/858), UNOCT is mandated to carry out the following five functions: (1) provide leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the United Nations system; (2) enhance coordination and coherence across the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the Strategy; (3) strengthen the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States; (4) improve visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts; and (5) ensure that due priority is given to counter-terrorism across the United Nations system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy. This mandate was further reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 75/291 on the seventh review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In 2022, UNOCT's work continued to be informed by the Strategy and its review resolutions, relevant General Assembly and Security Council mandates, consultations with Member States, analysis and recommendations from CTED, recommendations of United Nations human rights mechanisms, and programme/project evaluations.

In delivering on its core functions, UNOCT is guided by its Strategic Plan, which provides an overarching strategic framework for the Office to operationalize its mandate over the period 2022-2025. The Strategic Plan presents UNOCT's vision, mission, and strategic goals; establishes UNOCT's institutional priorities through which the Office will organize itself to realize its vision, mission, and goals; describes UNOCT's policy leadership, coordination, capacity-building, and monitoring and evaluation work; and presents the Office's Results Framework with expected outcomes under each strategic goal. In line with the institutional priorities set out in the Strategic Plan, during the reporting year, UNOCT implemented its mandated functions with enhanced emphasis on building a 'results culture'; ensuring its structure and staffing remain 'fit for purpose'; moving closer to partners and beneficiaries through the consolidation of field presences for more efficient, impactful and sustainable programming; cultivating strong coordination and coherence including through the Counter-Terrorism Compact; mainstreaming human rights and gender across all UNOCT programming; and ensuring sustainable and diversified funding.

Externally, UNOCT's work in 2022 was supported by the strong political consensus among Member States around the international counter-terrorism agenda, and the recognition of the important role and efforts of the Office in this regard. In 2022, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov held 210 high-level bilateral meetings with Member States, international

and regional organizations, and civil society; delivered ten briefings to the Security Council and its Counter-Terrorism Committee; and chaired one Quarterly Briefing to Member States at the Ambassadorial level (February). The Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Gregorian, chaired two Quarterly Briefings to Member States in July and December. These engagements provided an opportunity to assess the terrorism threat landscape, discuss counter-terrorism needs and priorities, and exchange views on counter-terrorism cooperation, while reaffirming the support for the work of UNOCT.

At the same time, while the generous funding of the State of Qatar was critical in the continued delivery of flagship capacity-building programmes, meeting the increasing demand for technical and capacity-building assistance by Member States was contingent on the availability of extrabudgetary resources. As a result, UNOCT stepped up its resource mobilization efforts to diversify its funding base through enhanced engagements with Member States showcasing results-based delivery, including briefings on the Multi-

Year Appeal tailored to geographic regions. Whereas this has resulted in an increase in funding volume and number of Member States contributing to the Trust Fund, the Office will continue to further intensify efforts to deepen existing partnerships and forge new ones. To ensure a sustainable business model that is both impactful and cost-effective, UNOCT also strengthened the provision of integrated, coherent and coordinated assistance at the field level through its programme offices in Budapest, Doha, Madrid, Rabat, and Nairobi.

On the occasion of the Beneficiaries Forum held in Doha in March, the State of Qatar announced a new contribution of USD \$15 million annually for a period of three years from 2024 to 2026. By the end of 2022, the cumulative pledges from the State of Qatar reached USD \$137,770,000, making Qatar the largest donor to the Trust Fund. As a strategic partner, Qatar remains the only partner contributing to all of UNOCT's core policy, coordination, capacity-building, as well as visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization functions.

**Table 1: Contributions from the State of Qatar since 2018**

Purpose of the Agreement	Signature date	Period covered	Amount	Amount received as of 31 December 2022
Support UNOCT core staffing and operational costs, as well as capacity-building programming. Main priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact</li> <li>2. Programmes in the areas of using Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) data</li> </ol>	25 March 2022 and 16 December 2018	2024-2026 and 2019-2023	\$120 million (\$45 million in 2022 and \$75 million in 2018)	\$60 million

Purpose of the Agreement	Signature date	Period covered	Amount	Amount received as of 31 December 2022
<b>3.</b> Prevention and countering of violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism <b>4.</b> Supporting victims of terrorism	25 March 2022 and 16 December 2018	2024-2026 and 2019-2023	\$120 million (\$45 million in 2022 and \$75 million in 2018)	\$60 million
Contribution agreement with the Shura Council of the State of Qatar for the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism	25 November 2020	2020-2025	\$12.5 million	\$2.5 million
Establishment and operations of the International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism in Doha	8 September 2020	2020-2023	\$5 million	\$5 million
Contribution for UNCCT aimed at strengthening the implementation of the pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy	17 November 2016	Open	\$250,000	\$250,000
Joint Belarus-UNOCT High-level Conference "Countering Terrorism through Innovative Approaches and the Use of New and Emerging Technologies" on 3-4 September 2019, Minsk, Belarus	5 August 2019	2019	\$20,000	\$20,000

In line with the terms and conditions of contribution agreements concluded between Qatar and UNOCT and to ensure transparency in the use of the contribution, the Office has reported on progress on the utilization of the financial contribution from the State of Qatar through its annual reports since 2019. This report covers implementation from 1 January to 31 December 2022 and

complements the quarterly updates the Office started issuing in 2022. This report also provides an update of implementation progress regarding two contributions signed in 2020 for the Doha-based International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism and the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism.

## 2 STRENGTHEN COORDINATION, COHERENCE AND COMMON ACTION

### 2.1

#### THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM COORDINATION COMPACT

##### Progress in 2022

In 2022, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact led by UNOCT, continued to serve as the primary vehicle for coherent, coordinated and increased support to Member States in their implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. The Counter-Terrorism Compact also continued to enjoy strong support from Member States, growing recognition from international partners, and sustained commitment from all its participants towards an “all-of-United Nations” approach that sought to leverage multi-dimensional expertise and mandates across the United Nations system.

The Counter-Terrorism Compact’s secretariat, a dedicated team operating in UNOCT’s Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination

Branch (PKMCB), and funded mainly through the contribution of the State of Qatar and co-funding from the Kingdom of Spain, provided pivotal substantive and logistical support to enable the effective functioning of the Counter-Terrorism Compact’s Coordination Committee and its eight thematic working groups, which are aligned with the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In April, UNITAD and FAFT joined the Counter-Terrorism Compact, bringing its membership to 45 UN and non-UN entities, and making it the largest inter-agency framework across the three pillars of work of the United Nations: peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights.

The Coordination Committee, chaired by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, met once on 8 June 2022 at principal-level to provide strategic direction to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact.



“Since its launch, the Compact has demonstrated a fundamental truth. Countering and defeating terrorism depends on collaboration.”

Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

### Box 1: The Coordination Committee as a forum to discuss developments in the global counter-terrorism landscape

#### 8th Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee Meeting, 8 June 2022 in New York



The Coordination Committee, chaired by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, met once on 8 June 2022 at principal-level to provide strategic direction to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact. Photo/UNOCT

Against the backdrop of the rapidly growing presence and activity of terrorist groups in parts of Africa, impacting the entire continent and beyond, the Coordination Committee served as a platform for information exchange on the evolving situation in Africa and its impact in other regions.

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres opened the 8th Coordination Committee meeting by highlighting the essential coordination role of the Counter-Terrorism Compact. He expressed concern over the increasing terrorist threat in parts of Africa and stressed that the threat cannot be effectively addressed without tackling the conditions conducive to its spread. The Secretary-General called on all Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to continue supporting Member States in their counter-terrorism efforts, through the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building to help build institutions that are people-centered and grounded in human rights and the rule of law.

The meeting was attended by more than 150 participants, including the heads of Counter-Terrorism Compact entities,

high-level representatives from India, Kenya, Nigeria, the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, EU, and OSCE; as well as the Chairs, Co- and Vice-Chairs of the eight Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Groups.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov shared his concern about the increasing terrorist threat in parts of Africa, which is compounded by complex relationships between terrorists, armed groups, and criminal networks, as well as the political upheaval caused by recent coups d'état. He also noted that the transnational nature of terrorism requires closer international cooperation with regional organizations and partners on the ground, including the African Union.

Guest speakers and representatives from Counter-Terrorism Compact entities underlined that the terrorism threat in the continent deserved the full attention of the international community. They highlighted the need to ensure that counter-terrorism efforts considered: (i) the linkages with drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime; (ii) challenges posed by foreign terrorist

fighters and issues of prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration; (iii) measures to counter terrorist financing, money laundering and corruption; and (iv) evidence collection from the battlefield and digital spaces. Participants further agreed that the Counter-Terrorism Compact was critical in enhancing collective situational awareness and coordinating assistance to requesting Member States.

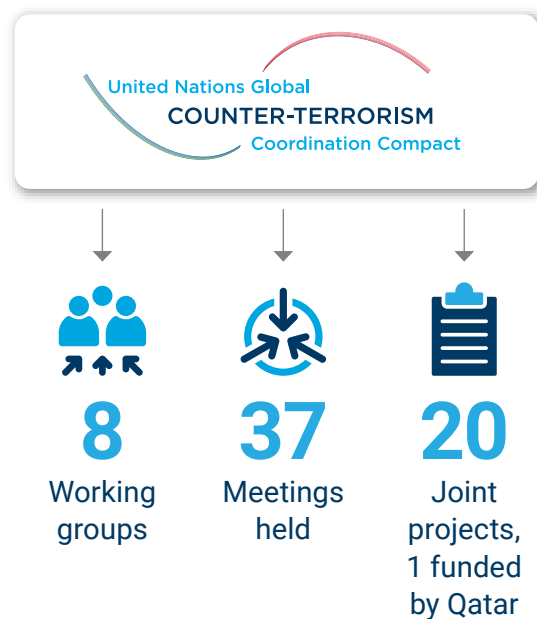
The meeting concluded with the endorsement by the Compact Coordination Committee of the Joint Programme of Work for 2022-2023, outlining the strategic priorities for the Counter-Terrorism Compact and its eight Working Groups, including strengthening engagement with Member States and regional organizations.



**The eight working groups of the Counter-Terrorism Compact** progressed in the implementation of their work plans, including by convening 37 meetings in 2022 (32 regular quarterly meetings and five in-focus discussions), to facilitate information flow on initiatives and best practices, joint research, and capacity-building. They also made additional efforts to ensure the participation of Member States representatives in their meetings, as well as representatives from United Nations entities in the field, in line with the expectation set in the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

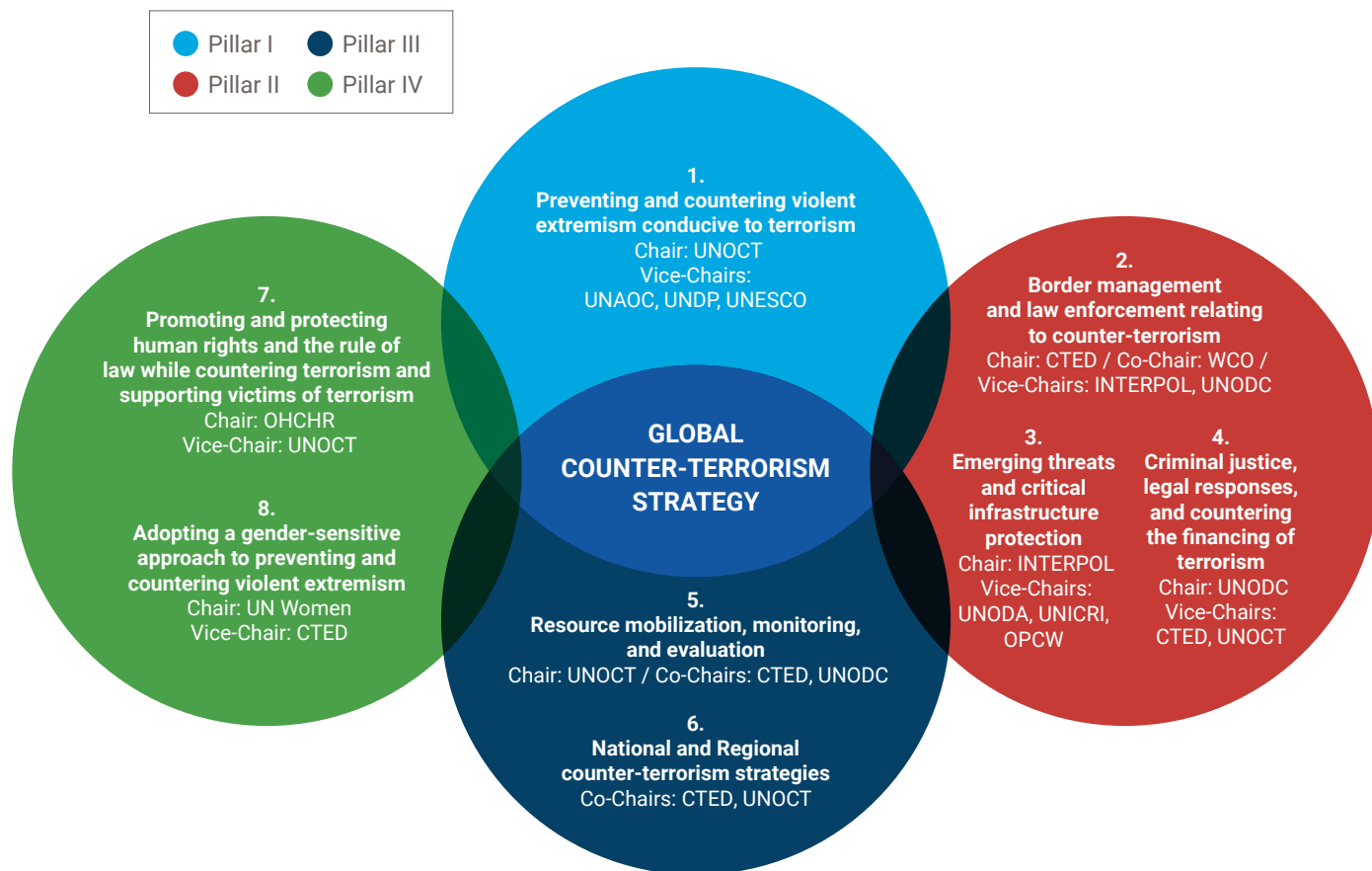
Since the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Compact in 2018, UNOCT's Trust Fund has provided seed funding to support a total of 20 joint projects implemented by the working groups, out of which 13 have been completed. A joint project funded by the State of Qatar and implemented by the Working

Group on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism (PCVE) was completed in 2022 as presented in Box 2. The remaining joint working group projects are currently under implementation.



**Figure 1: Working groups of the Counter-Terrorism Compact**

The 8 Compact Working Groups under the four Pillars of the UN GCTS



## Box 2: Working group projects completed with seed funding from the State of Qatar

### Joint project on “Intercultural Dialogue and Socio-Emotional Competencies for Peacebuilding” implemented by the Working Group on PCVE

In 2022, UNOCT, together with UNAOC and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), completed the joint project titled “Intercultural Dialogue and Socio-Emotional Competencies for Peacebuilding”, which aimed to support young people in developing video games for preventing and countering violent extremism. The project was implemented

in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development in New Delhi, India, and worked towards strengthening the positive role of youth in preventing and countering violent extremism efforts through co-creating game-based methodologies that develop relevant competencies for intercultural dialogue and socio-emotional learning.

# Digital Games for Peace

CREATIVITY. INNOVATION. RESILIENCE.



 UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION  
1946-2016 (United Nations Children's Fund)

 **UNESCO**  
UNITED NATIONS  
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC  
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

 **UNAOC** 

Through the Working Group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities organized a series of virtual and hybrid briefings for Member States, which featured joint presentations of United Nations projects supported by the Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in specific regions, namely Africa (31 May), Asia Pacific (29 September) and Central Asia (in the margins of the High-Level International Conference on Regional Cooperation among Central Asian States

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within the Framework of the Joint Plan of Action in Tashkent on 4 March, and the High-Level Conference on International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movements of Terrorists in Dushanbe on 19 October). The briefings featured joint presentations from CTED, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICRI, UNOCT, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNRCCA, United Nations Resident Coordinators Offices, and UN Women. Together, these events attracted over 500 participants from Member States and experts from across the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels.

To further strengthen multilateral counter-terrorism collaboration across international, regional, national and local levels, the mutually reinforcing **partnership between the Counter-Terrorism Compact and the Global Counterterrorism Forum** continued to evolve throughout 2022. This included the participation in each other's high-level meetings and events, the convening of one partnership consultation, and the adoption in September of the [Options Paper: Strengthening Cooperation between the Working Groups of the GCTF and the Counter-Terrorism Compact](#)

aimed at enhancing cooperation between respective Working Groups on issues such as the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes and gender mainstreaming.

The **Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform** ("the Platform"), which is maintained with the support of the State of Qatar, continued to serve as an innovative and need-based coordination tool for Member States and Counter-Terrorism Compact entities. In 2022, the Platform facilitated the digital interaction and information exchange between over 990 focal points of 45 Compact entities, 136 Member States, 12 regional organizations, and the GCTF. It presently includes over 2,800 resource documents on its various pages and has been visited over 172,000 times since its launch in March 2020.



## THE COORDINATION COMPACT

● ● ● ● ●

### KEY FUNCTIONALITIES & TOOLS

- Global Networking
- Searchable Contact Directory
- Thematic Resource Library
- Joint Calendar
- Multi-stakeholder Collaboration
- Dedicated Working Group Spaces
- Joint Planning and Prioritization
- Matrix of UN Projects on preventing and countering terrorism
- CTED Country Assessments and Technical Assistance (TA) Recommendations
- Joint Resource Mobilization: United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism

The decorative graphic on the right consists of a blue-toned hexagonal grid. Several hexagons contain glowing padlock icons, and blue arrows point in various directions across the grid, suggesting a network or flow of information.

In addition to the collaborative spaces used by working groups in their daily interactions, the Platform features a user-friendly matrix with 705 technical assistance needs and recommendations identified by CTED on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee to inform entities' capacity-building efforts, as well as a matrix of United Nations projects on preventing and countering terrorism. The Counter-Terrorism Compact secretariat is currently developing a dedicated page in which Member States will be able to provide country-specific information on their national counter-terrorism related priorities, good practices, and challenges. This is another step towards enhancing the Counter-Terrorism Compact's engagement with Member States and its key partners and is expected to facilitate the understanding by Counter-Terrorism Compact entities of the counter-terrorism needs and priorities of Member States, foster further information exchange, and enhance Member States' visibility of the efforts carried out through the United Nations system.



## Counter-Terrorism Compact in numbers: 2022

45	Compact entities
136	Member States
12	International / regional organizations
38	Inter-agency meetings
994	Total Focal Points
2,808	Documents uploaded
172,412	Visits since launch
705	CTED TA recommendations
24	CTED country assessments



To further familiarize Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the structure, objectives and work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact and its Working Groups, including its digital Coordination Platform, an [informative brochure](#) was published on the UNOCT website in October.

The Counter-Terrorism Compact secretariat also worked on increasing the visibility and outreach on the achievements of the Counter-Terrorism Compact through the development and dissemination of six bi-monthly public [newsletters](#), also published on the UNOCT website and the Platform, an annual

newsletter for 2022, public web stories on the Coordination Committee meetings, and news posts on the Platform.

## Key priorities for 2023

Building on the recommendations formulated during the meetings of the Coordination Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Compact Joint Programme of Work for 2022-2023 adopted in June, the Compact will focus on three overarching priorities in 2023:

1. Enhancing engagement and coordination in supporting Member States through: (i) the development of a dedicated page in the Coordination Platform, in which Member States can provide country specific information on their national counter-terrorism related priorities, good practices and challenges; (ii) increased use of CTED recommendations; (iii) development and implementation of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies and PCVE plans of action; (iv) facilitating Member States' briefings in the Coordination Committee and working group meetings; (v) renewing emphasis on the rule of law, gender equality, human rights, and humanitarian action in Member States' efforts and United Nations capacity-

building support; (vi) tackling the misuse of new and emerging technologies; and (vii) addressing the rise in terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief.

2. Strengthening partnerships and cooperation with regional organizations, as well as the inclusion of civil society, academia, and the private sector, both at strategic and practical levels.
3. Fostering joint planning in and ensuring a coherent and effective approach to resource mobilization through: (i) developing monitoring and evaluation methodologies to assess the impact of the Counter-Terrorism Compact's efforts in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy; and (ii) providing guidance for the development of the next iteration of the United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism.

In furtherance of the above priorities, the Counter-Terrorism Compact secretariat will continue to re-tool the Platform to allow for greater effectiveness of joint efforts and to increase transparency and visibility of United Nations' counter-terrorism work towards Member States.

## 2.2

### PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

In 2022, UNOCT continued its strong partnership with CTED in accordance with Security Council resolution 2617 (2021) and General Assembly resolution 75/291 on the seventh review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, to further strengthen the prioritization and tailoring of technical and capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States. UNOCT focused

on developing processes and information management tools to implement a joint report (S/2022/1002) prepared by UNOCT and CTED on practical steps to strengthen their collaboration, which was submitted to the Security Council in April as requested by resolution 2617 (2021) and approved by its Counter-Terrorism Committee in December. These efforts continued to be supported by a

dedicated liaison capacity in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General funded through the contribution from the State of Qatar.

The participation of UNOCT in the assessment visits conducted by CTED on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee was strengthened through a streamlined process to nominate and prepare expert staff members to represent the Office, as well as the organization of briefings between CTED and UNOCT programme managers before and after assessment visits to facilitate information exchange. In 2022, UNOCT participated in CTED's assessment visits to Belgium, Bulgaria, Malaysia, Nigeria, and Uzbekistan, enabling the Office to better position itself to follow-up on technical assistance needs and to leverage good practices.

UNOCT developed an internal, interactive dashboard which enables UNOCT programme managers to identify more effectively the most relevant technical assistance needs shared by CTED in 2019 to incorporate them in the design and delivery of the Office's capacity-building efforts. This dashboard and other analytical resources provided by CTED were made easily accessible to programme managers with the creation of a dedicated section under the UNOCT's information management portal. Additionally, UNOCT conducted a comprehensive stock-taking to identify the technical assistance needs already addressed through the Office's various capacity-building programmes and those that could be addressed subject to additional resources. Based on this review, UNOCT provided CTED with suggestions on how to enhance the list of technical assistance needs to enable more comprehensive analysis and searchability.

UNOCT had several opportunities to highlight in 2022 how its capacity-building efforts are responsive to CTED's analysis and recommendations and to acknowledge the support from the State of Qatar. UNOCT updated the Counter-Terrorism Committee twice on its collaboration with CTED on 10 June and 23

December, in line with resolution 2617 (2021), and briefed during three other Committee meetings on its support to Member States in South and South-East Asia (14 February) and in Central Asia (20 December), as well as on comprehensive approaches to countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism and the role of civil society (18 May). UNOCT also showcased its capacity-building programmes, including several initiatives funded by the State of Qatar, during the special meeting held by the Counter-Terrorism Committee on 28-29 October in India on countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes, during a series of technical consultations organized by CTED in the run-up to the special meeting, and during an open meeting of the Committee on the results of the special meeting (2 December).

In 2023, UNOCT will consolidate the use of the above-mentioned tools and processes through the finalization of an internal guidance note for UNOCT programme managers, supplementing the Office's new Programme Review Board policy. UNOCT will also seek to encourage and support a more systematic use of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact through its Working Groups and online platform to disseminate CTED's analysis and recommendations and to track their uptake in the technical assistance provided by Compact entities.



UNOCT Under-Secretary-General Mr. Vladimir Voronkov with CTED Acting Executive Director Mr. Weixiong Chen

## 2.3

## EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

The External Partnerships Section (EPS) in the Special Projects and Innovations Branch (SPIB) supports UNOCT's mandate by engaging in innovative and robust partnerships with an array of counter-terrorism partners, including private sector entities, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), academia, think tanks and research institutes. These partnerships bring invaluable benefits to UNOCT: the private sector has capabilities and resources – both technological and physical – that can amplify the Office's work; civil society actors are plugged into the grassroots level and bring context-specific insights to programmes and projects; and academia and think tanks bring unique expertise and cutting-edge knowledge on trends and approaches that support the Office's efforts. Successful capacity-building requires these dynamic and inclusive strategic partnerships to strengthen the Office's ability to address the multifaceted threat of terrorism and violent extremism in an effective, human-rights compliant and gender responsive manner. In 2022, UNOCT, through the support of EPS, established nearly 150 new partnerships. This work included drafting and negotiating 32 memoranda of understanding with key partners including Qatar Generation Amazing and the Hamad Bin Khalifa University, following up on two Plans of Action, and preparing Letters of Intent with partners such as Qatar-based CSO Silatech. It

also involved developing connections between 14 external partners and UNOCT programmes which contributed valuable resources and insights to programmatic activities. These partnerships allowed the Office to leverage subject matter expertise to better implement its capacity-building mandate through a whole-of-society approach and paved the way for further productive engagement in 2023.

### Progress in 2022

#### Civil Society Engagement

UNOCT actively engaged with a broad range of civil society actors in line with its Civil Society Engagement Strategy which facilitates coherent and structured engagement at the global, regional, national and local levels. UNOCT's civil society engagement is further guided by the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and Our Common Agenda as well as the United Nations Guidance Note on the Protection and Promotion of Civic Space.

In 2022, UNOCT strengthened its civil society engagement through 109 partnerships, of which 95 were newly established with CSOs. The Office primarily engaged these partners through the revamped UNOCT-Civil Society Roundtable Series, which ensured systematic, coherent, and structured engagement with CSOs and supported the integration of their



inputs into UNOCT's work. Throughout the year, EPS organized three CSO roundtables, led and moderated by the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism. Of these, the [first roundtable](#) held on 28 February provided an overview of UNOCT priorities and solicited CSO feedback on how to further improve UN-CSO engagement; the [second roundtable](#) held on 30 June was dedicated to 'youth engagement, empowerment and protection in counter-terrorism and PCVE efforts'; and the [third roundtable](#) held on 10 November focused on enhancing civil society engagement to address the evolving threat of terrorism and violent extremism in Africa. Collectively, these events brought together a total of 120 civil society participants, representing 76 CSOs from 42 countries, with particular focus on women-led organizations, to engage in frank dialogue with senior and working-level Office officials. Through these series, civil society representatives provided valuable, context-specific insights that directly contributed to the Office's work.



On the margins of the first United Nations High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society, and Counter-Terrorism that took place in May 2022 in Málaga, Spain, UNOCT facilitated six side events and supported the Civil Society Workshop on “Enhancing Civil Society Leadership & the



Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism”, jointly hosted by the Kingdom of Spain and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, which together convened more than 100 in-person participants and 5,800 online attendees in rich discussions on a wide range of topics. These events allowed civil society actors to raise awareness of key issues to senior government representatives. The Málaga Outcome Document, developed in consultation with civil society, acknowledged the need for continued high-level multilateral engagement on human rights and civil society and called for more meaningful inclusion and participation of civil society in counter-terrorism processes.



## Side events organized with Member States and civil society partners in the margins of the Málaga Conference

On 9 May, ahead of the High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism held in Málaga, Spain on 10-11 May, UNOCT together with Member States, United Nations entities and civil society partners held six side events focused on the following key themes:

- The importance of ensuring the protection of human rights and gender equality in counter-terrorism measures and cementing long-term accountability for both the United Nations and Member States

**SIDE EVENT: National Human Rights-Based Counter-Terrorism Responses**

- Presentation of joint UN capacity-building in the field of human rights and counter-terrorism in Central Asia

**SIDE EVENT: Launch of the e-learning course on Human Rights and Counter Terrorism in Central Asia**

- The integral role of rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters and their families

**SIDE EVENT: The Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Returnees from Syria and Iraq**

- The importance of parliamentary and civil society cooperation in the drafting and enforcement of counter-terrorism legislation

**SIDE EVENT: Engaging Parliamentarians with Civil Society Organizations in Enhancing Legislation and Oversight Functions on CT and PVE**

- How to utilize innovative behavioural insights to effectively prevent and counter radicalization

**SIDE EVENT: Fostering Resiliency through a Behavioural Insights Approach**

- Showcasing UNOCT's priority for the promotion of human rights and gender mainstreaming in PCVE efforts through the launch of the Human Rights and Gender Section.

**SIDE EVENT: Strengthening Partnerships for Human Rights Compliant and Gender Responsive Counter-Terrorism Efforts**





Photo/Antonio Montiel

In 2022, EPS launched the Civil Society Organizations Database, which houses 424 vetted organizations and serves as a valuable, sustainable resource for the Office in its outreach to a broad range of partners. EPS also strengthened the Office's civil society focal point network to mainstream civil society across UNOCT's work and improve coordination, which resulted in connections between nine new CSOs and the Office's programmes in 2022. This close and regular engagement with civil society is a significant step forward in the Office's goal to implement a whole-of-society approach to CT and PCVE.

### Private Sector Engagement

UNOCT enhanced its cooperation with a broad range of private sector entities in 2022, including two leading actors that help technology companies prevent terrorist exploitation of digital platforms: the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT), where the Office participates in three working groups, and Tech against Terrorism (TaT). Additionally, EPS facilitated eight new partnerships with the private sector and supported collaboration with 26 existing partners, including technology companies and public-private entities. These partnerships have raised awareness of UNOCT's programmes and priorities, garnered

good practices, and enabled the Office to benefit from private sector expertise, providing programmes with information on cutting-edge technology and facilitating wide dissemination of the Office's knowledge products.

In 2022, EPS spearheaded the mainstreaming of private sector engagement across the Office's policy work and programmatic activities and continued its Series on Protecting Digital Spaces. This series aims to raise awareness of key trends and best practices in countering the misuse of emerging technologies by terrorists and violent extremists. For example, the expert panel event on "Safeguarding the Metaverse from Terrorism and Violent Extremism" held on 28 November garnered significant interest from stakeholders and resulted in several new partnership opportunities for the Office in 2023, including upcoming work with INTERPOL and the Christchurch Call on extended reality (XR) technologies.

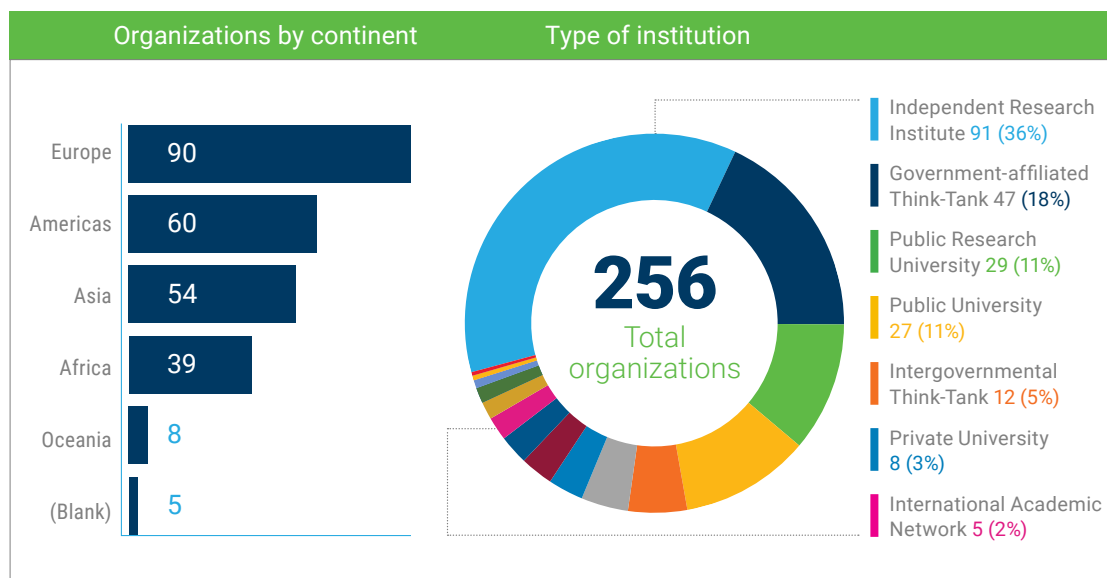


### Academia

EPS established partnerships with 14 new universities, think tanks, and research institutions in 2022 while solidifying existing partnerships with nine additional

institutions. EPS also revamped its Academic Database, which now houses more than 250 institutions and more than 400 experts, facilitating outreach to actors on the cutting edge of counter-terrorism research. These

partnerships provided interdisciplinary and empirically driven insights to UNOCT's programmes on a range of CT and PCVE issues, including immersive technologies and youth engagement.



### UNOCT Connect & Learn platform

Since its launch in October 2021, the Connect & Learn platform has strengthened UNOCT's capacity-building and coordination efforts by bringing users together in an online forum to learn, connect, share knowledge, and coordinate activities. In 2022, the Office

reached more than 2,000 beneficiaries from 144 Member States through 46 courses and 22 communities of practice. Of the users that self-reported demographic data, more than 30% were women. The Connect & Learn platform has proven to be an effective tool to complement UNOCT's in-person capacity-



building initiatives and has become an essential component for the implementation of the Office's capacity-building mandate.

### United Nations-African Union Technical Working Group on CT & P/CVE:

The UN-African Union (AU) Technical Working Group (TWG) on CT and P/CVE launched in 2022, helped strengthen coherence, coordination, and cooperation between the two organizations in their efforts in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism in Africa. The TWG serves as a platform for systematic engagement and information sharing, facilitating joint planning and coordination at the policy and operational levels. It is uniquely positioned to assess vulnerabilities and threats related to extremism and terrorism in Africa and to provide valuable input to UN-AU consultative meetings on strategic priority areas, gender and human rights mainstreaming, and improved effectiveness of CT and PCVE activities on the continent. In 2022, the TWG identified areas of synergy between the two bodies such as border security management, countering terrorist financing, and countering the misuse of emerging technologies. With the Office's strategic focus on Africa in 2023, the TWG provides an opportunity to consolidate and solidify the Office's work in the region, preventing duplication of efforts and ensuring alignment with the AU.

### Priorities for 2023

In the area of external partnerships, UNOCT's key priorities for 2023 include deepening engagement with diverse partners to amplify the Office's impact; formalizing strategic partnerships through memoranda of understanding; and translating engagement into concrete, measurable action. UNOCT will develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to measure and assess the impact of the Office's partnerships that includes gender-responsive indicators in line with the Office's Results Framework.



In response to feedback from the CSO Roundtable Series and in advance of the planned African Counter-Terrorism Summit in Abuja, UNOCT will continue to prioritize **CSO engagement in Africa** through in-person events and regional consultations on the UNOCT Civil Society Engagement Strategy, which will be replicated globally before updating the strategy. At the same time, UNOCT will further **deepen its engagement with the private sector** through the Office's first regional Business Forum to be held in Doha in 2023 and will prioritize the finalization and implementation of its private sector fundraising strategy. The Office will also continue to strengthen partnerships with the technology sector by promoting new initiatives related to new and emerging technologies. **In the academic space**, UNOCT intends to establish a consortium network to act as an early warning mechanism on trends in CT and PCVE research to inform the Office's initiatives. In addition, UNOCT will continue to grow **the Connect & Learn platform** as a critical tool to facilitate impactful results under the Office's capacity-building mandate through the launch of at least seven new courses and several new communities of practice. Lastly, UNOCT will continue to **lead the AU-UN TWG on CT & PCVE**, and as part of these efforts, launch a community of practice on the Connect & Learn platform and oversee the development of a joint activity matrix to solidify planned collaboration, along with a plan of action detailing key priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations following the Abuja Summit.

## 2.4

## HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS

### 2.4.1 Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance



On 28-29 March 2022, UNOCT and the State of Qatar co-organized the Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance in Doha (Beneficiaries Forum), with virtual participation from Member States, international and regional organizations, and civil society partners, which for the first time brought together beneficiaries, providers, and donors to assess the results of technical assistance and capacity-building support provided by UNOCT and Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities with the financial support of the State of Qatar. The Forum provided an inclusive, innovative and exemplary model of dialogue and cooperation with key counter-terrorism stakeholders to discuss the performance and impact of UNOCT's assistance across its mandated functions, in accordance with the Office's commitment to transparency and accountability of its services to Member States and the broader global counter-terrorism community.

The Beneficiaries Forum registered a total of 426 in-person and virtual participants, including 123 representatives from 88 Member States,

23 representatives from 11 international and regional organizations, 46 representatives from 33 civil society organizations, and 24 representatives from 18 Counter-Terrorism Compact entities. The Forum featured a ministerial opening, which was attended in-person by 210 participants including 40 Ambassadors and 67 representatives from 63 Member States based in Doha, with remarks from H.E. Mr. Sultan bin Saad Al Muraikhi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar as keynote speaker, H.E. Major General Abdulaziz Abdullah Al-Ansari, Chairman of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee and Director of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Interior of the State of Qatar, and H.E. Hassan Al Thawadi, Secretary General of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, among other high-level speakers.

Through its six thematic sessions, participants shared their assessments of the threat landscape, counter-terrorism priorities and needs, challenges and opportunities in the design and delivery of counter-terrorism

assistance, experiences collaborating with UNOCT and other UN partners on related programmes and activities, as well as their feedback on the impact of the UN's counter-terrorism support at national, regional and global levels and perspectives on how this can be further strengthened.

Beneficiary countries and organizations expressed satisfaction with the relevance and results of UNOCT's policy, coordination, and capacity-building support, recognized the Office's role and contribution towards the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council counter-terrorism mandates, and highlighted the value of UNOCT's specialized and results-oriented programmes in addressing complex and evolving counter-terrorism challenges. They recommended, inter alia, stronger engagement with and inclusion of civil society, local actors, academia, and the private sector in the design and delivery of programmatic activities; enhancing public-private partnerships; strengthening prevention capabilities for a holistic and integrated counter-terrorism approach; ensuring the mainstreaming of human rights and gender considerations in CT/PCVE efforts; increasing local, national and regional ownership of assistance for sustainability of impact; integrating regional and sub-regional dimensions to programming; expanding geographic coverage of programmes; reinforcing

field-based implementation; and providing innovative approaches to prevent and counter terrorism through the deployment and use of modern technologies.



In 2022, UNOCT prepared the Outcome Report of the Beneficiaries Forum, consisting of summaries of interventions made by the Forum's 75 speakers and a section on key guiding principles,

main observations, and recommendations that emerged from the Forum, which was subsequently disseminated to all participants and uploaded on UNOCT's website. The report provides an important resource to guide the United Nations efforts in the design and delivery of capacity-building support in counter-terrorism. In 2023, building on the experiences gained from the first Beneficiaries Forum, UNOCT will work in close collaboration with the State of Qatar on the co-organization of the Second Beneficiaries Forum to continue this important joint initiative, which not only supports UNOCT's results-based delivery, but also demonstrates the criticality of the partnership between UNOCT and the State of Qatar in advancing global counter-terrorism efforts.



Photo/UNOCT

On the occasion of the Beneficiaries Forum in Doha, on 29 March, the State of Qatar and UNOCT held the Fourth Annual High-Level Strategic Dialogue, which was opened by H.E. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations, and co-chaired by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov and H.E. Major General Abdulaziz Abdullah Al Ansari, Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Chairman of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Ministry of Interior of the State of Qatar. Participants included H.E. Ali bin Khalfan Al Mansouri, Director of the Department of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, as well as representatives from the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact. The two

sides took stock of achievements and impact of policy, coordination and capacity-building work, and discussed strategic priorities and opportunities for collaboration for United Nations support to Member States on counter-terrorism. They reaffirmed their strong partnership and expressed commitment to continued cooperation in the implementation of flagship global programmes and the promotion of coordination of counter-terrorism efforts through the Counter-Terrorism Compact. Ambassador Al-Thani expressed Qatar's satisfaction with the results achieved in the implementation of the multi-year contribution agreement with UNOCT and announced Qatar's continued support to the Office through a new total contribution of \$45 million for the period 2024-2026.

## 2.4.2 International and Regional Conferences

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With the gradual return to in-person events in 2022, through the financial and political support of the State of Qatar, UNOCT intensified its efforts aimed at strengthening multilateral cooperation across regions on a wide range of critical counter-terrorism issues in close collaboration with Member States and other key stakeholders. In addition to the Beneficiaries Forum jointly convened with the State of Qatar in March, UNOCT organized three high-level international conferences in Tashkent (March), Málaga (May), and Dushanbe (October), which collectively became force multipliers for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, especially through the sharing of expertise and resources, as well as promoting international cooperation. These events were organized in close partnership with Member States, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and intergovernmental and regional

organizations, with the wide participation and close engagement of civil society actors and independent experts. UNOCT and conference co-organizers benefitted extensively from the direct, high-level political participation and engagement of the State of Qatar in the Málaga and Dushanbe Conferences. Another landmark event was the United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism convened under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General at the United Nations Headquarters in New York (September), with the participation of Member States, victims, victims' associations, United Nations entities, civil society organizations, experts, academics, and the private sector. Organized under the theme "Advancing the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism", the Congress provided a platform for dialogue and engagement on a victim-centric approach to preventing and countering terrorism and served as a critical milestone towards strengthened global solidarity and support for victims of terrorism.



**The High-Level International Conference on “Regional cooperation among Central Asian countries within the Framework of the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy”** was the first hybrid UNOCT event in 2022 with a significant in-person component after the COVID-19 pandemic period. The event was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on 3-4 March and was co-organized with the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of Uzbekistan (ISRS), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, UNRCCA and OSCE. It brought together over 500 representatives, including 327 in-person participants from 46 Member States, 29 international and regional organizations and Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and 11 civil society organizations from Central and South Asia. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the United Nations Secretary-General delivered video remarks.

Coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA), the Conference provided an important opportunity to learn about the unique experience of Central Asian States in implementing the regional strategy aligned with the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Participants emphasized prevention, education, youth empowerment, human rights-compliant law enforcement, and the inclusion of civil society in building resilience. Combating the financing of terrorism, strengthening border management and cyber security, tackling terrorist use of the Internet, and prevention of radicalization in prisons were also identified as regional priorities. The event was a timely demonstration of regional solidarity and renewed commitment to multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation especially in light of the evolving threat landscape due to the situation in Afghanistan. The Conference endorsed the updated JPoA, prepared on the basis



of a ten-year review and multi-stakeholder consultations. It also adopted the “Tashkent Declaration” reflecting the strong political will of Central Asian States to implement the regional strategy over the next decade.

Three side events were held on the margins of the Conference:

1. the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) side event on SCO-RATS role in strengthening cooperation between States of Central Asia within the framework of the JPoA;
2. OSCE side event on “Age- and Gender-Sensitive Approaches to Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters’ Family Members”; and
3. UNOCT side event on “United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism: Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Programmes in Central Asia”.



During the Opening Session of the Conference. Photo/UNOCT



**The first-ever United Nations High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism**, jointly organized by UNOCT and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain, was held on 10-11 May, in Málaga, Spain. The event was attended by 430 representatives of Member States, international and regional organizations, United Nations partners, and civil society actors. The Conference included a ministerial session, which featured statements from 18 Ministers, 11 Deputy Ministers and 13 Counter-Terrorism Coordinators and other high-level representatives from 42 Member States. The Conference was preceded by six joint UNOCT-civil society side events, as well as a civil society workshop organized by the Kingdom of Spain and the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

In keeping with the Office's commitment to facilitate meaningful civil society participation, UNOCT engaged a diverse range of civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and victims' associations to shape the agenda of the Conference. Civil society representatives participated both as speakers in the high-level opening and ministerial sessions, and as co-moderators for all five thematic working sessions that addressed: (i) human rights, rule of law and the misuse of counter-terrorism measures; (ii) the protection of principled humanitarian action; (iii) victims and survivors

of terrorism; (iv) promoting an enabling environment for civic space; and (v) the way forward for the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture. The Conference also launched the "Memories campaign", a film and a photo exhibition showcasing the stories of victims of terrorism from across the globe.

Many participants recognized the important strides achieved by the seventh review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in particular with regard to strengthened language on human rights, rule of law and civil society, while a number





identified the need to translate these commitments into concrete and impactful actions, including through adequate and sustainable resources. The Counter-Terrorism Compact was also identified as a potential enabler for coordination and amplification of human rights and gender mainstreaming and civil society engagement.

The Conference resulted in the development of the Málaga Outcome Document negotiated within the framework of the Málaga Consultative Group, an informal group led by UNOCT and Spain, comprising representatives from civil society, as well as CTED, the Office of the High-Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and UN Women, which will be issued in 2023. The Málaga outcomes helped inform the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism held by UNOCT on 8-9 September in New York, as well as the biennial report on the activities of the United Nations system in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to be considered by the General Assembly in

the context of the eighth biennial review of the Strategy in 2023.





**The High-Level Conference on “International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movement of Terrorists”** was held in-person in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 18-19 October 2022. Co-organized with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, UNRCCA, OSCE, and the EU, with the support of the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the event brought together over 900 participants from 59 Member States, 18 international and regional organizations, 12 Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and 30 non-governmental organizations. The Conference hashtag generated 2 million impressions on Twitter.

The opening session featured remarks by the United Nations Secretary-General, the President of Tajikistan, the Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, the Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Counterterrorism and Mediation in Conflict Resolution of the State of Qatar, and the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Tajikistan. All permanent members of the Security Council were represented in the Conference, which also included the participation of officials from Australia, Cambodia, Cuba, Kuwait, Libya, India, Pakistan, Spain, and the United States, among others. UNODC, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan



Photo/MFA of Tajikistan



The Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Counterterrorism and Mediation in Conflict Resolution of the State of Qatar, H.E. Dr. Mutlaq bin Majed Al Qahtani, speaking during the Dushanbe Conference. Photo/MFA of Tajikistan

(UNAMA), CTED, DPO, and AQMT were some of the United Nations partners that participated in the event.

The Conference underscored how critical border security and management cooperation is to counter terrorism and prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists. It enhanced impetus for the “Dushanbe Process” launched in 2018, calling on interested stakeholders to join efforts to improve border security and cross-border cooperation, as well as to mobilize resources to support the strengthening of border security of Central Asian Member States. It underlined the need for comprehensive, integrated, and whole-of-society approaches to border security with full

respect for human rights and the rule of law, as well as stronger collaboration to prevent terrorists from exploiting transnational organized crime. The event further underlined the need for the international community to remain vigilant, given the heightened security concerns caused by developments in Afghanistan, with participants emphasizing the importance of the Counter-Terrorism Early Warning Network for Central Asia, launched by UNOCT and UNRCCA in June 2022. On the margins of the Conference, UNOCT and Uzbekistan signed a bilateral “Road Map” on cooperation initiatives for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy under the framework of the Joint Plan of Action.



UNOCT Chief of Office of the Under-Secretary-General, Ms. Oguljeren Niyazberdiyeva, giving a speech at the Dushanbe Conference, 19 October 2022. Photo/MFA of Tajikistan



With the support of the State of Qatar and other partners, UNOCT organized the first [United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism](#) with, by and for victims of terrorism on 8-9 September at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, with dedicated all-day activities for victims and survivors participating in the Congress on 7 September. A landmark event for UNOCT and its Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), the Global Congress highlighted the level of commitment of the United Nations and the international community towards strengthened global solidarity and unity in support of the rights and needs of victims of terrorism. It also provided a platform for victims of terrorism to share their experiences, challenges, stories of resilience, and to advocate for the strengthening and upholding of their rights and effective fulfillment of their needs.

More than 400 participants attended this event, including the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General, the President of the United Nations General Assembly, the two co-Chairs (Iraq and Spain) and Members of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, 107 Member and Observer State representatives, 21 cabinet ministers, six parliament representatives, 65 permanent and deputy permanent representatives, as well as 60 representatives from international and regional organizations, 90 from civil society organizations, and 113 victims of terrorism and victims' association representatives from all over the world. The Global Congress culminated with a Chair's summary that details a roadmap on

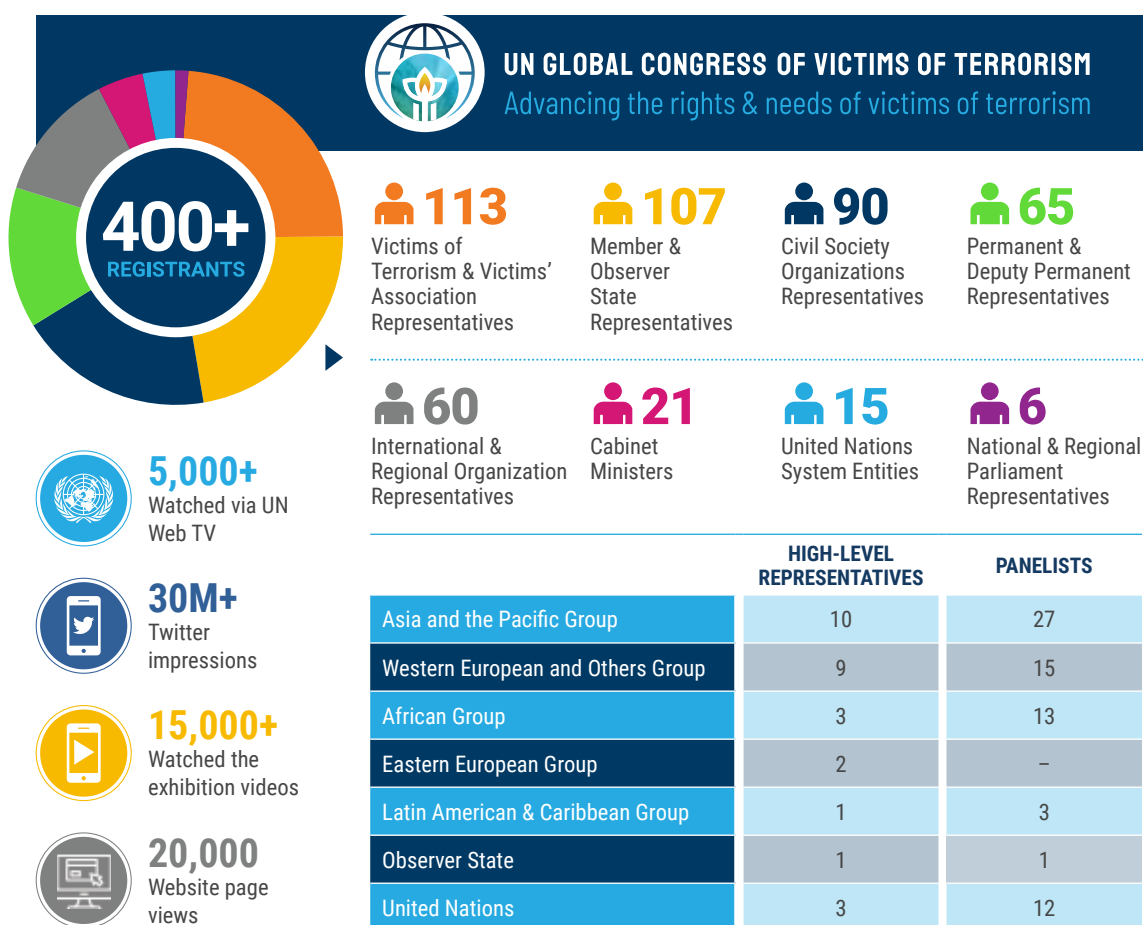


Photo/Paulo Filgueiras



the way forward and contains a blueprint for strengthened action to support victims of terrorism. The seven-point action plan includes the launch of the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VOTAN) to connect victims, victims' associations, and civil society organizations to work together to further the rights and support the needs of victims and survivors of terrorism, and the convening of an international conference on a rotational basis every two years, among other initiatives.

Ahead of the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, a strategic communications training course was held on 1-2 August and 8 August for 18 victims of terrorism from 14 countries. This helped participants acquire the necessary skills to interact with the media, develop sustainable storytelling and strategic communications strategies, and in particular, craft their messaging for the Global Congress.



### 2.4.3 High-level events in 2023

In 2023, with the generous support of the State of Qatar, and in close collaboration with Member States, international, regional and subregional organizations, civil society, and other counter-terrorism partners, UNOCT will

organize the Third Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States, the Second Beneficiaries Forum in Marrakesh, Morocco, and the African Counter-Terrorism Summit in Abuja, Nigeria.

## Second Beneficiaries Forum

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The Second Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance will be co-organized by UNOCT, the State of Qatar, and the Kingdom of Morocco in Marrakesh. The Beneficiaries Forum will bring together beneficiaries of assistance (African Member States, regional and subregional organizations, and civil society), providers of assistance (UNOCT, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and other implementing partners), and funding partners that contribute or have an interest in contributing to programmes and initiatives in Africa, to discuss and assess the results and impact of UNOCT programmes, projects and activities implemented in support of counter-terrorism efforts in the African continent, in order to strengthen the design and delivery of counter-terrorism assistance that meets the needs and priorities of African Member States. The Forum will provide an opportunity to assess the regional and global terrorism threat landscape; share counter-terrorism priorities, experiences and expertise; take stock of lessons learned and good practices and discuss challenges and opportunities in the design and delivery of technical assistance; and identify areas for technical and capacity-building assistance. The outcomes of the Beneficiaries Forum will guide the preparations of the African Counter-Terrorism Summit in Abuja.

## Third Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations

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The Third Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations will take place in New York on 19-23 June. This signature event, which will be held under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General, will comprise (i) the Third High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States on 19-20 June that will have a high-level ministerial segment; (ii) a Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to adopt the eighth biennial review resolution of the United Nations Global

Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 22-23 June; and (iii) approximately 30 side events to be jointly organized by Member States, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and civil society partners. This in-person event will be broadcast live on UN WebTV and will see the participation of the President of the General Assembly, the United Nations Secretary-General as well as Ministers and other senior level dignitaries of Member States, international and regional organizations, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and civil society organizations.

## African Counter-Terrorism Summit

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The African Counter-Terrorism Summit on the theme “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa” is planned to be held in-person in Abuja at the end of 2023 or early 2024. It will be co-organized by UNOCT and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The event will bring together Heads of State and Government from all African Member States, as well as other international partners, including the permanent members of the Security Council and Member States with successful experience in counter-terrorism, to review the nature and severity of the threat of terrorism in Africa, agree on concrete priorities and measures pivoted on institutional approaches, enhance multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation, and reshape the international community’s collective response to terrorism in the continent. Heads of African regional and sub-regional organizations, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, and Special Envoys in Africa, as well as representatives of academia, civil society and the private sector will also participate. In addition, side events will be organized to complement the Summit’s plenary discussions.

# 3 OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

## 3.1

## UNOCT PROGRAMME OFFICES

Through the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted in 2021, the General Assembly recognized the important role of the United Nations in providing integrated and coordinated assistance at the field level, and noted in that regard the efforts of UNOCT in increasing its field presence to facilitate the delivery of programmes closer to beneficiaries, enhance their impact and cost-effectiveness, and strengthen cooperation with national and local counter-terrorism actors, as well as regional bodies and other providers and recipients of assistance. In light of the growing programme of work and expanding field presence of UNOCT since 2019, the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, with the support of the Senior Field Coordinator located in the

OUSG, initiated a strategic assessment of UNOCT's field-based implementation, taking into consideration feedback from field staff on their experiences and views of senior management, and called for a period of consolidation to ensure a more consistent, coherent and sustainable business model for the delivery of UNOCT's mandate in close coordination with the wider United Nations presence at national and regional levels.

In June 2022, UNOCT and the Kingdom of Spain signed a Host Country Agreement (HCA) establishing the UNOCT Programme Office in Madrid, which was followed by a Supplementary Premises Agreement in September 2022. The Programme Office formally opened its doors in October 2022 to carry out its main functions – namely, implementing three Programmes

which have the State of Qatar as a major funding partner: (i) the protection of vulnerable targets; (ii) the protection of major sporting events and preventing and countering violent extremism through sport; and (iii) the support to victims of terrorism. As noted in the HCA, another core function of the Madrid Programme Office is to promote multilateral and bilateral counter-terrorism cooperation. Further details on the Programmes implemented by the Madrid Programme Office are provided below.



USG Voronkov and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain, Mr. José Manuel Albares Bueno, signed the Premises Agreement for the UNOCT Programme Office in Madrid, 22 September 2022. Photo/UNOCT

## 3.2

# GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON THE SECURITY OF MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS AND PROMOTION OF SPORT AND ITS VALUES AS A TOOL TO PREVENT VIOLENT EXTREMISM



Photo/Adobe Stock

UNOCT, through its Programme Office in Madrid, leads the multi-year Global Programme on the **Security Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and Its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism** (“Global Sports Programme”) in partnership with UNICRI, UNAOC, and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), and in close consultation with CTED, as part of a one-UN approach. The Global Sport Programme is funded by generous contributions from the State of Qatar together with co-funding from the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (UNPDF) and the Republic of Korea. The Programme’s key objectives are to increase Member States’ awareness of terrorism-related threats against vulnerable targets in the context of major sporting events and their ability to protect them as a common good of humanity; promote sport and its values to build resilience to violent extremism, especially among youth, and to support and guide Member States to integrate sport values-based initiatives within action plans for the prevention of violent extremism (PVE).

November to provide sport organizers with practical guidance to integrate sport-based PVE initiatives into general major sporting event planning and programming and to assist them in leveraging these events to contribute to PVE. On 8 December, the Programme launched the [Guide for Policymakers for the Use of Sport for the Prevention of Violent Extremism](#) to assist policymakers in

## Progress in 2022

The Programme launched the [Preventing Violent Extremism through Major Sporting Events – A Handbook for Organizers](#) on 23



developing policies that utilize sport as a tool for PVE and integrating sport values-based PVE initiatives into national strategies.

In support of the security governance of major sporting events and to help leverage the full potential of the use of sport and its values to achieve PVE goals, technical assistance was

provided to 30 stakeholders in Costa Rica, host of the 2022 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup; to 41 participants in Chile, host of the Pan American and Parapan American Games in 2023; to 94 stakeholders in the Maldives, expected to host the Indian Ocean Games in 2025; and to 35 stakeholders in Ghana, host of the XIII African Games in 2023.



Members of the Global Sports Programme visited sports grounds during a capacity-building activity for the security of major sporting events. Costa Rica, February 2022. Photo/UNOCT

As of the end of 2022, 105 Member States nominated National Focal Points (NFPs) to facilitate engagement with the Programme's activities. To enhance collaboration and sharing of best practices, the Programme held one NFP meeting for Asia which gathered 23 NFPs from 10 countries from Asia in Bangkok, Thailand, and a second NFP meeting for Africa which gathered 16 NFPs from 11 African countries in Dakar, Senegal. These NFP meetings provide a critical forum to building stronger inter-regional ties between high-level stakeholders involved in sports security and sports-based PVE policies and initiatives.

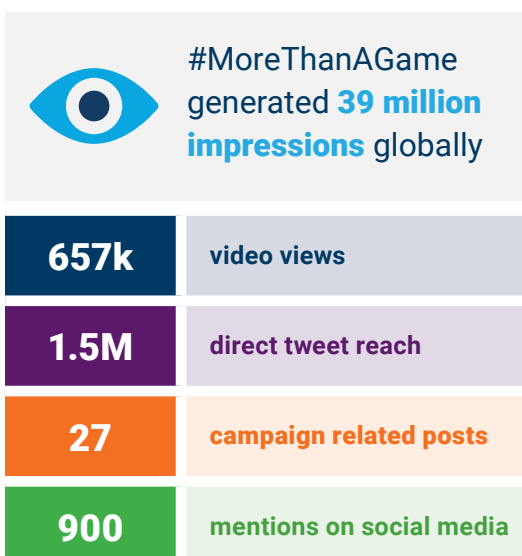
The Programme continued to provide support to CSOs to assist the implementation of community-level projects on sports values for PVE, with a specific focus on youth-led organizations. This initiative was launched in 2021 through a call-for-proposals for CSOs that gathered interest from 420 CSOs from 72 countries. A total of 10 grants were awarded to CSOs delivering sport-based PVE projects in their respective communities

across four continents. From November 2021 to June 2022, grantees implemented 124 activities, involving over 2,500 participants, conducted 39 stakeholder meetings with 290 participants, and held over 30 training and capacity-building sessions for over 650 youth leaders, coaches and trainers.

On 18 November, the Programme launched the first edition of its [global media campaign "#MoreThanAGame"](#) alongside the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, in partnership with Generation Amazing Foundation on the margins of their Goal 22 Festival, with a [roundtable discussion](#) delivered to 200 youth attendees from 32 countries. The campaign was initially elaborated during the Programme's High-Level Roundtable on the Protection of Major Sporting Events and the Use of Sports' Values for PVE, co-hosted by the State of Qatar on the margins of the Doha Forum on 27 March, which was also covered on [Al Jazeera news](#). International professional footballer and UNESCO Ambassador Dr. Nadia Nadim headlined the campaign, in



addition to two youth beneficiaries of the Programme's CSO call for proposals. The #MoreThanAGame video content was viewed 657,000 times on the @UN\_OCT Twitter channel, and the #MoreThanAGame hashtag has been mentioned around 900 times on social media from 18 November to 31 December 2022. These mentions generated 39 million impressions globally on social media, with @UN\_OCT #MoreThanAGame tweets directly reaching 1.5 million people. Six sports influencers published 27 campaign-related posts, reaching 1.2 million people and generating 13 million impressions. This significantly helped to promote the powerful values of sport to positively change lives, provided visibility to its funding partners, including the State of Qatar, and increased UNOCT's profile on a worldwide scale.



At the launch of the global media campaign "#MoreThanAGame" alongside the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, 18 November 2022. Photo/UNOCT

In 2022, the Programme held two regional and one global youth fora to ensure that youth's unique skills and perspectives on PVE through sport were considered in policymaking through creating a dialogue between youth leaders and decisionmakers and consolidating youth-led policy recommendations. The [first regional youth forum](#) for the Middle East and North Africa was held in Rabat, Morocco with the active engagement of 36 participants from Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Qatar. The [second regional forum](#), held in Bangkok, Thailand, co-organized by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) received the endorsement of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Sport (SOMS) and convened 46 participants including the Chair of the ASEAN SOMS. The Programme delivered a global youth forum on PVE through sports in Fez, Morocco, within the context of the [9th UNAOC Global Forum](#), which included workshops and consultation sessions with over 70 participants from the Programme's youth network and UNAOC's global network of 270 young people. At the 9th UNAOC Global Forum, the Programme implemented a [panel discussion](#) on sport as a vector for peace and inclusiveness with the participation of high-level speakers and over 30 attendees. These events enhanced dialogue between youth and decision makers and policy specialists, contributed to the



compilation of policy recommendations from a youth perspective on PVE through sport, promoted increased youth participation in national and regional PVE strategies through the power of sport, while reaffirming the role of youth in fostering sustainable peace and development.

The Global Sports Programme's two online Communities of Practice on security of major sporting events and PVE through sports, as well as its newly created online community dedicated to youth, all of which are hosted



Participants at the regional youth forum for the Middle East and North Africa during a group activity addressing the creation of policies for preventing and countering violent extremism by promoting social inclusion and cohesion. Photo/UNOCT

on the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform, facilitated the exchange of good practices and expertise across the Programme's Global Community of Experts and Practitioners. Two e-learning courses on the security of major sporting events and the use of sport values to achieve PVE objectives will be launched on Connect & Learn in 2023.

The Global Sports Programme continued to place gender at the core of its activities. In its policy guidance on sport for PVE, sport was promoted as a major contributor to the empowerment of women and girls, as their engagement supports the defiance of traditional gender stereotypes and norms by challenging traditional gender hierarchies and potential ties between masculinity and violence, and levels the playing field for women and men. The Programme's CSO call for proposals placed gender mainstreaming as a crucial factor in the final decision of the allocation of the grants. Women's participation was encouraged whenever possible, particularly when selecting speakers for events, persons to be featured in our global communications campaign, and youth representatives participating in the youth fora. For example, 51.4% of total participants of the Youth Fora from the Middle East and North Africa and Southeast Asia regions were women. These fora gathered youth representatives and policymakers to foster open discussions and come up with tangible policy recommendations that considered youth perspectives from all genders. Likewise, female influencers were the main contributors to the successful reach of the global communications campaign and particularly featured in the campaign videos and materials. Out of the six sports influencers who replicated the #MoreThanAGame campaign, four were women.



**Four out of six  
sports influencers  
were women**

At the same time, the Programme continued to promote the empowerment and inclusion

of vulnerable and marginalized groups through sport. Its policy guidance adopts a human-rights based approach to the planning of major sporting events and formulation of sport-based PVE policies to ensure that human rights are respected, protected, and promoted, and efforts do not exacerbate conditions for violent extremism, nor put individuals at risk. The Programme's activities are implemented in compliance with HRDDP and uphold equality and non-discrimination, participation and inclusion, and accountability and the rule of law.

In terms of risks, challenges existed regarding how to best ensure the safety of youth participants in the Global Sports Programme's #MoreThanAGame Campaign. These individuals may become high profile as a result of their participation in the campaign, and their association with UNOCT could have resulted in risks to their safety. The Programme managed this risk and ensured their safety and security by operating from a 'Do No Harm' perspective, obtaining participants' informed consent and excluding youth participants' full names and personal details from the campaign.

## Priorities for 2023

The Global Sports Programme will continue to provide technical assistance to Member States as a key priority in 2023 given the high number of requests received in 2022. Throughout the year, such programmatic assistance was discussed with Chile, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Senegal, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines. Discussions on technical cooperation with the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Madagascar, Iraq, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan are expected to take place during the first and second quarter of 2023.

In 2023, the Programme will deliver technical assistance to Chile based on programmatic engagements in July and August 2022,

in collaboration with the Organization of American States (OAS); Côte d'Ivoire, host of the African Cup of Nations in 2024; Ghana to support in the organization of the XIII African Games in 2023, following up on the initial country visit conducted in November 2022; and Cambodia, co-host of the 32nd and 33rd Southeast Asian Games which will take place in 2023 and 2025.

This support will leverage the strong partnerships the Programme has established in 2022 with UNESCO, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy of the FIFA World Cup 2022, the FIFA, the FIFA Foundation, the Olympic movement, and regional organizations and continental sport federations including, inter alia, the African

Union Sport Council, the Confederation of African Football, UEFA, and OAS.

Building on the momentum and legacy of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, the Programme will develop a second phase of the #MoreThanAGame campaign, showcasing the PVE-related benefits of other sports such as parasports. In addition, an event will be organized to mark the launch of Module 1 of the Programme's two e-learning courses on the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform and the production of Modules 2 through 7 will be finalized. Finally, the Programme will continue to leverage global and regional youth fora in 2023 through the organization of a Youth Forum for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for 25 participants and an International Youth Forum in Madrid, Spain to discuss youth perspectives on the power of sports to PVE.

### 3.3

## GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON COUNTERING TERRORIST THREATS AGAINST VULNERABLE TARGETS



The United Nations Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats against Vulnerable Targets, launched in 2021 and implemented from the UNOCT Programme Office in Madrid since 2022, seeks to strengthen Member States capacity to prevent, protect, mitigate, investigate, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks against vulnerable targets. The programme mandate covers safety and security of both critical infrastructure and “soft

targets” or public places. The programme, led by UNOCT and implemented jointly with CTED, UNICRI and UNAOC, and in collaboration with INTERPOL, delivers through four mutually reinforcing workstreams:

1. Development of innovative knowledge tools and promotion of international good practices;
2. Strengthening multilateral cooperation;



3. Delivery of specialized technical assistance and capacity-building, upon request; and
4. Implementing specialized projects, focusing on innovative solutions, top priorities and specific sectors.

working, national level capacity-building, and producing knowledge tools.

**To facilitate Member States' access to international good practices on vulnerable targets protection**, UNOCT produced six new knowledge tools. [Five specialized modules with a focus on the safety and security of sites particularly vulnerable to terrorism](#) were

## Progress in 2022

In 2022, the Programme delivered several concrete results which contributed to the effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its seventh review resolution, as well as Security Council resolutions 2341 (2017), 2396 (2017) and 2617 (2021), and the Council's Guiding Principles on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (Madrid Guiding Principles) and its 2018 Addendum (specifically principles 50 and 51 on protecting critical infrastructure, vulnerable or soft targets and tourism sites). During the reporting period, the Programme expanded its pool of funding partners from one, the State of Qatar, to three with new contributions from the United States and the Russian Federation, and focused its programming on awareness-raising, establishing partnerships and net-

**United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism** Sep 5, 2022  
@UN\_OCT

**TOMORROW**  
6 Sep, 10-11:45AM EST  
@unwebtv

High-level launch of 5 new thematic guides to Protect #VulnerableTargets against Terrorist Attacks w/ @un\_oct USG Voronkov, @ambalyaalthani, Acting @un\_cted ED; @unicri\_director & @unaoc CdC @nsaad777

[bit.ly/3cPaLEU](https://bit.ly/3cPaLEU)

**High-level launch of Five Thematic Modules on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets against Terrorist Attacks**

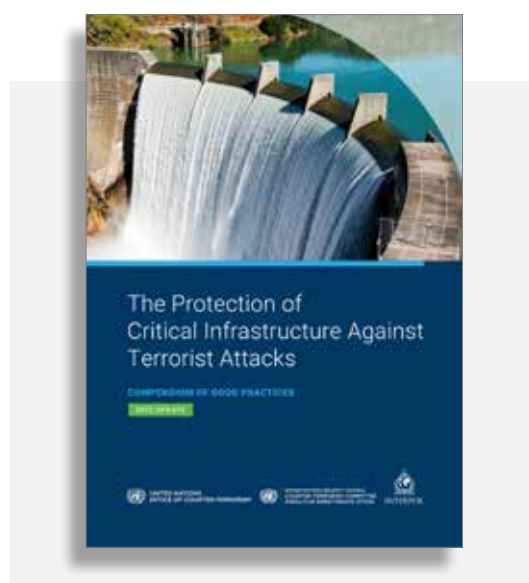
6 SEPTEMBER 2022 | 10:00-11:45am New York time (online)

**High-level opening** followed by an expert panel:

- Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary General of UNOCT
- H.E. Ambassador Hish Ahmed Safi Al-Rawi, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in New York
- Ms. Annette Weiss, Acting Executive Director, CTED
- Ms. Antonia Winkler De Wit, Director of UNOCT
- Ms. Nafiseh Zaidi, Chief of Cabinet and Secretariat for the High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

**UNOCT**

officially launched at the online high-level event on 6 September, with the participation of the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in New York. These new tools feature specific case studies, good practices and recommendations from all over the world to strengthen the security of religious sites, tourist venues, and urban centres, and protect public places against new and emerging terrorist threats, including those posed by the use of unmanned aircraft systems. In addition, the 2018 UNOCT-CTED-INTERPOL *Compendium of good practices on critical infrastructure protection* was updated by UNOCT in collaboration with the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection.



**To strengthen international cooperation,** UNOCT established the **United Nations Global Network of Experts to Protect Vulnerable Targets**. The Network has become the largest and most active community of practitioners on the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform counting some 125 members from 43 Member States, international and regional organizations, the private sector, civil society, and academia. It provides an informal networking platform for experts, policymakers, and practitioners responsible for the safety and security of

vulnerable places and serves as a repository of global good practices and tools.



**To provide capacity-building,** UNOCT and its partners delivered:



These included, among others:

- **Four Member States** (Indonesia, Tajikistan, Togo, and Tunisia) received specialized assistance, which included **four in-depth consultations** to identify priorities and needs; **four tailored national action plans – or ‘roadmaps’** – on vulnerable targets protection; and **six specialized capacity-building activities** based on the roadmaps with dedicated sessions on human rights and gender considerations and vulnerable targets.

- **Six online events** were delivered as part of an innovative **Expert Briefing Series**, focusing on religious sites protection, legal aspects of critical infrastructure protection, tourism security, active shooters in major events, cyberattacks, and integrating a gender-responsive approach in vulnerable target security.
- **Eight regional and global activities** were held, including the six abovementioned briefings and two regional workshops delivered for Central Asia in partnership with OSCE, INTERPOL and CTED in November, and for Africa with the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT/CAERT) of the African Union in December.

On 10 November 2022, UNOCT and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain co-hosted in Madrid a high-level event for the official launch of the **“Project on Protecting Vulnerable Targets by Using Behavioural Insights to Strengthen Law Enforcement Capabilities”**.

This is the first joint initiative of UNOCT Programme Offices since their establishment: the Project is developed under the Global Programme on Vulnerable Targets Protection and implemented by the **UNOCT Programme Offices in Madrid, Rabat, and Doha/International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism**, all of which are funded by the State of Qatar as the main donor.

The hybrid event, which was attended by:



**150+** participants

**10** Ambassadors of different Member States

was opened by the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov (online), and by the Ambassador of Qatar to Spain, H.E. Abdulla bin Ibrahim Abdulrahman Sultan Al Hamar. After an inception phase in 2022 dedicated to research and technical study of the project approach, the Project will enter its implementation phase in 2023 subject to funding.



In all its activities and initiatives, the Programme ensured broad visibility and global outreach, underscoring the critical support of the State of Qatar. In 2022, the Programme published 33 tweets and 11 web stories, press releases and web pages, always referring to the generous funding of the State of Qatar. Furthermore, Qatar's diplomatic representatives, together with UNOCT's leadership, participated in all high-level events organized by the Programme. For example, H.E. Ambassador Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani opened the launch events of the United Nations Global Expert Network on 15 February and of the five thematic modules with a focus on "soft target" protection on 6 September. The Ambassador of Qatar to Spain, H.E. Abdulla bin Ibrahim Abdulrahman Sultan Al Hamar, delivered opening remarks in the high-level launch of the innovative project developed by the three UNOCT Programme Offices in Madrid, Rabat and Doha (BI Hub) in Madrid on 10 November. Thanks to Qatar's financial resources, the programme promoted multilingualism by making the five specialized tools available ([here](#)) in Arabic, French and Russian – in addition to English – and providing access to good practices in available national languages through its online libraries on the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform.

## Priorities for 2023

UNOCT will continue and expand its support to Member States to efficiently protect their facilities and public sites particularly vulnerable to terrorism. Building on the successful expansion of its funding base in 2023, the Programme will continue its resource mobilization efforts to multiply impact and ensure the sustainable delivery of technical assistance to existing and new beneficiary countries. The Programme will seek to further enhance its global outreach through the Global Expert Network, building online resource libraries, and organizing virtual expert briefings and in-person events at the regional level (subject to funding availability). Furthermore, UNOCT will explore opportunities for new formats of capacity-building by leveraging partnerships with national training centres and regional institutions and developing training curricula tailored to national contexts. Finally, UNOCT will further explore partnership opportunities with international and regional organizations such as GCTF, OSCE, AU-ACSRT/CAERT and EU, among others.

### 3.4

## GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON COUNTER-TERRORISM INVESTIGATIONS

The four-year Global Counter Terrorism Investigations Programme was launched in January 2021 and is delivered through UNOCT's Programme Offices in Rabat and Nairobi as well as a series of sub-projects. The Programme aims to enhance the capacities and capabilities of Member States in Africa to prevent, investigate, and counter terrorism and related organized crime, such as kidnap for ransom. It is funded by the State of Qatar, with co-funding from the UNPDF, the Government of Portugal, and the United Kingdom. During its first two-year lifecycle, the programme



has provided capacity-building assistance that includes the conduct of national consultations, production of National Action Plans, development of knowledge products, and delivery of trainings.

## Progress in 2022

In 2022, the Programme delivered six training events (95 days of training) to 625 participants, complemented by in-person and virtual mentoring when requested. Beneficiaries' feedback was then incorporated into further tailoring programme activities for Member States' specific needs.

Kenya benefitted from four weeks of training delivered between 28 March and 27 May in Nairobi and Mombasa, Kenya. The courses included PEACE (Preparation and Planning, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure and Evaluate model for investigative interviewing training) and Cognitive Interviewing, Advanced Interviewing, Senior Investigator, and Train-the-Trainer (ToT) courses. In addition, West Africa, in particular the Sahel region, benefitted from specialized training on counter-terrorism investigations jointly delivered with the UNOCT Programme Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa, in Rabat, Morocco. The training was delivered to law enforcement officials in Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo, and included three weeks of training at the foundational level (23 May-10 June), intermediate level (5-23 September), and advanced level (21 November-9 December).

UNOCT conducted two country missions to Benin and Senegal to discuss the integration and implementation of the specialized training on counter-terrorism investigations through their national training centres, setting the ground for the mentoring phase planned for 2023.

Additionally, under its countering kidnap for ransom pillar, the programme provided specialized training focused on managing and leading kidnap investigations and hostage negotiations. This included three weeks of training delivered in Accra, Ghana (25 April-12 May) and three weeks of training delivered in Abuja, Nigeria (12-29 September). The programme also delivered a three-week ToT

course certified by the United Nations Police (UNPOL) in Rabat, Morocco (24 October-14 November).

The Programme has undergone independent reviews by external gender and human rights experts. Given its technical nature, the Programme is expected to make a marginal contribution to promote gender equality, empower women and/or address women's specific needs, while integrating gender considerations and seeking gender parity in trainings and workshops. All recommendations, such as those related to broadening the HRDDP analysis, use of gender-disaggregated data, and the creation of mandatory training on human rights were incorporated into the delivery of the Programme's activities.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, the Programme will continue to deliver training through the UNOCT Programme Office in Rabat for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa and provide basic, intermediate, and advance level training on special investigations techniques in counter-terrorism. Subject to the availability of funding and expertise, the Programme also aims to offer basic and intermediate level special investigations course for interested law enforcement officials in Doha, Qatar, and the broader region.



UNOCT and UNPOL delivered a three-week in-person Train the Trainer course from 24 October to 11 November 2022 at the UNOCT Programme Office and Training Centre in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco. Photo/UNOCT

## GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM PROGRAMME ON AUTONOMOUS AND REMOTELY OPERATED SYSTEMS



UNODC's Global Counter-Terrorism Programme on Autonomous and Remotely Operated systems ("AROS Programme") was established in 2021 in order to combat the unique and emerging threat of regular consumer drones being used as lethal weapons. The acquisition, weaponization, and deployment of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) has enabled terrorists to plan, coordinate and launch a vast range of deadly and potentially disruptive attacks against civilians, soft targets, and critical infrastructure. The Programme therefore seeks to raise awareness on and promote the exchange of good practices and guidance related to AROS, enhance the capacity of Member States to counter terrorist threats related to AROS, and enhance the capacity of Member States to use AROS for non-lethal/non-kinetic purposes in order to enhance the preparedness of Member States to mitigate AROS-related threats, including UAS. It is supported by the State of Qatar with co-funding from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

### Progress in 2022

In 2022, the AROS Programme made substantial progress by expanding its professional networks, initiating the production of knowledge products, and developing and delivering specialized counter-UAS (c-UAS) training courses. Through these activities, the



Photo/UNODC

Programme helps ensure beneficiary countries integrate UAS, c-UAS and other systems into their national frameworks and develop necessary capacities to safeguard major investments from terrorism-related threats.

### Partnership with Conflict Armament Research:

The AROS Programme established a partnership with Conflict Armament Research (CAR) to launch a three-phase initiative to produce a global trend report on the acquisition, weaponization and deployment of UAS for terrorism-related purposes. Phase I of the initiative was successfully carried out in 2022 with the dissemination of an information gathering questionnaire to Member States, international organizations, and national entities. The questionnaire gathered 29

responses and CAR conducted over 10 private consultation interviews. The Programme also worked with CAR on Phase II of the initiative to hold technical consultations with Member States in 2023 to discuss global challenges, good practices, lessons learned, and priorities associated with UAS to inform the drafting of the global trend report expected to be published later in 2023 (Phase III).

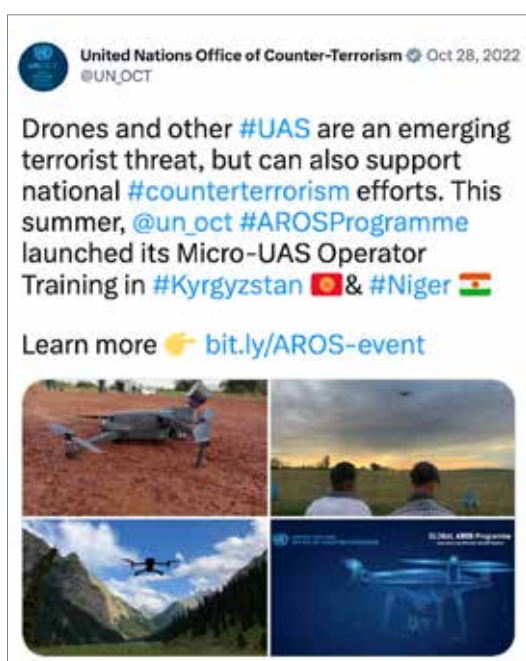
### AROS Programme Micro-UAS Operator Training Course:

UNOCT, in partnership with the United Nations Global Service Centre (UNGSC), developed an Operator Training Course, offering comprehensive guidance on the use and operation of UAS to support efforts aimed at preventing and countering terrorism-related activities, including international legislation, meteorology, maritime operations, night operations, overwatch, safety and security, and other key elements. In this regard, the AROS Programme delivered Micro-UAS courses in the Kyrgyz Republic from 3-12 August for 12 officials and from 15-24 August for another 13 officials from Customs Services, Border Services, State Security, and the Signals and Communications officials from the Ministry of Defence. Trainees operated Micro-UAS for a total of 2.5 hours each, before passing a

theoretical written exam and a practical flight assessment to earn their operator certificate. In addition, the Programme launched the first Micro-UAS Operator Course for Niger's Central Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime Service (SCLCT/CTO) under the Ministry of Interior's Director General of National Police (DGPN). The course was delivered to 13 officials from the SCLCT/CTO's special interventions, intelligence, and investigation units from 21-30 September.

### Priorities for 2023

In 2023, the AROS Programme will continue to deliver the **Micro-UAS Operator Training Course** to requesting Member States. In this regard, the Programme will expand its programme beneficiaries to include Togo and deliver a 10-day Micro-UAS operator training course to Togolese security officials in Lomé from 20 February to 7 March 2023. In terms of longer-term capacity-building on UAS and counter-UAS measures, the AROS Programme will offer additional Micro-UAS courses to Togo and Niger in 2023, including Advanced Micro/Mini-UAS Operator Training Course and ToT Course. Upon completion of capacity-building initiatives in 2023, the Programme will develop a **Model Standard Operating Procedures** on the integration of UAS in counter-terrorism operations to share with beneficiary countries. It will also develop several **Training Modules** in 2023 in the following areas: (i) Model curriculum on Micro-UAS operations for counter-terrorism related operations; (ii) Full motion/imagery analysis for UAS operations; (iii) CBRN/WMD detection for UAS operations; (iv) use of UAS for border security purposes; and (v) VIP Protection. And finally, the Programme, in partnership with CAR, will hold expert consultations with Member States on national, regional and global threats related to UAS, and finalize the **Global Trend Report** on "The Acquisition, Weaponization, and Deployment of Unmanned Aircraft Systems by non-State Actors for Terrorism-Related Purposes" for publication in 2023.





Funded by the State of Qatar, the UNPDF, and the Government of Portugal, the three-year Global Fusion Cells Programme was launched in January 2020 to strengthen Member States' National Interagency Coordination Mechanisms or fusion cells or centres. Since its inception, the Programme has supported Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Mozambique, Togo, Uganda, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). This support included capacity-building through national consultations and the consequent production of National Action Plans, study visits by leading national counter-terrorism centre or fusion centre experts, the development of knowledge products, as well as delivery of trainings.

### Progress in 2022

In 2022, the Programme produced evidence-based **National Action Plans** or **Roadmaps** for the six abovementioned African countries that ensured capacity-building activities directly responded to the beneficiaries' needs. The National Action Plans assessed current capabilities and included recommendations for enhancing relevant legislative and institutional frameworks, including as related to the mandate of national inter-agency coordination mechanisms, institutional setting, use of databases, and interconnectivity with local, national and international law enforcement

bodies and agencies to more effectively prevent and counter terrorism.

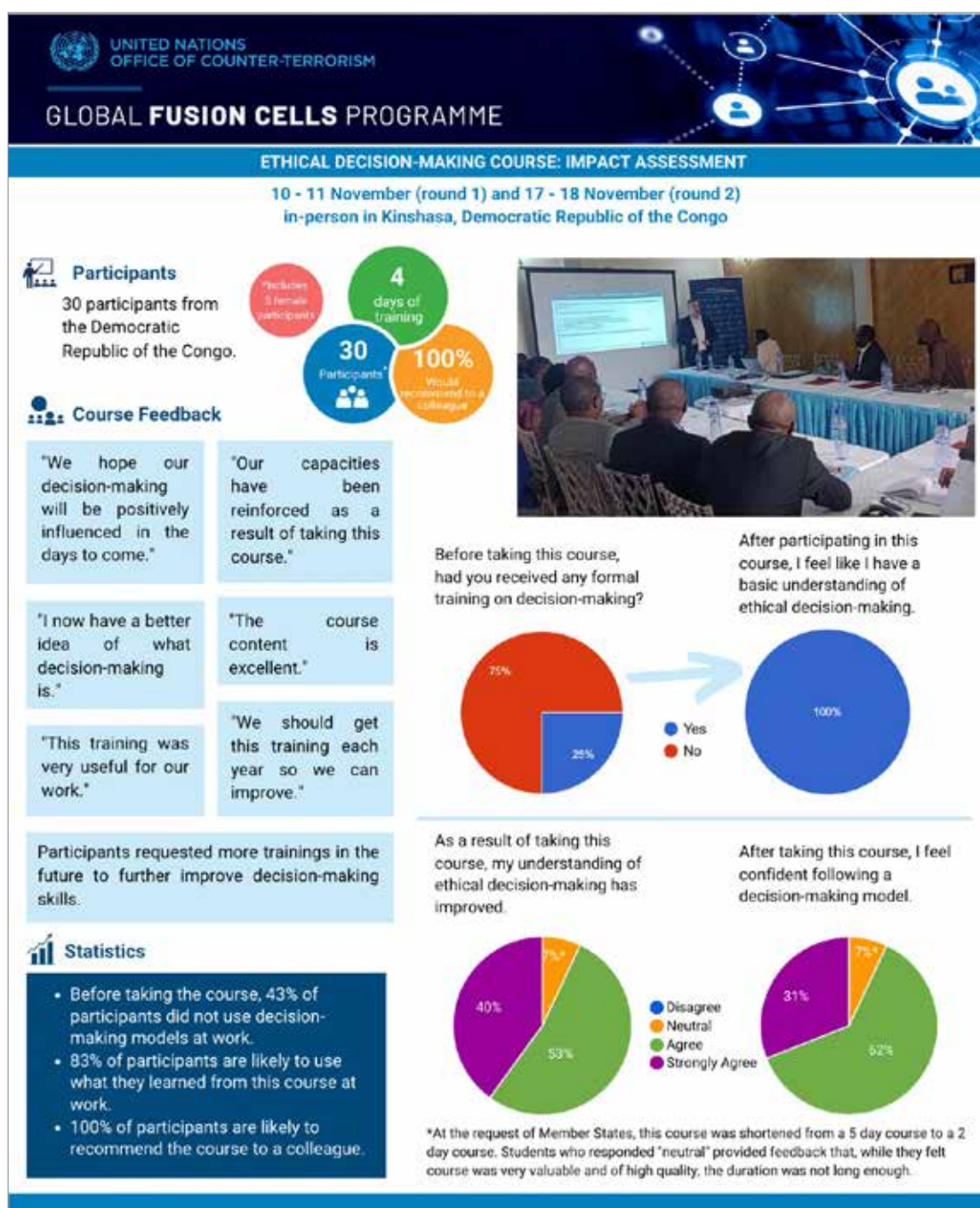
The Programme undertook **seven study visits** to leading global and national fusion or counter-terrorism centres mainly in Europe who shared with programme beneficiaries their experiences in developing and operationalizing their centres, including good practices and lessons learned.

Using its in-house expertise, in 2022, the Programme finalized the development of **10 knowledge products** and delivered a **13-week, 12-course portfolio of modular training** focused on strengthening Member States' analytical capacities, by turning trainees into competent analysts who are equipped to conduct analysis, produce national threat assessments, make ethical decisions, prepare and deliver briefings, gather information through questioning, write an intelligence report, gather and analyse open- and closed-source data to drive intelligence-led counter-terrorism investigations. Each knowledge product produced provided guidance drawn from international good practice and was translated into four United Nations languages (French, Spanish, Arabic, and Russian). The Programme, with the assistance of Member States' experts, launched its **Compendium of Good Practices and Related Guidelines on establishing and operating a fusion centre** in Marrakesh, Morocco on 24 June.

In addition, the Programme delivered **34 training events** (116 days of training) to **1,174 participants**. Beneficiaries' feedback was incorporated into further tailoring programme activities for Member States' specific needs. **In-person and virtual mentoring** was provided to beneficiaries when requested. Following the completion of each training, participants submitted a course feedback form containing self-evaluation questions.

These responses were then collated into individual impact assessments, an example of which is provided below.

The Programme promoted the intrinsic value of protecting and upholding human rights in counter-terrorism efforts, and ensured compliance with the HRDDP, including by engaging OHCHR, the United Nations Resident Coordinator Offices, and in-country



The Global Fusion Cells Programme delivered a one-week in-person Open-Source Investigations training course in Botswana for 18 participants from Botswana's Counter-Terrorism Analysis and Fusion Agency (CTAFA), 24-28 October 2022. Photo/UNOCT



human rights entities, prior to conducting desk research, collating, and analysing all available data, and creating a 30+ page Risk and Impact Assessment for each beneficiary. Furthermore, the Programme incorporated the suggestions of reviews conducted by independent gender and human rights experts in its programme document and activities and received a final evaluation by an independent expert. All recommendations made, such as those related to broadening the HRDDP analysis, use of gender-disaggregated data, and the creation of mandatory training on human rights were incorporated into the programme document and activities.

The programme's activities were covered in 18 news articles, as well as web stories of events or trainings the programme has held posted mainly on the UNOCT website. UNOCT Twitter (@UN\_OCT) posted 29 tweets about the programme and its activities in 2022. The programme has also been mentioned in several tweets by accounts of its beneficiaries and partners such as UNPOL.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, the programme will expand its partnerships to the General Directorate for Studies and Documentation (DGED) under



the Administration for National Defense of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (ABIN). Subject to the availability of funding, the programme aims to support as many new beneficiaries as possible in 2023, including 23 requesting African Member States, in establishing national inter-agency coordination mechanisms (or fusion cells or centres) and developing their analytical capabilities.

### 3.7.1 United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme

The United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme (“CT Travel”) is supported by the State of Qatar and co-funded by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, EU, the United States, Australia, Germany, Japan, Hungary, and the Republic of India.

CT Travel, led by UNOCT, seeks to build Member States capabilities to prevent, detect, investigate and bring to justice individuals suspected of terrorism or other serious crimes by using travel information, both advance passenger information (API) and passenger name record (PNR) data, to improve the use of international databases and enhance information exchange, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017) and 2482 (2019), international standards and recommended practices, including international human rights norms and standards. The Programme has global coverage and seeks to support all requesting Member States to enhance their detection capabilities.



CT Travel Interactive Training on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) Systems in Azerbaijan, Baku, 23 May 2022. Photo/UNOCT

The Programme helps beneficiaries establish PIUs that can analyse and process API and PNR data provided by the transport industry through the United Nations’ goTravel software system, based on solid, human rights-compliant legislation and regulations prepared with the Programme’s assistance. UNOCT implements the Programme in partnership with CTED, UNODC, ICAO, the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), INTERPOL, and IOM.

#### Progress in 2022

In 2022, CT Travel continued to attract interest from Member States and the rising number of beneficiary countries exemplifies this upward trend. As of 31 December 2022, a total of 60 Member States have officially joined the Programme since its launch in 2019, including 45 Member States plus the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS) on behalf of its 15 Member States. A total of 11 new beneficiaries joined the Programme in 2022: Algeria, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Guinea, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Pakistan, Paraguay, and Ukraine.

A major milestone achieved in 2022 was the establishment and inauguration of PIUs in three beneficiary Member States (Azerbaijan, Botswana and Norway). In addition, two Member States (Norway and Botswana) went live with the goTravel software solution and now have the operational and technical capabilities to collect and analyse passenger data. The Programme also initiated pre-

production of the software and deployment in a testing environment for 10 beneficiaries: CARICOM on behalf of its 15 Member States, plus Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, the Philippines, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Moldova, Mongolia, Namibia, and Sierra Leone; and provided technical support and expertise to deploy and install the UN goTravel software solution.

CT Travel conducted nine national consultations on API and PNR for Benin, Eswatini, France, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Moldova, Namibia, Niger, and Nigeria, bringing the total number of consultations conducted since the start of the Programme to 28 and leading to the development of 28 road maps.

Within the comprehensive, yet tailored capacity-building support and technical assistance provided under the programme's four key pillars, CT Travel provides legislative assistance to beneficiaries to help establish a legal framework to regulate the collection, transmission, use, retention, and sharing of passenger data in compliance with internationally recognized standards and human rights principles. In 2022, the Programme conducted legislative reviews of nine pieces of legislation from Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, France, Mongolia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Switzerland.

In 2022, CT Travel provided operational support to Member States to establish PIUs and

delivered training on the use of an intelligence-led risk-based approach to conduct risk assessments and implement appropriate targeting measures, in order to identify, detect and intercept terrorists and other serious criminals based on the systematic collection, analysis, use and sharing of passenger data. As part of the training strategy of the Programme, 30 awareness raising and specialized training courses for a total of 741 participants were delivered, based on the training syllabus developed in 2020, with a new module on maritime developed in 2021. The training courses were delivered for Cote d'Ivoire, South Africa, Norway, Azerbaijan, Ghana, Moldova, Philippines, Togo, Moldova, Botswana, Namibia, Mongolia, and SCO RATS.

The global coverage of the Programme, combined with the requirement of beneficiaries to formally commit to the programme and formalize cooperation via the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) and MoA, ensure that CT Travel provides long-term, sustainable support towards enhancing beneficiaries' detection capacities. In 2022, CT Travel concluded six MoUs with Sierra Leone, Azerbaijan, Norway, the Gambia, Togo, and Moldova. The Programme also concluded two MoAs with Norway and Mongolia, three MoAs with its implementing partners, IOM, ICAO, and INTERPOL, as well as two Arrangements on Cooperation (AoC) with OSCE and the World Customs Organization (WCO).



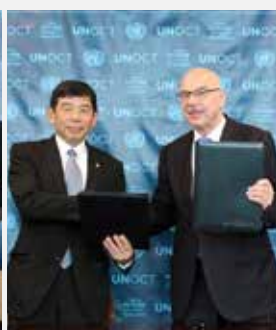
MoA Signing with IOM,  
Mr. Simon Deignan and  
Ms. Monica Goracci,  
New York/Geneva,  
28 January 2022



AoC Signing with ICAO,  
Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar,  
New York,  
11 February 2022



MoA Signing with OSCE,  
Ms Helga Schmid,  
New York,  
20 September 2022



AoC Signing with WCO,  
Dr. Kunio Mikuriya,  
New York,  
22 September 2022

Finally, to further support regional cooperation and sustainability of the Programme, CT Travel launched and supported the establishment of one new regional IWG on API and PNR for Southern Africa, in addition to IWGs already established for Eastern Europe, in cooperation with OSCE, and for Western Africa.

In 2022, the Programme strengthened its efforts to mainstream human rights in programme implementation through the adoption of a five-step process to ensure human rights considerations are incorporated from initial engagement with a beneficiary to different stages of assistance. In compliance with HRDDP, the Programme is committed to ensuring that no technical assistance is provided to a Member State where there are substantial grounds indicating a risk of human rights violations. Following national consultations, an implementation roadmap is developed for the beneficiary Member State, providing a step-by-step guide for the needed actions to implement an API and PNR system that is fully compliant with international standards, including in relation to the rule of law and human rights. When the roadmap is transmitted to a beneficiary Member State, written confirmation of its commitment to implement the recommendations, formulated in line with human rights standards, is required and included in an MoU jointly signed by UNOCT and the beneficiary. In addition, human rights safeguards, primarily focused on the right to privacy and the protection of personal data, are integrated in the provision of legal advice and legislative assistance. These are incorporated into the 'recommended legal provisions on the collection, processing, use, transfer, retention and protection of API and PNR data' developed by UNODC to support Member States' efforts to regulate API and PNR in accordance with international standards and human rights. The checks and balances embedded within the national roadmaps, normative frameworks, institution-building support and capacity-building training activities and the phased approach towards implementation all work to ensure that



MoU Signing with Sierra Leone, Ms. Christine Bradley and Mr. Abdullah Caulker, Freetown, 12 May 2022



MoU and MoA Signing with Norway, Mr. Bjørn Eirik Vandvik, and Mr. Claes Lyth Walsø, New York / Oslo, 7 July 2022



MoU Signing with The Gambia, Honorable Mr. Seyaka Sonko, New York, 6 September 2022



MoU Signing with Togo, Mr. Affoh Atcha-Dedji, New York/Lome, 7 September 2022



MoU Signing with the Republic of Moldova, Ambassador Leucă, New York, 17 November 2022

human rights safeguards are in place before the Programme's software solution goTravel may be transferred to beneficiary Member States. The goTravel solution offers technical safeguards that are compliant with human rights, privacy, and data protection principles. These functionalities are configured and customized jointly by the CT Travel team and the local technical task force of IT experts in line with national legal provisions and international requirements on privacy and data protection.

Throughout the year, the Programme continued close dialogue and engagement with key human rights entities, including national human rights institutions, the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism, and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy. It also hired an expert to support the further development of the programme's human rights framework, the preparation of a guide for beneficiaries to perform Human Rights and Privacy Impact Assessment, and the elaboration of a longer-term post-deployment monitoring strategy.

## Priorities for 2023

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In 2023, CT Travel will continue to explore the development of strategic partnerships with regional organizations, the private sector, and academia to leverage additional expertise. The Programme will continue to promote the exchange of information at national, regional, and international levels, and will launch additional regional IWGs in the Middle East and North Africa and Southeast Asia with secretariat and logistical support of regional organizations. CT Travel will work to expand its scope to support comprehensive border management that integrates API and PNR for air, maritime, rail and road/bus travel and will continue its technical development, including compatibility with external solutions, incorporation of biometrics, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. The Programme will also finalize a comprehensive long-term strategy to further enhance human rights considerations as an integral part of the overall assistance package while also ensuring safeguards and monitoring mechanisms are in place once the software is donated.

## 3.7.2 Global Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security

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The United Nations Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security ("TAM Programme") works with Member States to establish a national interagency operational framework which effectively links the current threat picture to aviation security decisions and response measures. It is a three-year programme (2021-2023), which is supported by the State of Qatar, the United States, and Hungary. Led by UNOCT, in partnership with ICAO and the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS), the TAM Programme also integrates expertise from

CTED, INTERPOL, and UNODC in line with an "All-of-UN" approach.

The TAM Programme provides Member States with a customized and practical toolbox to strengthen national capacity to identify, record and assess threat inputs to inform the timely implementation of measures that prevent aviation terrorism. Through the Programme, Member States strengthen their capability to anticipate and mitigate risks to civil aviation by enhancing interagency cooperation and applying an intelligence-driven approach.

Members of the Philippines Integrated Project Team during the September training session in Botswana for 18 participants from Botswana's Counter-Terrorism Analysis and Fusion Agency (CTAFA), 24-28 October 2022. Photo/UNOCT



Under its current first phase of implementation, the TAM Programme is supporting five Member States in Africa and Southeast Asia, namely, Botswana, Morocco, Nigeria, Philippines, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

As the first Member State to complete the implementation of the TAM Programme, Botswana's cooperation with the TAM Programme has served as an opportunity to apply innovative approaches for national co-operation on terrorist threats to civil aviation.

## Progress in 2022

In 2022, UNOCT and ICAO successfully completed the delivery of all programmatic objectives with the Government of **Botswana** (February); implemented planned activities with the Government of the **Philippines**, including national technical consultations (April-May), finalization of the implementation plan (August-September), and delivery of training and technical assistance (September to December); delivered the first training and technical assistance courses for the Federal Government of **Nigeria** (October); conducted needs consultations with **Viet Nam** (May and November); and engaged with the Kingdom of **Morocco** to begin establishing the framework for cooperation under the TAM Programme (June).



UNOCT Chief of Countering Terrorist Travel Section, Ms. Christine Bradley, hands over the final report to Botswana's Senior Leadership at the Close-out event. Photo/UNOCT

Botswana has successfully repositioned its counter-terrorism and aviation security services in pursuit of a risk-based protection of its civil aviation assets. As a result of the Botswana's participation in the TAM Programme, the Member State was effectively able to demonstrate enhanced capacity to coordinate on threats to aviation terrorism. At the [close-out ceremony](#) on 24 February, Botswana confirmed implementation of the TAM Programme's recommendations, which included codifying the newly drafted standard operating procedures (SOP) for national

information exchange and institutionalizing the presence of the Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana within the newly established Counter-Terrorism Analysis and Fusion Agency.

In August, Botswana reached out to share that its former participants in the TAM Programme conducted an airport tour in line with the SOP that it drafted with support from UNOCT and ICAO personnel. UNOCT continues to receive positive feedback on the quality of its deliveries and real-world results.



Former TAM Programme participants conducting airport tour in line with SOP on national information exchange on threats to civil aviation. Photo/UNOCT

In 2022, UNOCT and ICAO developed and refined the Programme's methodology, establishing an in-house suite of training and technical assistance materials (Toolbox) for delivery to beneficiary Member States. The Programme's Toolbox also integrates expertise from external operational-level practitioners around the world.

The TAM Programme also prioritized expanding Member State access to assistance through briefings on available products, processes, and best practices at international and regional conferences, which has increased Member States' understanding

and awareness on the need for greater interagency coordination to address threats and risks to civil aviation.

For Member States benefitting from the TAM Programme, the support received will contribute to establishing new national interagency infrastructure and frameworks to facilitate information exchanges on threats to civil aviation, as well as adopting a forward-leaning intelligence-based approach to terrorist threat assessments. Since its launch in September 2021, additional Member States in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Europe have expressed interest in joining the Programme

and accessing the comprehensive assistance that is available. The Programme's ability to deliver requested assistance will depend on the availability of funding.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, UNOCT and its partners will complete implementation with the Programme's second beneficiary Member State, the Philippines; finalize the delivery of all planned technical assistance as agreed upon in respective Implementation Plans with Nigeria and Viet Nam; operationalize the new case

study approach with Morocco; and convene a regional workshop to expand foundational knowledge and identify technical assistance needs with interested Member States.

In December 2023, the Programme will complete its first phase and transition into a second phase of implementation. To enable a seamless transition, the Programme has initiated fact-finding discussions with potential beneficiary Member States and has begun to identify areas where it can expand the support available to Member States to continue to address new and emerging threats to civil aviation in the years to come.

## 3.8

## GLOBAL VICTIMS OF TERRORISM SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The victims of terrorism agenda is a key priority embedded in all UNOCT efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism and uphold human rights. The Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme ("VoT Programme") aims to show solidarity with victims of terrorism, raise awareness of their rights and needs, and strengthen the capacity of Member States and civil society organizations to advance victims' rights and needs. The Programme also advocates for stronger mechanisms to provide practical resources for victims, to raise their voices, and to harness their role in preventing and countering violent extremism. The VoT Programme also ensures coordination and supports policymaking and sharing of good practices and lessons learned among Member States, United Nations entities, and civil society on victims of terrorism issues. It is funded by the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Spain, and the United States.

## Progress in 2022

Throughout 2022, the VoT Programme achieved several objectives focused on its four complementary priority areas, which are underpinned by its commitment to human rights and gender mainstreaming. These priority areas are:

1. solidarity, outreach and advocacy
2. policy and coordination
3. technical assistance and capacity-building
4. communication and visibility

### PRIORITY AREA 1:

#### **Solidarity, Outreach and Advocacy**

To stand in solidarity with victims of terrorism and promote their rights among Member States, UN entities, and civil society through outreach and advocacy activities



### **Commemoration of the Fifth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism**

Remembrance of, and paying tribute to, victims of terrorism play a central role in demonstrating that the status of victims is respected and recognized. The International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism serves this purpose, commemorating and upholding the dignity of victims and highlighting the importance of global solidarity in ensuring that victims and survivors are not forgotten.



In observance of the [fifth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism](#), UNOCT held a high-level pre-recorded event on “Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Memories” on 21 August. Opened by the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, the event featured remarks by the two co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, Iraq and Spain, testimonies from four victims of terrorism from around the world and closing remarks by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov. The event generated more than 2,000 viewers and recorded 8,000 visits to the United Nations International Day website as well as to the UNOCT and the Victims of Terrorism Support Portal sites. It ensured that victims and survivors of terrorism are recognized and commemorated and enabled the international community to show its solidarity.

### **The Victims of Terrorism Support Portal as a knowledge tool for Member States, victims of terrorism, and victims’ associations**

All events held in 2022 were promoted through the Victims of Terrorism Support Portal. This included the launch of the “Memories” campaign in Málaga (see below), as well as the campaign’s short documentaries and individual films; the high-level pre-recorded event for the International Day on Remembrance and Tribute to Victims of Terrorism; and the promotional brochures related to the programme. The Portal recorded 228,973 page views in 2022 compared to 156,735 page views in 2021.

## **PRIORITY AREA 2:**

### **Policy and Coordination**

To promote and establish policies, good practices, and efforts of Member States, UN entities, and civil society on victims of terrorism issues

## Policy and strategic support to the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism



UNOCT-UNCCT supported the organization of the third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism held on 22 September, on the margins of the high-level 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Ministerial meeting discussed the establishment of a voluntary fund in support of victims of terrorism, as called for in the Secretary-General's report on the Progress made by the United Nations system in supporting Member States in assisting victims of terrorism (A/74/790). To inform discussions on the voluntary fund, the VoT Programme prepared a briefing paper based on best practices that outlined potential scope and governance structures. Based on the outcomes of the Ministerial meeting and existing best practice, the VoT Programme initiated the drafting of a Terms of Reference for the fund for further discussion by the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism.

## PRIORITY AREA 3:

### Technical Assistance and Capacity-Building

To enhance knowledge, understanding and capacities of Member States, UN entities, and civil society to uphold the rights and support the needs of victims of terrorism

### Launch of the Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism (MLP)



On 4 February, UNOCT, in collaboration with UNODC and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), launched the [Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism](#) (MLP). The main objective of the MLP is to support Member States to ensure equal treatment between all victims of terrorism and to address their needs as a result of the harm suffered. This guidance is based on international normative frameworks pertaining to victims of crimes, gross human rights violations, and serious violations of international humanitarian law; and it aims to serve as a model for the review of existing laws and procedures related to victims of terrorism or to develop legislation where no legislation exists. The MLP offers guidance on the implementation of laws and procedures to support adaptation in different countries and provides suggestions for the formulation of provisions based on various legal systems.

The MLP was developed in close cooperation with the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism based in Doha and with other United Nations entities, victims of terrorism, civil society organizations, and regional parliamentary organizations,



such as the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The MLP will be used to deliver capacity-building activities to requesting Member States, as the VoT Programme rolls out its technical assistance programme throughout 2023 and 2024.

#### **Victims of terrorism sensitization training for UNOCT staff**

With the aim of enhancing UNOCT staff capacities to work sensitively with victims of terrorism, the VoT Programme organized two training courses in June to ensure that UNOCT staff had the tools and skills to interact with victims during the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism. The first course, delivered on 1 and 8 June, introduced the Programme's victim engagement process, the specific needs of victims of terrorism, and how to work in a victim-centric way. The second course held on 21-22 June provided an in-depth look at trauma causes and reactions, as well as the use of well-being tools and trauma-informed/resilience-focused approaches in support of

victims of terrorism. Both courses increased the knowledge and understanding of UNOCT staff on victims of terrorism and provided useful guidance on how to sensitively interact with them.

#### **PRIORITY AREA 4:**

##### **Communications and Visibility**

To enhance the capacity of victims of terrorism to develop and communicate their key messages through multimedia training and products, including on preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism

#### **Launch of the "Memories" campaign at the 'Victims and Survivors of Terrorism' session of the United Nations High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism in Málaga, Spain**

On 11 May, the VoT Programme launched its landmark audio-visual and photographic "Memories" campaign in Málaga, Spain, at the "Victims and Survivors of Terrorism" session



of the United Nations High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism. The campaign shares the memories of eight victims of terrorism from around the world. The campaign also highlights the importance of and the personal meaning tied to significant physical objects that supported them through their rehabilitation process. Through these objects, victims are able to share their memories and emotions in a simple but powerful way to enable audiences to relate to them, feel their loss, and better understand the importance of remembering and paying tribute to victims of terrorism.

### ***"Memories" Campaign: film and exhibition at the United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism***

An extended version of the "Memories" campaign was shown during the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism at UN Headquarters in September 2022. The expanded version of the campaign portrays 22 victims of terrorism through a short film and photographic exhibition. The film of the **"Memories"** campaign was premiered during a dedicated session at the Global Congress, which also included live testimonials from two victims of terrorism featured in the film, commentary from the filmmaker, and a discussion on the importance of memories for victims. A life-size photographic exhibition with QR codes that viewers could scan to watch linked videos of each individual's story was also installed at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 September.



In all its activities, the VoT Programme ensured **gender mainstreaming**, in line with the UNOCT Gender Mainstreaming Policy, by incorporating gender-sensitive language and addressing context-specific and gender-related considerations in documents and communications; conducting consultations, interviews and meetings in gender-enabling environments where women and girls feel comfortable speaking about their experiences; ensuring gender parity in consultations with women-led civil society organizations and gender experts; ensuring gender equal opportunities of participation in all events; and promoting expedient, inclusive and gender-sensitive manners of research, data collection and interaction in capacity-building activities.



The VoT Programme integrates key aspects of **human rights** in all its work that is designed through a human rights lens.

For example, the MLP is firmly grounded in international human rights norms and standards, and as such, the MLPs are designed to improve victims' awareness of their human rights and access to support that effectively meets their needs at the national level. The first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism was convened under the theme "Advancing the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism", with human rights considerations placed front and centre in the development of the Congress themes and sessions. The Global Congress agenda included the human rights-based themes of recognition and remembrance measures; protecting the right to privacy of victims of terrorism; protecting against threats to physical and psychological integrity; rehabilitation, assistance and support; addressing the rights and needs of victims of terrorism with specific needs, including children and youth victims of terrorism and cross-border victims of terrorism; the importance of access to justice for victims of terrorism and safe participation of victims of terrorism in criminal justice

processes; and reparations (compensation and restitution).

The VoT Programme uses a rights-based and victim-centric approach to ensure that victims are engaged in activities in a manner that respects their dignity and does not negatively impact their access to rights and protections at the national or international level. The programme employs due diligence mechanisms in engagement with victims of terrorism, including training all staff in victim sensitization issues, and a support process that includes welfare check-ups, preparation and follow-up after participation. During these meetings, victims are asked to consider the benefits, challenges and risks of participation, including self-assessments of security issues, and potential for any detrimental impact from participation in a public forum (such as reactions on social media), in order to ensure that victims' engagement in any UNOCT activity is grounded in informed consent.



In terms of **risks and challenges** in implementation, a comprehensive risk management matrix – which outlines and defines possible

risks, alongside mitigation measures and the identification of the risk owner – was developed by the VoT Programme. Risks across seven focus areas – including strategic, governance, operations, financial, compliance, human rights, and gender mainstreaming – were addressed, and the VoT Programme updates the matrix on a regular basis.

Particular risks to the successful implementation of activities by the VoT Programme include the lack of institutional capacity or political will by Member States to participate in VoT Programme's events, capacity-building workshops and networking opportunities, or to implement initiatives in support of victims of terrorism at the national level. This risk is mitigated through regular communication with Member States, including consistent follow-up

support to embed learning; strategic messaging regarding the benefits of comprehensive VoT approaches; and the advance provision of information ahead of events, trainings, and capacity-building programming. In addition, dedicated assistance is available, upon request, in the areas of legislation and national comprehensive assistance plans for Member States who wish to advance their knowledge and produce tangible outcomes in those fields.

The VoT Programme's approach to monitoring and evaluation ensures that lessons learned through implementation are captured in real-time and that these reflections and evaluations in turn influence future programming. A logical framework is created for each project, which is based on and provides inputs to the overall VoT Programme logical framework. Evaluation is carried out at the end of the project lifecycle, and this data will in turn be utilized in the evaluation of the VoT Programme at the end of its current lifecycle.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, the VoT Programme will continue to work to provide support to Member States, victims of terrorism, victims associations, and other partners through the implementation of the MLP pilot project, the commemoration of the sixth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, the preparation of the 2024 International Conference of Victims of Terrorism to be held in Spain; the launch of the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VOTAN); and the finalization of two knowledge/capacity-building products: the *Guidelines and Principles for Civil Society Organizations to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism in Asia-Pacific*; and a general handbook for Member States on good practices to support victims of terrorism.

### 3.9

## SPIB 'SURGE CAPACITY'

The UNOCT 'surge capacity' was established in 2021 within the Special Projects Section of SPIB supported by the State of Qatar and co-funding from France. It provides rapid response and tailored projects to support Member States requesting technical assistance when facing an increasing terrorist threat or a political crisis affecting the threat landscape.

### Progress in 2022

The surge capacity participated in the implementation mechanism of the *United Nations Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes region*. In cooperation with the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes, it co-organized on 5-6 October in Nairobi a regional expert meeting to develop a shared understanding of the terrorist threat among United Nations field entities and mobilize and coordinate assistance to Member States in the region. It provided advice to the Secretariat of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) on the development of a Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The **Democratic Republic of the Congo** is facing an increasing terrorist threat posed by the Daesh-affiliated Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). The surge capacity liaised with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to coordinate tailored assistance to the Congolese authorities in the areas of counter-terrorism strategy development, counter-terrorism legislation, and inter-agency coordination. It facilitated the delivery of a first two-week training course for the staff of the National Committee for the Coordination of the Fight against Terrorism.



In **West Africa**, Togo faced its first deadly terrorist attacks in May and July with cross-border incursions from Burkina Faso. The surge capacity liaised with Togolese authorities to

identify priority technical assistance needs and facilitated the request for assistance through UNOCT Fusion Cells and AROS Programmes. It supported the delivery of the first two-week training courses in Lomé to strengthen threat analysis and inter-agency coordination.



## Priorities for 2023

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the surge capacity will implement a tailored project funded by France to strengthen the capacity of Congolese civilian counter-terrorism authorities. As the Security Council reiterated its concern over the links between the ADF and terrorist networks, the surge capacity will closely coordinate with MONUSCO in line with

its renewed mandate through Security Council resolution 2666 (2022) and exit strategy.

In the **Great Lakes region**, the surge capacity will further coordinate with the Office of the Special Envoy to mobilize resources and assistance and strengthen regional cooperation.

## 4 INTERNATIONAL HUB ON BEHAVIOURAL INSIGHTS TO COUNTER TERRORISM



In 2022, UNOCT continued its close cooperation with the State of Qatar in implementing innovative solutions in countering radicalization and terrorism, in line with the Secretary-General's guidance encouraging the systematic application of behavioural science to enhance the United Nations' mandate delivery and programme implementation.

The International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism ("BI Hub") was established as a UNOCT Programme Office in Doha through an Agreement signed between UNOCT and the State of Qatar in December 2019, followed by a contribution agreement signed in December 2020. Two years since its launch, and through the strong political, financial and technical support of the State of Qatar, the BI Hub is fully operational and contributes towards integrating behavioural insights to enhance understanding of the risk and resilience factors towards violent extremism, and to strengthen the effectiveness of the policy, coordination and capacity-building support that UNOCT provides to Member States, regional organizations and other actors.

Although extremism and terrorism are global threats, prevention of radicalization requires local and tailored solutions. The BI Hub promotes the context-specific application of behavioural insights to inform policy and improve results-based delivery in the context of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. In doing so, the BI Hub, operating under PKMCB, works closely with other parts of UNOCT and its global programmes to advance the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its seventh review resolution. Ultimately, this behavioural approach towards programming and policy development will contribute to the United Nations becoming more efficient and innovative as we move forward into the 21st century.

### Progress in 2022

Accomplishments and lessons learned in 2022 have helped to firmly position the BI Hub as a global platform that connects knowledge with practice – experts with practitioners, and academics with programme and project managers working on the ground. Throughout the reporting period, the BI Hub facilitated

greater collaboration between different experts and sectors, while also demonstrating its ability to deliver technical assistance in an effective, efficient, and client-oriented manner.

### Coordination, coherence, and common action

During the reporting period, and consistent with its outreach and partnership strategy, the BI Hub became an active member of several United Nations systems working groups and advisory bodies specialized in the design and implementation of innovative solutions. The BI Hub collaborated with the UN Behavioural Science Group of the United Nations Innovation Network to support efforts that foster the application of behavioural science across programmes and policies, by promoting awareness, providing learning opportunities, and encouraging exchange and collaboration among United Nations entities. The Hub participated in the 2022 United Nations Behavioural Science Week (6-10 June) coordinated by the United Nations Behavioural Science Group that involved 18 United Nations entities and included more than 20 webinars on the application of BI to the policy and programming work of the United Nations. On 7 June, UNOCT, together with DPPA, co-hosted a panel discussion on how behavioural science is being applied to advance the United Nations' peace and security agenda through addressing issues such as positive deviance, protective factors, and survivorship bias. The BI Hub also participated in the meetings of the Counter-Terrorism Compact working groups where it presented the potential application and added value of BI in given contexts.

The BI Hub also joined forces with the UNOCT Programme Offices in Rabat and Madrid to design and implement a joint behavioural insights project for the protection of vulnerable targets and critical infrastructure. The 18-month project seeks to: **a)** build the capacities of law enforcement and security officials of requesting Member States to make use of the innovative approaches offered by behavioural science to strengthen prevention and crisis

management in "soft targets" contexts such as sports and recreational venues; **b)** have beneficiaries recognize behavioural insights as an important tool in analysing, designing and implementing solutions for the protection of vulnerable targets; and **c)** contribute to the development of cooperative approaches with the international community including through public-private partnerships to strengthen Member States' efforts to protect vulnerable targets from terrorist attacks. Specifically, the BI Hub will lead the development of the training programme/curriculum and training of law enforcement officers to become trainers on the application of BI tools to protect vulnerable targets against terrorist attacks. Following this pilot phase, the three Programme Offices will consider the development of the continuation of the project, based on results achieved and lessons identified, as well as partners and beneficiaries' interest and feedback.

### Engagement with academia and think tanks

To further promote the behavioural insights approach, the BI Hub finalized MoUs with the Doha-based Hamad Bin Khalifa University and the OSCE Academy. These MoUs are a prelude to building a broad network of organizations to facilitate the implementation of the BI4CT Global Programme – the second phase of the BI programme to be initiated in 2023.

On 29 March, the BI Hub, in cooperation with UNOCT's Global PCVE Programme, organized the first [Global Youth Town Hall](#) on the theme **"Together, Building a Future Without Terrorism"** at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Doha. The hybrid event was attended by over 50 in-person participants from Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Georgetown University and Northwestern University in Qatar, and provided a platform for students and youth leaders to discuss individual, contextual and structural factors affecting violent extremist action. The Town Hall featured remarks from Under-Secretary-General Voronkov; Dr. Leslie A. Pal, Founding Dean of the College of Public Policy, the Hamad Bin Khalifa University; H.E.

Global Youth Town Hall provided an opportunity for young leaders from around the world to address the issue of radicalization to violent extremism and share their priorities for building a future without terrorism. Photo/UNOCT



Dr. Majed Al-Ansari, the Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and H.E. Ambassador Agustín Santos Maraver, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Spain to the United Nations. During

the youth-centric dialogue, young speakers expressed their thoughts on inclusion in PVE policymaking, gaming, hate speech and radicalization, and participated in a Question & Answer session with Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General Mr. Gregorian.



Global Youth Town Hall, 29 March 2022. Photo and video image/UNOCT

**(Above)** During the Town Hall interactive discussions

**(Right)** Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, Mr. Raffi Gregorian (left) and Ms. Maryam Al-Thani, student at Georgetown University in Qatar and moderator



## Research and capacity-building

2022 was a year of strengthened and intensified implementation of the global BI programme. The Hub continued to serve practitioners and researchers with knowledge and information about recent research funding opportunities and good practices that can help create opportunities to apply BI to CT/PCVE programming and policy development in different contexts, while building its own capacity and expert and partner base.

Over the past year, the BI Hub organized **geographically focused workshops** dedicated to Europe, Central Asia, and the Middle East, attended by a total of 120 policymakers, practitioners and experts working in the BI and CT sphere. These workshops facilitated knowledge sharing and the exchange of good practices on the application of behavioural insights as a new approach to prevent violent extremism in each geographical context. In particular, they focused on various BI instruments and their potential benefits for understanding the drivers of radicalization in selected communities, enabling targeted counter-radicalization and counter-terrorism, as well as for developing and implementing response programmes and interventions aimed at strengthening resilience to extremism among vulnerable groups.

As an outcome of the workshop for Central Asia, the BI Hub, in cooperation with local organizations from Central Asia, developed a programme outline for capacity-building assessment and support for communities experiencing significant numbers of complex cases and gaps in aiding returnees and their reintegration. Through programmatic interventions in Central Asian countries, host communities will be prepared to absorb these returnees in such a way that they become contributing members of society. The outcome of the workshop for the Middle East was the development of a project proposal on how to address recidivism, reintegration and rehabilitation in refugee camps in Iraq. In response, the Hub developed an evidence-based programme, premised upon eight validated mindfulness practices for easy use of practitioners, with a monitoring and evaluation module, for delivery using a train-the-trainer modality. Through the project in Iraq, the Hub will help prepare potential returnees to return to their countries of origin. As part of a holistic and comprehensive approach to peace and security, the BI Hub has been a catalyst in developing and implementing behaviourally-informed interventions to support the returnees' journey.



Regional workshop on the application of behavioural insights in PCVE programming and on the implementation of national PCVE strategies and action plans on building resilience for Middle East and North Africa countries, Dead Sea, Jordan, 3-4 October 2022. Photo/UNOCT

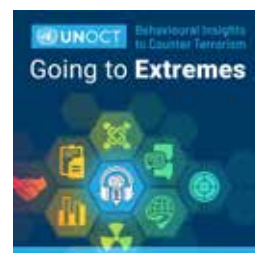


The BI Hub designed its **first knowledge product**, namely “**Developing a Behavioural Insights Approach to Fostering Resilience in Preventing and Countering Terrorism**”. This guidance note provides step-by-step guidance on how to foster resilience for preventing and countering violent extremism through the application of behavioural insights into programming. The guidance paper will be launched during the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) that will take place in Doha, Qatar in March 2023.

To facilitate the incorporation of the latest knowledge into programmes on preventing and countering violent extremism, the BI Hub developed a **BI4CT Knowledge Bank** to be hosted in an appropriate digital platform in 2023. This knowledge bank catalogues and describes a variety of behavioural insights-informed monitoring and evaluation

practices in a non-technical format for ease of consumption by programme designers and practitioners.

The BI Hub also developed the very first **podcast series** called “**Going to Extremes**” that brings together experts and decisionmakers from around the world to discuss solutions to preventing and countering violent extremism through behavioural perspectives based on latest research. The podcast is an innovative knowledge product aiming to bridge the gap between the theoretical and practical application of behavioural insights to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. It comprises a number of seasons each consisting of several episodes dedicated to a specific topic. The first season is related to the trajectory that an individual often takes in becoming radicalized and covers the phases of attraction, engagement, participation, dis-engagement, and reintegration. The podcast is available for download and subscription via all major podcast platforms and on the [UNOCT website](#).



In 2022, the BI Hub contributed to a number of activities of the broader UNOCT agenda including several high-level events undertaken by the Office. The BI Hub also delivered a **Side Event during the Málaga High-Level Conference titled “Fostering Resilience Through a Behavioural Insights Approach”** in May, and a **Side Event on the margins of the Dushanbe High-Level Conference in October** which introduced behavioural techniques for border management and security.

On 2 November, the BI Hub, in partnership with the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations, organized a hybrid **Interactive Briefing for Member States** in New York on the progress made by the International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism since its establishment and way forward. The meeting was attended by several Counter-Terrorism Compact members, including DPPA, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General Rule of Law Unit, and UNDP, alongside representatives of Member States,

civil society, academia, and behavioural science experts. The meeting discussed how behavioural insights can be used to address the complex phenomenon of terrorism. It also highlighted the behavioural roots of vulnerabilities leading to radicalization and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and how this threat can be reduced through behaviorally informed interventions. The BI Hub also presented its vision for the better deployment of behavioural insights for countering terrorism as a tool for planning, monitoring and evaluation.

In 2022, the BI Hub commenced work on the development of a **Behavioral Insights Academy (“BI4CT Academy”)** – a learning platform for the practical application of behavioral sciences in countering terrorism and violent extremism to be launched in 2023. The Academy will provide capacity-building and technical support to all beneficiaries of the BI Hub, including United Nations agencies and staff, Member States, civil society



H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations (left); Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT (middle); Ms. Aynabat Atayeva, Chief of International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism (right), at the Interactive Briefing for Member States, 2 November 2022. Photo/UNOCT

representatives, and other relevant actors interested in the practical implementation of BI in their work in preventing terrorism and radicalization.



In December, the BI Hub, in cooperation with the UNOCT Programme Office in Rabat for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa, organized **an international workshop with 40 expert trainers specializing in diverse disciplines relevant to the field of behavioural insights**. The workshop provided an opportunity to exchange views on substantive and technical questions critical to capacity-building in the field of BI4CT, including definitions, frameworks, pedagogical approaches, and resilience-building methodologies, and to discuss the creation of a robust training curriculum and modalities for building practitioners' capacity on the intersection of behavioural insights and PCVE. Participants discussed a set of principles to form the basis of the curriculum for the upcoming flagship initiative, the BI4CT Academy.

In 2022, discussions continued between the Doha BI Hub and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar regarding the relocation of the BI Programme Office to the United Nations House, which is expected to take place in March 2023. In addition, the BI Hub established and maintained constructive dialogue and strong working relationship with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including its relevant departments (Protocol, International Cooperation, Public Information) in the implementation of its programmatic activities.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, with the first stage of its programme cycle coming to an end, the BI Hub will focus on consolidating the use of **BI4CT** as a distinct capability and approach in the field of preventing and countering violent extremism. In this context, the BI Hub will develop and publish a **Behavioural Insights for Counter-Terrorism Strategy** which will set out the relationship between BI and counter-terrorism and the place of the BI Hub in relation to relevant initiatives undertaken by other institutions. It will continue to identify, test and validate new behavioural insights tools across a range of contexts, and subsequently embed them in capacity-building, while encouraging their use by practitioners across a variety of platforms. The BI Hub will also proactively seek to collaborate with other UN and non-UN PCVE initiatives to mainstream behavioural insights for counter-terrorism. And finally, the Hub will develop a **new updated programme of work for its second programme cycle** in consultation with the State of Qatar and based on the experiences gained and lessons learned from the first stage of implementation.

The BI Hub will also launch the **BI4CT Academy** scheduled to take place from 7-12 May 2023 in Doha and whose first round of training will focus on three beneficiary groups: civil society actors, policymakers, and multilateral audiences. This introductory training will be followed by a fellowship programme, in which

beneficiaries will receive assistance from a BI Hub mentor in implementing a BI4CT programme in their respective countries and organizations. The BI Academy is going to become a leading platform for the creation of a **BI4CT Community of Practice**, which will be central to the Hub learning strategy and act as a center for continuous learning. It will be rooted in the Academy and will have the potential to connect people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to interact with each other. As part of the Academy's work, the BI Hub will collaborate with implementing partners, including civil society, on research and experimentation in order for them to utilize and apply BI4CT findings. Drawing on the experience of the Academy and BI4CT Community of Practice, and in cooperation with the universities located in Doha, the BI Hub will also work to develop and deliver an academic course for graduate students, creating a unique selling point not only in the region, but globally, both for the Hub and for the universities that plan to deliver it.

Developing its network of educational institutions further, the BI Hub will collaborate with the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to establish a **Youth Summer School**, which will allow the Hub to educate and nurture interest and skills among young specialists from various fields and enable them to develop into a wider group of practitioners implementing the solutions and assumptions of BI for CT.

Capitalizing on its presence in the State of Qatar and inspired by the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, the BI Hub will launch an exclusive **podcast mini-series, "Power of the Pitch"**, on 12 February 2023, in cooperation with UNOCT's Global Sport Programme and in commemoration of the International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism.



In addition, the **"BI4CT Global Forum"** is envisaged to be launched by the end of 2023 or the beginning of 2024 as an annual UNOCT conference, focusing on developing common answers to future security challenges in the context of countering radicalization and terrorism through behavioral science. Discussions will address aspects of the economy, energy and cyber security in the context of terrorism and radicalization, the role of women in shaping political decisions, current trends in scientific research, and implementation of BI in countering terrorism and building resilience.

# 5 UNOCT PROGRAMME OFFICE ON PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENT IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM  
Programme Office in Doha

Parliamentary Engagement  
in Preventing and Countering Terrorism

FOR A FUTURE WITHOUT TERRORISM



The UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism (“Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement”) was established through an Agreement signed between UNOCT and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar in November 2020, and officially launched in June 2021 in Doha, State of Qatar. The Programme Office is a unique structure in the United Nations system that serves as a global hub to support parliamentarians worldwide in their CT/PCVE efforts through innovation and by leveraging partnerships with parliamentary assemblies, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, regional and international organizations, academia, and civil society. Through its work, the Programme Office promotes a balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly.

The Programme Office performs three functions:

1. research, analysis and normative work including the formulation of counter-terrorism model legislation and production of resources for parliamentarians;
2. provision of technical assistance and legal consultative services to parliaments to facilitate the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant General Assembly and Security Council mandates; and
3. foster collaboration and coordination among parliamentary assemblies as well as with national parliaments, and support the establishment and functioning of a global parliamentary network.

## Progress in 2022

In 2022, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement successfully organized several high-level meetings and conferences, while simultaneously continuing the development of legal tools to support the work of parliamentarians worldwide.

In March 2022, the Programme Office, the African Parliamentary Union (APU), and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar organized a **High-Level Parliamentary Conference on Understanding the Terrorist Threat in Africa** where parliamentarians throughout Africa gathered in Doha to discuss the main existing and emerging terrorist threats and challenges



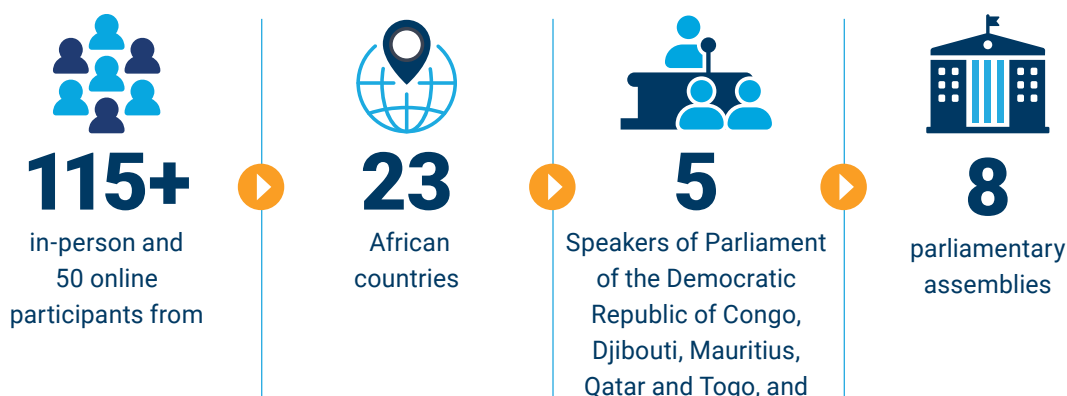
in the African continent in order to develop a set of measures that contribute to mitigate and address them. The Conference discussed the needs of the parliaments in Africa for technical assistance and capacity-building in specific areas of CT/PCVE to mitigate identified threats and challenges, and called for a set of measures that contribute to the establishment of an effective and dedicated CT/PCVE network of African parliamentarians. It resulted in the development of a set of measures that included the establishment of a *Parliamentary Working Group on Africa* to design concrete plans of actions for future engagement; setting up parliamentary advocates on CT/PCVE at the national level to sensitize the population; and creating

a network of CT/PCVE Parliamentary Delegations to represent their parliaments. During the event, parliamentary delegations paid special attention to the need to focus on the work with communities, youth, and women in Africa.



Expert Speakers and Parliaments discussing international technical assistance programmes and projects on CT/PCVE during session 3. Photo/UNOCT

#### The Conference gathered:



On the margins of the **High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism**, which was organized by UNOCT and the Kingdom of Spain in Málaga in May 2022, the Programme Office organized a **side event on Engaging Parliamentarians with Civil Society Organizations in Enhancing Legislation and Oversight Functions on CT/PVE**. More than



Photo/Antonio Montiel

70 in-person and online participants attended the event, which enabled the sharing of good practices from civil society organizations and parliamentarians in promoting human rights-compliant and gender responsive CT/PCVE efforts anchored in the rule of law, focusing on addressing the conditions conducive to terrorism, bringing terrorists to justice and supporting the victims of terrorism,

and reintegration and rehabilitation efforts. The event forged a shared understanding of the role of civil society in engaging with parliamentarians towards enhancing core parliamentary functions, in particular with regard to the elaboration of legislation and oversight functions.

The collaboration established between the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, UNCCT, UNODC, and IPU focused on strengthening the capacity of national parliaments to play their role in counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism by jointly developing the **Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism**. The parliamentary tool was launched virtually on 4 February. As a follow up to the launch, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, in cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE PA), the African Parliamentary Union (APU), and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, organized the **High-Level Parliamentary Conference on Parliamentary**



A high-level conference on Parliamentary Support to Victims of Terrorism was held in Rome, Italy on June 7-8, 2022. It was organized by the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, in cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE PA), the African Parliamentary Union (APU), and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar. Photo/UNOCT

**Support to Victims of Terrorism** in Rome, Italy in June. The Conference was attended by 120 in-person and 30 online participants from 29 countries and served as a platform to present the model legislative provisions, discuss the role of parliamentarians and civil society in supporting victims of terrorism, and share good practices and lessons learned in addressing victims' rights and needs. The Conference raised awareness among parliamentarians as key actors in ensuring parliaments include the provisions in their national legislations and concluded with a call for concrete recommendations and regional plans of action through parliamentary assemblies.

In June, the Programme Office held the **Second Coordination Meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies** in Naples, Italy. The participants reviewed the preliminary results of the activities implemented by UNOCT in cooperation with the parliamentary assemblies in 2021 and 2022, as well as CT/PCVE initiatives that parliamentary assemblies implement in their regions. Among the immediate results achieved, the Coordination Meeting identified priorities for joint initiatives between UNOCT and parliamentary assemblies, focusing on specific thematic and geographic areas, and contributed to enhancing collaboration among parliamentary assemblies and with the Programme Office on Parliamentary

Engagement. Participants adopted the TORs for the Joint Strategic Coordination Mechanism, setting out the tasks and modalities of the Mechanism in preparation for the next Coordination Meeting. In addition, the Presidency of the Mechanism was elected for a period of one year, with the appointment of the OSCE PA as the Chair of the Mechanism, and the Mechanism expanded its membership to a total of 14 parliamentary assemblies.



Photo/UNOCT

Also in June 2022, the EU-UN Programme on Strengthening Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Asia (STRIVE Asia), with the support of the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement and the Gender Unit of UNOCT's Human Rights and Gender Section, as well as UNRCCA, launched the **High-Level Forum on the Role of Central**



The High-Level Forum on the Role of Central Asian States' Women Parliamentarians in the Implementation of PCVE National Action Plans, Istanbul, Türkiye, 22-23 June 2022. Photo/UNOCT

**Asian States' Women Parliamentarians in the Implementation of PCVE National Action Plans** in Istanbul, Türkiye. The event gathered 105 participants, including high-level women parliamentarians from Central Asia, representatives from parliamentary assemblies and civil society, leading scholars, and officials from UN Women, UNDP, UNODC, and OSCE. Participants discussed means of incorporating gender perspectives in national action plans to prevent and counter violent extremism and related programmes. The Forum provided an opportunity for Central Asian women parliamentarians to reflect on their PCVE engagement in their respective countries. The Forum helped enhance awareness of participants and initiate the drafting of a roadmap to enhance women's engagement in the implementation of PCVE national action plans in Central Asia.

In June 2022, the Parliamentary Engagement Programme supported the UNOCT/UNCCT Programme on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction/Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism to implement in the parliamentary event on **Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT)** in the Republic of Albania. The event raised awareness and capacities of parliamentarians of Albania toward the ratification and implementation of the universal legal instrument.



In September 2022, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement supported the United Nations **Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism** by facilitating the inclusion of a **High-Level Parliamentary Session** to promote the voices of society and its delivery with the participation of Presidents of the Arab Parliament (AP), APU and PAM, as well as the Vice-President of the OSCE PA and Chair of its Ad Hoc Committee on Counter-Terrorism and PAM Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict.

During 2022, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement launched the **Online Global Parliamentary Network** for parliamentarians and parliamentary assemblies, which facilitates cooperation and coordination among parliamentarians worldwide to counter terrorism and prevent the spread of violent extremism. The Global Network registered 120 members from all over the world and became an active platform to share good practices and information on main parliamentary developments on CT and PCVE.

Also in 2022, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement together with UNODC finalized the national legislative analysis for Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali. The Programme Office together with UNODC also reviewed counter-terrorism legislation in Colombia. This support served to improve knowledge and capacity of parliamentarians to actively elaborate and develop efficient whole-of-society legislative responses to terrorism in line with the international legal framework relating to counter-terrorism as well as international human rights and rule of law norms and standards.

The Programme Office is also simultaneously developing several tools to support parliamentarians. In 2022, UNOCT, together with UNODC and CTED, continued their work in the development of the **Compendium of Existing Good Practices and Recommended Legal Provisions on Data Protection Rules to Facilitate International Cooperation**

**in Counter-Terrorism.** The aim of the Compendium is to propose legislative provisions on collecting, using, processing, storing, and sharing data for counter-terrorism purposes in support of the United Nations data protection programme developed by CTED, UNODC and UNOCT within the framework of UNOCT's Global Parliamentary Engagement Programme.

During the reporting period, the Programme Office made significant progress in the development of the **Parliamentary Guide for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**. The main purpose of the Guide is to familiarize parliamentarians and staff of secretariats of parliaments with the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its place within the UN counter-terrorism framework, as well as its application to and implications for parliamentary work, in order to empower parliamentarians to engage and take action to support governments in the implementation of the Strategy. The Guide provides examples of good practices and checklists for parliamentarians.

The Programme Office also advanced to the final stage of development of the **Parliamentary Handbook on Promoting the Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001)**, which is being produced in close collaboration with CTED and in consultation with major partners and counterparts. The Handbook is intended to serve as a reference when parliamentarians set out to propose, discuss, amend, and adopt legislation and national strategies related to preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in all its forms. It aims to complement the UNOCT Parliamentary Guide to Facilitate the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy which will cover the roles of parliaments in implementing the Strategy.

All of the activities of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement were

carried out in consultation with the Shura Council of the State of Qatar and within the framework of the MoU signed between UNOCT and the Shura Council in February 2020.

In addition to the initiatives directly implemented by the UNOCT Parliamentary Engagement Programme Office in 2022, the Programme Office also had the opportunity to participate and provide technical support to APU, the G5 Sahel Interparliamentary Committee (CIP G5 Sahel), and the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino) by attending their annual assemblies and counter-terrorism committee meetings. In all these events, the work of Programme Office was recognized as providing added value and making a positive contribution to the work of parliamentary assemblies on CT and PCVE issues. Through these meetings, the Programme Office and parliamentary assemblies discussed specific needs and opportunities for technical assistance, including provision of legislative assistance, special support to Africa on CT/PCVE, as well as empowering women and youth parliamentarians.

The Global Parliamentary Engagement Programme successfully managed the risks and challenges encountered during implementation. COVID-19 remained the most relevant challenge in the implementation of programme activities. The Programme Office continued using technological platforms to allow for online participation, while also ensuring appropriate number and representation of in-person participants and taking all specific measures related to health and COVID-19 protocols, including provision of COVID tests prior and following in-person activities. The programme was able to adjust its implementation modalities based on the needs and requirements of the operating environment. In terms of the security situation, the programme opted to implement its in-person activities in the State of Qatar, the European Union, and Türkiye given their high rank in security indices, which contributed to the participation of a large number of

participants and the smooth implementation of activities. Overall, activities implemented in 2022 showed that parliamentarians are invested in CT/PCVE efforts and recognize the crucial role of the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in building parliamentary capacities and cooperation.

**Gender mainstreaming** is one of the key priorities for the Global Parliamentary Engagement Programme and is fully integrated in the design and implementation of all its activities. The Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, together with the UNOCT Gender Unit, developed the **Gender Initiative for Women Parliamentarians** to ensure the integration of gender equality and empowerment of women within programming and policy processes, such as in the design, consultation, planning, monitoring, delivery, and assessment of interventions. The first event under this initiative, *the Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians*, will take place in May 2023 in Doha and focus on the role of women parliamentarians in the development, implementation and oversight of CT/PCVE legislation, policies and strategies. The event will be concluded with the launch of the CT/PVE Network of Women Parliamentarians which will be integrated into UNOCT Connect & Learn platform.

Another key priority for the Parliamentary Engagement Programme is the **promotion of international human rights norms and standards**, which is comprehensively integrated and thoroughly reflected at all stages of the programme cycle. Most programme activities aim to study and address key human rights challenges in counter-terrorism strategies, policies and legislations. The programme also seeks to ensure adequate coverage of human rights considerations in its research, capacity-building, and outreach activities, and fully incorporate international human rights norms and standards in the design and implementation of programme outputs and activities, including in the development of

good practices and information products. Special focus is placed on processes and measures to support parliamentarians in fulfilling their oversight functions, which is a crucial tool to achieve and enforce the respect for human rights through monitoring government adherence to international human rights norms and standards in their CT/PCVE efforts.

## Priorities for 2023

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In 2023, the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement will continue to provide technical support to parliaments and parliamentary assemblies across its core areas of work, namely, legislative and normative assistance, developing specialized tools, enhancing capacities of parliamentarians and parliamentary assemblies, and fostering cooperation and coordination. The Programme Office will continue to ensure the effective functioning of established mechanisms such as the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies, the Parliamentary Working Group for Africa, and the Global Parliamentary Network. In addition, the Programme Office will continue to enhance parliamentary core functions on CT/PCVE in Africa, strengthen the empowerment of women, youth, and civil society in CT/PCVE efforts, support parliamentary actions to protect the rights and needs of victims of terrorism, and promote strategic parliamentary dialogues. It will promote the ratification and legislative implementation of international legal instruments on counter-terrorism, as well as relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

## 6 GENDER



As part of UNOCT's commitment to strengthen mainstreaming of human rights and gender across the implementation of its mandate, the **UNOCT Human Rights and Gender Section (HRGS)** was created on 1 January 2022, consisting of the Human Rights Unit and the Gender Unit. The Section reports directly to Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General and functions as UNOCT's policy lead on topics related to human rights, gender equality and intersectionality. It also provides technical assistance and coordination to ensure human rights and gender are fully and effectively considered across UNOCT's core policy, coordination and capacity-building functions. In addition to contributing to internal quality assurance, HRGS supports UNOCT's external engagement on human rights and gender with a view to ensure that such engagement is grounded in the United Nations Charter, the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its review resolutions, as well as relevant international law norms and standards, in particular international human rights law. In 2022, the HRGS and its related programme were supported by the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Canada and Portugal.



On 14 March 2022, UNOCT formally adopted its first **Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan** and started its implementation. The Policy aims at ensuring that UNOCT's mandate is implemented in a gender responsive manner, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and integrating the women, peace and security agenda within CT/PCVE. It is based on United Nations requirements for gender equality as set out in the United Nations System-wide Action Plan (UN SWAP 2.0), as well as international standards on gender equality including relevant international human rights norms and standards. It outlines the values, actions and targets for mainstreaming gender across the Office's operations across five key areas:

1. Mainstreaming Gender in Programmatic and Policy Performance Areas;
2. Strengthen UNOCT's Institutional Capacity to Deliver Results on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment;
3. Have Accountability Mechanisms in Place for Gender Mainstreaming;
4. Enhance Resource Mobilization and Partnership Development for Gender;
5. Promote Knowledge and Visibility on Gender.

The Action Plan is an annex to the policy and details the required actions for each of the priority areas, implementation responsibilities for each action, the relevant means of verification, and the supporting actions. The Action Plan is expected to be completed from 2022 to 2024.

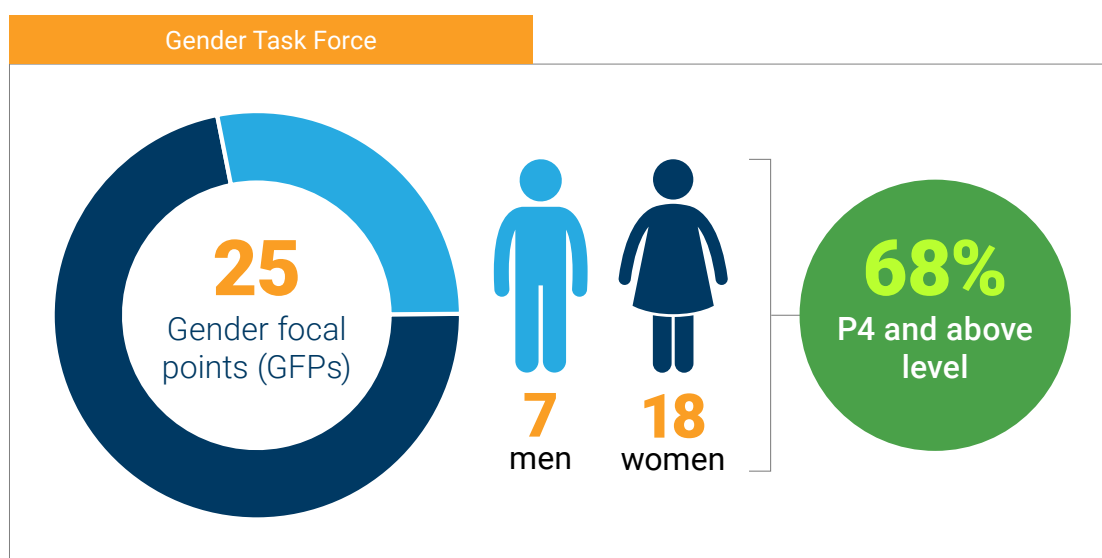


The Policy includes setting up a specific senior level accountability mechanism for its implementation, and in consequence, for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the prevention and countering of violent extremism and terrorism. The Under-Secretary-General and the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT are designated as holding the ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the

Policy. The Senior Management Team (SMT) meeting serves as the steering committee on gender equality and the empowerment of women responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy. The SMT is to hold quarterly reviews on the progress of implementing the Policy's Action Plan and the UNOCT Gender Adviser leads on standing agenda items for discussion in the regular SMT meetings.

In November 2022, the UNOCT Gender Adviser delivered the first briefing to the SMT upon formal adoption of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan. She provided an overview of the progress made in the application of the UNOCT Gender Marker and challenges encountered during its 2021 review and informed about the progress with the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan, including the new configuration of the Gender Task Force, its workplan and the development of gender workplans for each section and unit in UNOCT, represented by gender focal points.

Upon the adoption of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan, UNOCT relaunched its **Gender Task Force**, which comprises 25 gender focal points (GFPs) from across all branches of UNOCT, out of which 18 are women and 7 men; and 17 (or 68%) are at the P-4 and above level. In 2022, the Gender Task Force



held five meetings and approved its workplan. The primary focus of the Gender Task Force is to support the implementation and monitoring of the UNOCT Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan. The Gender Task Force will also contribute to ensuring coherence across UNOCT gender mainstreaming efforts, including the alignment of approaches, methodologies and language used for gender mainstreaming with the applicable policy and regulatory frameworks as well as the most up-to-date and credible research, data, analysis and evidence in this area.

Through the Gender Focal Points, all UNOCT branches and units are developing their own gender workplans to ensure gender mainstreaming within their programmes and/or functions in line with the Gender Mainstreaming Policy's Action Plan. In 2022, two substantive discussions with gender focal points and CT/PCVE experts served to increase their engagement with substantive gender-related topics.

In addition to directly implementing initiatives aimed at gender equality and women's empowerment, the Gender Unit also supports **gender mainstreaming within programmes/projects cycles**, as well as policy and coordination functions across UNOCT. In 2022, Gender Unit reviewed at least 50 programmatic documents, knowledge products, agendas, and other materials, and provided substantive feedback on how to strengthen gender mainstreaming.

UNOCT also implements a **four scale Gender Marker** in line with the system wide requirements. Every year, the Gender Unit undertakes an assessment of the application of the Gender Marker within the design of newly adopted programmes/projects. Feedback and recommendations are provided to programme/project teams and to the SMT.

In 2022, UNOCT further improved its score on **the UN SWAP 2.0 - Accountability Framework**

for Mainstreaming Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in United Nations Entities. Out of 17 indicators, UNOCT exceeds requirements on four indicators (audit, policy, leadership, knowledge and communication), meets requirements on eleven, and approaches requirements on two indicators. For comparison, in 2021, UNOCT exceeded requirements on three indicators, met requirements on nine, and approached requirements on five indicators.

In 2022, UNOCT adopted the **UNOCT Strategic Plan for 2022-2025** that contains a dedicated high-level result on gender equality and the empowerment of women, i.e., a strategic goal to "promote human-rights compliant and gender responsive counter-terrorism and prevention and countering of violent extremism efforts", as well as gender aspects in the remaining four strategic goals through specific outcomes that make substantive references to gender mainstreaming and gender equality. The strategic framework sets amplification and mainstreaming of human rights and gender in all UNOCT policy and programming efforts as one of the Office's institutional priorities.

In December 2022, UNOCT adopted the **Programme Review Board (PRB) Policy**, which includes important advancements on gender mainstreaming. The application of the gender marker in consultation with the Gender Unit is now mandatory for all programmes and projects in view of achieving the goal set out in the UNOCT Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan of 50% of programmes and projects being at Gender Marker 2 or above by 2022 and 80% by 2023. The PRB Policy also specifies that programmes and projects which are not informed by a gender analysis will not be recommended for approval by the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT. Furthermore, according to the PRB Policy, the head of the Human Rights and Gender Section is one of the ex officio members of the PRB and may be called to provide respective expertise during the meeting.

During the reporting period, **gender dimensions were embedded in the implementation of capacity-building programmes.** For example, the Global Sports Programme mainstreamed gender-sensitive approaches in all activities, to empower the role of women in counter-terrorism and PVE efforts, regularly engaging with UNOCT's gender advisers to ensure compliance with the United Nations gender mainstreaming standards. The Global Programme on Vulnerable Targets Protection integrated gender sensitive responses to the security of soft targets in its expert briefings and capacity-building activities, and organized, together with the HRGS, a dedicated event on gender and vulnerable targets for its Global Network of Experts. The Global Programmes on Counter-Terrorism Investigations and Fusion Cells incorporated suggestions of reviews conducted by external gender and human rights experts in its programme design

and implementation. The Global Parliamentary Engagement Programme, in addition to ensuring inclusion of gender perspectives in its conferences and meetings, developed the Gender Initiative for Women Parliamentarians to ensure the integration of gender equality and the empowerment of women within programming and policy processes. The Global Programme on Support to Victims of Terrorism incorporated gender considerations in documents, ensured gender parity in consultations and events, and promoted gender-sensitive approaches in the conduct of research, data collection, and delivery of capacity-building.

In 2023, subject to availability of funding, UNOCT will launch the Global Gender Programme that will deliver on three core objectives:

1. **Support Member States** in undertaking human rights-based gender mainstreaming within their efforts to prevent violent extremism and counter-terrorism based on context-specific gender analysis;
2. **Engage with women peacebuilders,** women human rights defenders and women organizations to ensure their leadership and participation within national, regional and global efforts to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism; and
3. **Support the full implementation** of UNOCT Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan by providing technical assistance, coordination and quality assurance for gender mainstreaming within all mandated functions of the Office.



## 7 HUMAN RIGHTS



Respect for human rights and the rule of law are the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism, as established by Pillar IV of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Anchoring counter-terrorism responses in human rights and the rule of law is essential for ensuring their effectiveness and sustainability. In this respect, the seventh review resolution of the Strategy underscores that respect for human rights and the rule of law are complementary and mutually reinforcing with effective counter-terrorism measures and failure to comply with these international obligations is one of the factors contributing to increased radicalization to violence. Based on the mandate provided by the General Assembly, UNOCT established the promotion of human-rights compliant and gender responsive CT/PCVE efforts as a strategic goal in its **Strategic Plan for 2022-2025** and included human rights mainstreaming in all policy and programming as an institutional priority.

A landmark event in this regard was the organization together with the Government of the Kingdom of Spain of the **High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism** in Málaga, Spain on 10-11 May, preceded on 9 May by a dedicated civil society workshop,

held by Spain and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and a set of side events aligned with the conference theme. In addition to a high-level segment, the Conference featured five thematic working sessions focused on: (a) human rights and the rule of law as the cornerstone of effective counter-terrorism efforts; (b) protection of principled humanitarian action; (c) victims and survivors of terrorism; (d) civil society efforts for preventing and countering terrorism; and (e) role of the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture. The Conference convened Member States, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations, experts and other stakeholders to engage





in a practical exchange of innovative ideas on how to strengthen social cohesion, build resilience, and effectively embed human rights, gender equality and the rule of law into the international community's response to terrorism and violent extremism, while safeguarding and promoting human rights, in particular the rights of women, children, and victims of terrorism.

In 2022, the Human Rights Unit initiated the implementation of **UNOCT's Global Human Rights Programme**, and subject to availability of funding, it aims to enhance

the implementation of Pillar IV of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, and the Secretary General's Call to Action for Human Rights. Under the Programme, UNOCT will (i) work towards the effective, comprehensive, and coherent integration of human rights in all its programmes, projects and policies; (ii) improve outreach and strengthen UNOCT's role in helping the wider United Nations better engage with Member States on human rights in the context of preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism; (iii) advance Office-wide compliance with the HRDDP; and (iv) assist Member States in improving their capacity to prevent and respond to terrorism threats based on international human rights law and the rule of law.

In this context, the Human Rights Unit continued to support the mainstreaming of human rights in UNOCT's programmes and the implementation by programme teams of the HRDDP. In parallel, work has begun towards the design of a UNOCT-wide **Human Rights Mainstreaming Policy** and a standard operating procedure to implement the HRDDP. Technical assistance towards the incorporation of human rights in counter-terrorism work continued to be provided. The Human Rights Unit and OHCHR concluded a global project to strengthen the capacities of law enforcement officials in six countries in Africa and the Middle East to implement human rights-compliant responses to terrorism. Furthermore, UNOCT, together with OHCHR and UNODC and under the overall guidance of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Philippines, supported the implementation of the component on human rights-based approaches to counter-terrorism of the Joint Programme pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/33 on *"Technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines"*.

UNOCT continued to work with Member States over the course of the year to improve their capacities to prevent, respond to, and investigate terrorism threats based on international human rights law and the rule of law. Human rights considerations were incorporated into all **UNOCT global programmes** in 2022. For example, the policy guidance produced by the Global Sports Programme adopted a human rights-based approach to the planning of major sporting events and formulation of sport-based PVE policies to ensure human rights are respected, protected, and promoted. The Global Programme on Vulnerable Targets Protection integrated human rights considerations in its specialized modules on the safety and security of sites vulnerable to terrorism as well as tailored national action plans or roadmaps on vulnerable targets protection, while including dedicated sessions in its capacity-building activities on human rights dimensions. The Global Programmes on Counter-Terrorism Investigations and Fusion Cells ensured compliance to the HRDDP and incorporated mandatory human rights trainings to its programme of work in response to the reviews conducted by independent human rights experts, while the AROS Programme continued to promote and provide capacity-building for human rights-compliant use of autonomous and remotely operated capabilities for counter-terrorism purposes. The Countering Terrorist Travel Programme ensured human rights standards are embedded within national implementation roadmaps, normative frameworks, institution-building support, capacity-building training activities, and where applicable software application. The Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme integrated human rights aspects in all its policy, advocacy and programmatic activities throughout the year, including the development of the Model Legislative Provisions to support the needs and protect the rights of victims of terrorism, the delivery of the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism centred on human rights-based

themes, and conduct of human rights-based and victim-centric consultations and trainings.

The promotion of human rights norms and standards was a central element in the implementation of Doha-based global programmes. The UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism provided legislative assistance to ensure parliamentary counter-terrorism responses are compliant with international human rights law, integrated human rights in its research, capacity-building, and outreach activities, and established clear linkages with international human rights norms and standards in developing good practices and information products. The programme placed particular emphasis on assisting processes and measures to support parliamentarians' ability to effectively execute their oversight functions to ensure human rights-based counter-terrorism efforts. Given the centrality of human rights in behavioural change initiatives, the BI Hub mainstreamed human rights considerations across all its core areas of work, including research and knowledge management, capacity-building, and advocacy and partnership. The BI Hub integrated human rights dimensions in its regional and international workshops, knowledge products, and briefings, to ensure that behavioural insights is applied to strengthen human rights principles and commitments and is not used for purposes that are contrary to them. For example, the Hub's side events on the margins of the Málaga and Dushanbe Conferences shed light on human rights-based behavioural techniques to foster resilience against violent extremism and ensure border management and security.

## 8 RISKS AND CHALLENGES



The international community is confronted with an increasingly complex and fast-evolving threat of terrorism. The threat has expanded across ideologies and geographies, exacerbated by the proliferation of misleading narratives in cyberspace, the rapid development and accessibility of new technologies, and the growing linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime. The conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including prolonged and unresolved armed conflict, poor governance, abuses and violations of human rights and the rule of law, and weakened public trust in institutions, continued to heighten the threat landscape – compounded by risk multipliers such as economic disparities, health crises, climate change, and displacement. Geopolitical tensions further complicated responses to these challenges.

In this context, UNOCT, in close collaboration with relevant United Nations system-wide entities, continued to closely monitor and report on the global terrorism threat landscape, in order to assess and raise awareness of developments and trends that may impact the United Nations' counter-terrorism efforts, and to develop and coordinate effective policy and programming responses. Through the organization of several high-level events and active participation in various fora, the

Office prioritized the promotion of multilateral dialogue and cooperation to maintain the attention and consensus on the global counter-terrorism agenda. Further, in response to the Secretary-General's call for a 'New Agenda for Peace', articulated in his report 'Our Common Agenda', to reduce the strategic risks faced by the international community, including terrorism, UNOCT held working level thematic discussions with DPPA, DPO and ODA, to inform the preparation of the Agenda, which will be presented at the 2024 Summit of the Future.



In terms of risks associated with the operational environment, COVID-19 remained the most relevant challenge in the implementation of programme activities in 2022. UNOCT mainstreamed lessons learned

and best practices related to programmatic adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic and fully adjusted to the post-COVID-19 realities. In this regard, the Office opted to conduct hybrid events and continued implementation of flexible working arrangements on return to the Office. While using virtual and hybrid modality for delivery of its capacity-building mandate, the Office recognized the importance of in-person delivery of its technical assistance and continued to deliver in-person engagements with beneficiary Member States and other stakeholders as required. In doing so, UNOCT programme teams ensured appropriate number and representation of in-person participants and took all necessary measures related to health and COVID-19 protocols. It continued to invest heavily in developing its digital capabilities, including through the expansion and consolidation of the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform, and development of e-training modules and other digital resources.

As part of the Organization's efforts to embed enterprise risk management in Secretariat entities, and taking into account the overarching Secretariat-wide Risk Register, UNOCT initiated the development of the UNOCT Risk Register to identify, evaluate and prioritize the risks impacting the work of the Office and its ability to deliver on its mandate, as well as to determine appropriate risk responses. The UNOCT Risk Register, which will be issued in 2023, includes risk definitions under each risk category (i.e., strategic, governance, managerial, operational, financial, fraud and corruption), assignment of risks to owners, a full analysis of key risk drivers, a description of internal controls, and an outline of potential risk mitigation and response strategies. Once finalized, UNOCT senior management will annually report on the progress of implementation of risk treatment plans to the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, and UNOCT senior leadership will annually review the Risk Register to ensure that it remains relevant and updated based on the findings from audits, internal control assessments, and strategic priorities.

While the generous contribution of the State of Qatar enabled the full and unimpeded delivery of Qatar-funded policy, coordination and capacity-building activities, resource constraints owing to unpredictability of new funding and earmarked nature of voluntary contributions created a challenge to continue full-scale programmatic implementation during the reporting year. In response, UNOCT continued to expand and diversify its donor base through active outreach and briefings to Member States aimed at ensuring greater understanding of priorities, matching needs with deliverables, and reporting on results. The Office also revamped the United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism and conducted five dedicated, region-specific briefings that helped enhance the Compact's engagement with Member States. It also continued advocacy at Headquarters with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the Fifth Committee, Member States and like-minded groupings on the critical importance of Regular Budget funding to mandate delivery. Through the General Assembly's approval of the regularization of 25 UNOCT non-programme extrabudgetary posts, the Office was able to increase its Regular Budget allocation for core policy, coordination, evaluation, human rights and gender, as well as administrative functions. The Office will continue to advocate for increased Regular Budget funding through the Secretary-General's 2024 Budget Submission.

## 9 COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY

Ensuring and enhancing visibility of United Nations counter-terrorism efforts remained a priority for UNOCT as one of its core mandated functions. In 2022, the Office continued to implement its **communications strategy** to raise the visibility of the central role of UNOCT within the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture and the important contribution of the State of Qatar to UNOCT's work across its policy, coordination and capacity-building functions. The Office's communications work— supported by a dedicated team in the Communications Unit located in the OUSG – involved the development and dissemination of communication products through diverse platforms. These efforts contributed to amplifying UNOCT's role and mandate, increasing awareness of its priorities, programmes and activities, expanding the Office's outreach to the global

counter-terrorism community, and building its professional networks.

Specifically in 2022, **tailored communications plans and branded products** were developed, in close collaboration with the Department of Global Communications, other United Nations entities, and implementing/organizing partners to promote programmes, projects, and activities, showcasing impact, innovation and partnerships.

As in-person events resumed throughout 2022, the Office continued to promote its activities through **online and digital communications** as well as **in person with increased media presence**. For example, a number of events took place virtually or in hybrid format and were live-streamed on UNWebTV. The international and regional conferences held



USG Vladimir Voronkov addresses the United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, 8 September, 2022.  
UN Photo/Loey Felipe

in Tashkent, Málaga, Dushanbe and Doha saw massive participation of media on site. These high-level events provided important platforms to promote the activities of UNOCT through the use of audio-visual products and the dissemination of promotional and communication products.

In addition, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov and UNOCT senior officials continued to promote the activities of the Office in **statements** delivered at major events, acknowledging the support of the State of Qatar. In order to reach out to wider audiences and ensure representation in key events, UNOCT senior managers stepped up their digital diplomacy and recorded a number of video messages. The statements were systematically posted on UNOCT's website to maximize their reach and impact.

## Audio-visual materials

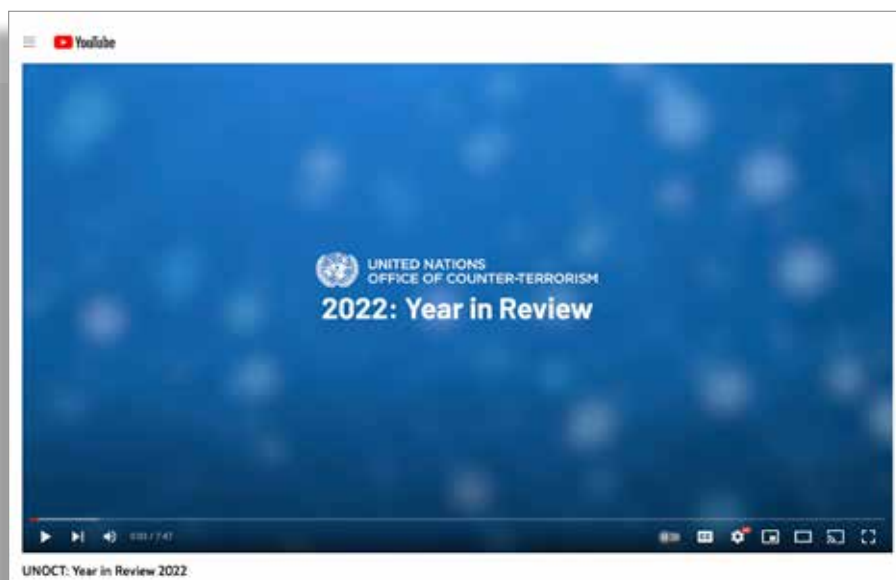
In 2022, the Office doubled the production of **audio-visual products** to promote the activities and programmes in a more dynamic manner. **45 videos** were produced in 2022,

including 24 videos for the Victims of Terrorism Memories Campaign, eight videos for Sport for PVE #MoreThanAGame Campaign, two videos for the Dushanbe Conference, and videos for the event on Safeguarding the Metaverse from Terrorism and Violent Extremism, the Global Youth Town Hall in Doha, the launch of the UN Network on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets, the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform, and the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Doha, as well as a video message on the International Women's Day. UNOCT also prepared a video to wrap up 2022 entitled "**UNOCT 2022: year in review**" which summarizes key achievements and acknowledges funding partners contributions including the support provided by the State of Qatar. The video was presented at the high-level conferences held in 2022 in addition to video loops featuring UNOCT global programmes. The video will be presented by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov during the Ambassadorial-level UNOCT Quarterly Briefing to Member States to be held virtually on 28 February 2023 and posted on the UNOCT website and YouTube Channel.

 **45 videos**  
were produced in 2022



Media coverage at the Dushanbe High-Level Conference. 18-19 October, 2022. Photo/MFA of Tajikistan



## Campaign & Podcast

In 2022, the Office launched **2 media campaigns**: the Victims of Terrorism “Memories” campaign and the Global Sports Programme’s #MoreThanAGame campaign. The **‘Memories’ Campaign** shares the stories of 22 victims of terrorism through films and a photographic exhibition. The campaign and exhibition was launched at the Málaga Conference in May with stories of eight victims and was featured on the occasion of the [International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism](#) in August. It was shown as an exhibition with 22 stories of victims of terrorism at the UN Headquarters in New York on the occasion of the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism in September. The opening of the exhibition took place in the presence of victims of terrorism and the media. The campaign is [hosted](#) on the UNOCT website. The live stream by UN WebTV of the Congress showcasing the campaign garnered more than 5,000 remote views. The campaign and Congress received more than 30 million Twitter impressions and 20,000 website page views. Over 15,000 viewers watched the exhibition videos.



**22** stories



**30M** Twitter impressions



**20,000** webpage views



**15,000+** exhibition video views

The ‘Memories’ campaign gives victims the opportunity to tell their stories. It demonstrates that the memories of victims and survivors are just as integral to rehabilitation as other support efforts. The campaign highlights a physical object or a person that has helped victims honour their own experience of loss and contributed to their recovery. It speaks to the universality of victims’ experiences across time, places and attacks, and serves as a

reminder of the importance of ensuring that victims and survivors have the support they need to recover and be part of a more resilient community.

The **#MoreThanAGame** campaign was launched on 18 November on the margins of the 2022 FIFA World Cup by UNOCT's Global Sports Programme and its partners, UNAOC, UNICRI, and ICSS, in collaboration with Generation Amazing. The campaign promoted the potential of sport as a force for good and highlighted the stories of professional athletes and inspiring young people from around the globe during major sporting events. The videos of the campaign received over 650,000 views and the hashtag totaled over 39 million views in 2022.



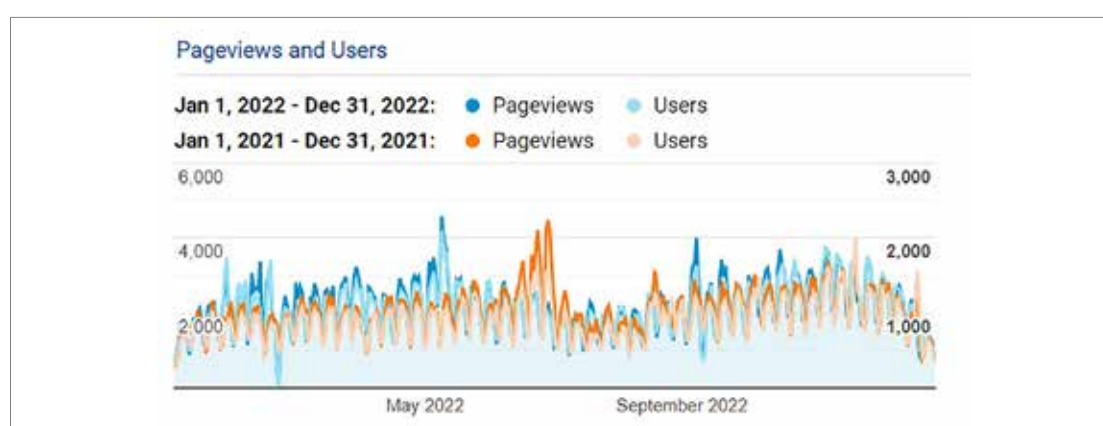
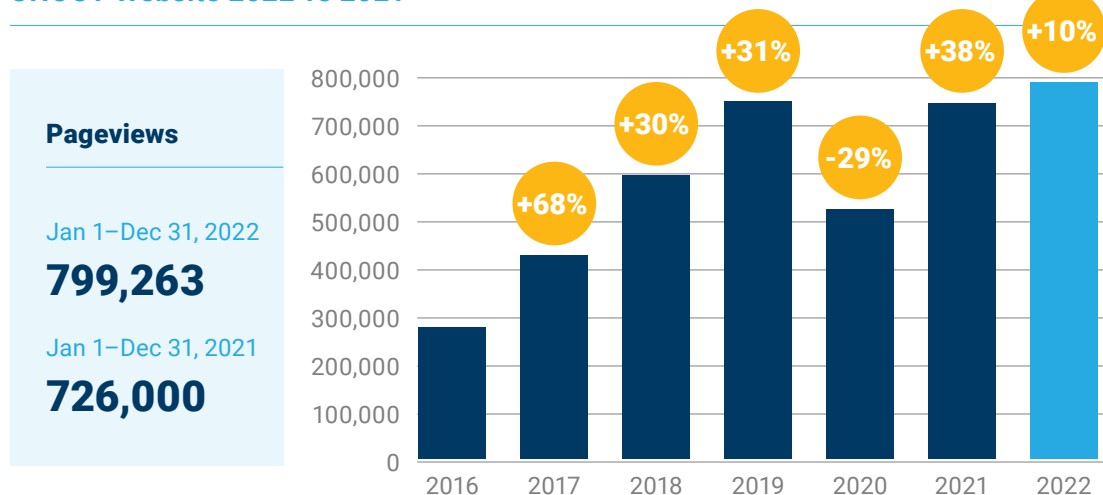
In 2022, the BI Hub launched the **“Going to Extremes” podcast series**, which feature leading experts from around the world specializing in the fields of behavioural sciences and counter-terrorism, who share their experiences, insights and expertise and discuss approaches and solutions to prevent and counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The podcast series consist of a number of seasons each dedicated to a specific topic, with the first season focusing on the trajectory to radicalization.

## Website

UNOCT increased its **website content** and revamped the webpages for a number of programmes and platforms, including the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, the Global Sports Programme, the BI Hub, the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, among others. Featuring the activities of the Office, the number of web stories (95) posted on the UNOCT website and promoted on **social media increased by over 98%** in 2022.

Demonstrating the relevance of the content and stories presented, the **traffic and viewers increased by 10%**. In total, the UNOCT website recorded over 799,263 pageviews in 2022 compared to 726,000 pageviews in 2021. The number of views on all UNOCT websites, including CT Travel and the Victims of Terrorism Portal exceeded 1 million views.

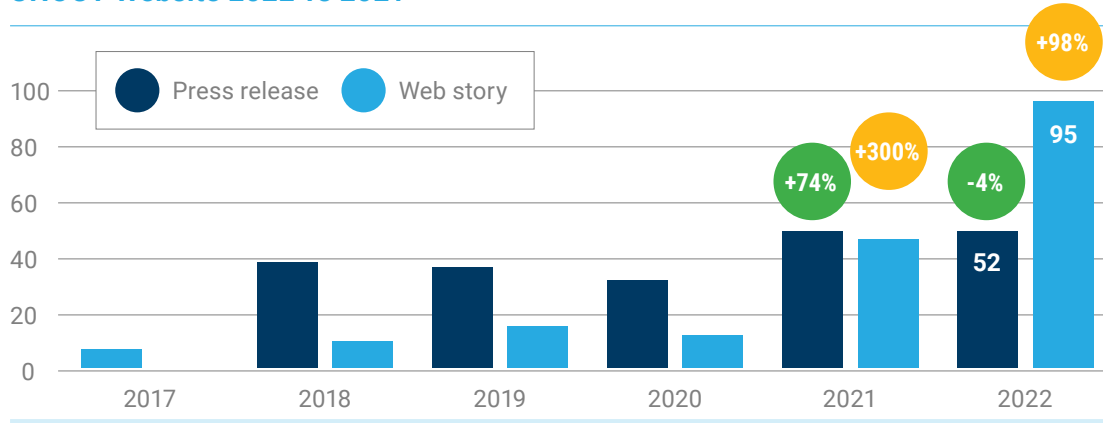
## UNOCT Website 2022 vs 2021



In 2022, UNOCT posted **52 press releases** on its website compared to 54 in 2021. Of the total press releases issued and circulated to the media, **67% (35)** were dedicated to presenting programmatic events and key initiatives funded by the State of Qatar. These included, among others, press releases on signing ceremonies held within the framework of the

CT Travel Programme, sports and victims' media campaigns, high-level conferences and other key events, the Counter-Terrorism Compact, the Beneficiaries Forum, the Fourth High-Level Qatar-UNOCT Strategic Dialogue, and UNOCT's participation in the Doha Forum and associated thematic events organized on the margins of the Forum.


## UNOCT Website 2022 vs 2021



## UNOCT Twitter Performance

The Office boosted its support to its twitter account (@UN\_OCT) which increased its number of followers by 39% in 2022 (from 14,200 followers by the end of 2021 to 19,600 in 2022). Over 808 tweets were posted on

the @UN\_OCT twitter account. The total impressions @UN\_OCT generated by 9,400 contributors reached 326 million in 2022, with an increase of 14% as compared to 2021.

 @UN_OCT	2021	2021	2022	Increase
<b>Impressions</b>	189 million	287 million	326 million	<b>+14%</b>
<b>Contributors</b>	6,000	8,000	9,400	<b>+18%</b>
<b># of tweets</b>	562	755	808	<b>+7%</b>
<b># of followers</b>	9,500	14,200	19,600	<b>+39%</b>

## Top Tweets


1

**Top Tweet** earned 1M impressions

Sport is an important point of connection across borders, across generations, and among diverse communities.

#MoreThanAGame is a global digital campaign to encourage young people to take up sport and learn from its positive values.

For more info: [bit.ly/MoreThanAGame-...](https://bit.ly/MoreThanAGame-...)



Nov 18, 2022

174 58 58


86% 10% 2%

2

**Top Tweet** earned 24.5k impressions

In her keynote address at #UNCongressVot, @un Deputy Secretary-General @aminajmohammed highlighted the need for solidarity & support to #VictimsOfTerrorism and to listen to victims voices as part of our efforts to #CounterTerrorism

[bit.ly/VoTCongress2022](https://bit.ly/VoTCongress2022)



Sep 8, 2022

91 33 41

3

**Top Tweet** earned 19.1k impressions

Happening now @UN\_OCT @UNICRI @UNAOC @the\_JCSS & @GA4good High-Level Roundtable on #Sports4PVE w/ Football Icons @LuisFigo & @TimCahill, marathon runner @TeglaLoroupe & FiFa Foundation CEO @youridjorkaeff.

Sport is #MoreThanAGame !!


WATCH Live: [youtu.be/-BPACzmoG3U](https://youtu.be/-BPACzmoG3U)

United Nations Office... - Mar 27, 2022

Join @UN\_OCT @UNICRI @UNAOC @the\_JCSS & @GA4good High-Level Roundtable on Sports & the prevention of violent extremism #SportsPVE w/ Football Icons @LuisFigo & @TimCahill @TeglaLoroupe & FiFa Foundation @youridjorkaeff

27 March 3 pm Doha time

[bit.ly/SportsPVEaoc](https://bit.ly/SportsPVEaoc)



Mar 27, 2022

11 9 0

## Publications

In 2022, UNOCT issued **110 reports**, an increase of 66% as compared to 2021 during which 66 reports were issued.

In October 2022, UNOCT launched an **informative brochure on the Counter-Terrorism Compact** which presents an overview on the structure, objectives and work of the Compact and its eight thematic Working Groups. The brochure also features information on its digital Coordination Platform, a one-stop shop for secure and efficient coordination and information sharing, and stresses the added value of close cooperation with Member States, international and regional organizations. The electronic version of the brochure is available on the UNOCT website and hard copies are provided upon request. In addition, UNOCT produced a four-page **brochure with a list of UNOCT global programmes** that provides information on objectives, achievements, partners, donors, and focal points of these programmes. UNOCT actively disseminated the brochures on the Compact and global programmes as promotional materials in meetings and events with Member States.

The **UNOCT monthly and annual newsletters** continued to promote the achievements of UNOCT across its policy, coordination, capacity-building, and resource mobilization functions, highlighting programmes and projects funded by the State of Qatar. These newsletters include a section to highlight the top 10 donors contributing to UNOCT to further recognize key partners. In addition, the **Counter-Terrorism Compact bi-monthly and annual newsletters** continued to serve as useful communication products to promote the United Nations' counter-terrorism efforts and UNOCT's coordination role. These newsletters provide updates on the Compact's high-level events and visits, engagement with Member States, key issues raised by heads of Compact entities, the UN Counter-Terrorism Compact Platform, guidance, research and analysis conducted by Compact working groups, and joint initiatives and capacity-building, in addition to information on the Compact's membership and structure. These newsletters are disseminated to the Permanent Missions and Observers to the United Nations in New York and posted on the UNOCT website and on the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform.



UNOCT also commenced the production of **quarterly updates** (both in English and Arabic languages) reporting on the implementation of programmes and activities funded by the State of Qatar. The Office prepared the first update that provided an overview of the results achieved and activities conducted by UNOCT in the areas of policy leadership, coordination and coherence, and capacity-building for the period from January to June 2022, which was transmitted to the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in September 2022. A second quarterly update covering the period from July to September 2022 was prepared and transmitted to the Permanent Mission in November 2022. The updates are expected to inform the Mission and relevant authorities in capital of the progress and results of implementation to ensure transparency on the utilization of the financial contribution from the State of Qatar.

## Priorities for 2023

In 2023, UNOCT will continue to promote the programmes and activities supported by the State of Qatar through the development of tailored communications plans, communications tools, and media campaigns, in collaboration with the Department of Global Communications, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and other counter-terrorism partners, including the State of Qatar. The Office will update its communications and visibility strategy to include all initiatives planned with the State of Qatar to ensure they receive the highest level of visibility and deliver impact.



# 10 MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND OVERSIGHT

In 2022, UNOCT continued to prioritize the consolidation of its programmes and activities across its core policy, coordination and capacity-building functions, both at Headquarters and in the field, to deliver on its mandate in an efficient, effective, and sustainable manner. In order to ensure optimum utilization of extrabudgetary contributions, the Office strengthened its results-based management system, which consists of the:

1. UNOCT Programme Review Board (PRB) that functions as a governance and oversight mechanism for programmes and projects;
2. UNOCT Strategic Plan and its Results Framework that provides the overarching strategic direction and monitoring framework for the period 2022-2025; and
3. UNOCT internal governance and guidance documents (i.e., strategies, policies, standard operating procedures, and guidelines).

In December 2022, UNOCT issued a new PRB Policy that provides the purpose, scope of work, composition, roles and responsibilities, and functioning of the PRB mechanism. The PRB serves as UNOCT's primary internal control, governance, and oversight mechanism to ensure the efficient and effective management and release of extrabudgetary funding for UNOCT programmes and projects. The PRB, chaired by the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and consisting of all Director level senior leadership, reviews programme and project submissions; monitors

implementation to ensure programmes achieve intended results; provides direction and guidance to ensure effective programme delivery; and updates and advises the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT on related actions. In reviewing UNOCT programmes and projects and exercising strategic guidance and oversight, the PRB is guided by the following principles:

- **Strategic alignment** with UNOCT's mandate, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its review resolutions, relevant Security Council resolutions, and UNOCT Strategic Plan and its Results Framework
- **Needs and results focus:** The PRB will ensure that programme/project documents and revisions are relevant and responsive to the needs of Member States and other beneficiaries, and designed to deliver transformative, relevant, and effective results.
- **Comparative advantage:** The PRB will ensure submissions demonstrate UNOCT's leadership, expertise and value-add, leverage the comparative advantage of partner entities, avoid duplication, and foster synergies.
- **Human rights and gender mainstreaming:** The PRB is committed to ensuring the full integration of gender equality and human rights across UNOCT programmes and projects, including through the consistent and correct application of the gender marker.

- **Resource stewardship:** The PRB will support the effective and efficient management of human, financial and physical resources.

The Policy provides for an expanded list of ex-officio observers responsible for resource mobilization and donor relations, programme management, human rights and gender, evaluation and compliance, field coordination, finance and budget who are invited to attend the meetings of the PRB to address matters in their areas of expertise. The Policy also highlights the responsibility of programme management officers and senior managers to ensure timely, quality, and complete programme/project submissions and undertake prior consultations with relevant UNOCT branches and sections to ensure all aspects and perspectives are adequately considered and reflected in proposals for PRB review. The PRB held 12 meetings in 2022.

In addition, UNOCT issued its new **Strategic Plan for the period 2022-2025** which introduces the Office's vision, mission, and strategic goals, as well as its institutional priorities to operationalize the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly. The Strategic Plan establishes a consolidated UNOCT Results Framework guided by a theory of change and capturing all outcomes under each of the Office's strategic goals. In 2022, all UNOCT programmes and projects were harmonized with the Results Framework in Umoja's Integrated Planning, Management and Reporting (IPMR) solution, which manages the lifecycle of UN programmes and projects. The outcomes and indicators of the Results Framework will be subject to systematic monitoring through annual reviews and the implementation of the Strategic Plan and its Results Framework will be evaluated in line with the United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards and the UNOCT Evaluation Policy and its Guidelines.

<b>Vision</b> <b>Together, Building a Future Without Terrorism</b>	
UNOCT works together with Member States, the United Nations system, international, regional and subregional organizations, civil society, private sector and other partners in addressing terrorism across its lifecycle, and in supporting them in the implementation of international obligations and instruments to prevent and counter terrorism in accordance with the rule of law, and in a human rights compliant and gender responsive manner.	
<b>Strategic Goal 1</b>	Foster further unity and collaboration within the United Nations against terrorism
<b>Strategic Goal 2</b>	Create resilience against violent extremism conducive to terrorism
<b>Strategic Goal 3</b>	Reinforce responses to terrorist threats and attacks
<b>Strategic Goal 4</b>	Mitigate the risks and impact of terrorism
<b>Strategic Goal 5</b>	Promote human-rights compliant and gender responsive counter-terrorism and prevention and countering of violent extremism efforts

In 2022, UNOCT's **Programme Management Unit (PMU)** continued to provide programmatic support to UNOCT's results-based management system. PMU supported the design and development of UNOCT's Strategic Plan and its Results Framework and monitored the capacity-building work of UNCCT, SPIB and HRGS against the performance results of the Results Framework. In doing so, PMU regularly updated the UNOCT App 'used as an internal programme monitoring tool and ensured compliance with Umoja's IPMR solution. The Unit continued to support UNCCT, SPIB and the HRGS through quality assurance of programmes and projects from initial design to closure. PMU also initiated work on developing guidelines and the first e-learning course on results-based management for UNOCT staff to strengthen internal capacities and results-culture.

Located in the OUSG, UNOCT's **evaluation function** is well positioned to conduct evaluations with the required level of independence and credibility in line with UN norms and standards. UNOCT has in place an Evaluation Policy that provides the overall framework for planning and undertaking evaluations by the Office. As a result, the biennial study conducted by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (2020-2021) recognized two evaluation reports produced by the UNOCT as best practice and included these in the Evaluation Knowledge Management Platform for use by other Secretariat entities. In 2022, UNOCT through its Evaluation and Compliance Unit developed an Evaluation Handbook and Guidelines to operationalize the Evaluation Policy and enhance evaluation capabilities in the Office. The Handbook provides guiding principles and standards, processes, practical tools, methodologies, and templates for use in conducting different types of evaluations in the Office and when jointly undertaking evaluation processes with other UN entities.

During the reporting period, UNOCT and UNODC jointly undertook an **independent evaluation of the Countering Terrorist Travel Programme** in order to take stock of achievements and experiences and gather initial lessons from programme implementation to aid decision-making for the programme. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation are being used by all implementing partners and stakeholders to identify successes and understand problems that need to be addressed to ensure the attainment of programme objectives in the remainder of the implementation period.

UNOCT also continued to support United Nations system-wide evaluation capacities as chair of the **Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation (RMME) Working Group of the Counter-Terrorism Compact**. Following the publication and dissemination of the report on the findings of the meta-synthesis of evaluations under the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy carried out with seed funding from the State of Qatar, UNOCT through the RMME Working Group coordinated the development of management responses for the implementation of the six study recommendations. Counter-Terrorism Compact members identified opportunities for co-implementing some of these recommendations and progress was made in implementing activities in support of the recommendations. For instance, a detailed funding proposal for the first evaluation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was developed and presented at various fundraising events. In addition, a concept note for the establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Community of Practice on CT and PCVE was completed, while work was initiated on the development of content for the creation of an online collaborative platform on the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform. The Community of Practice will support peer learning and partnerships in the use of CT/PCVE related monitoring and evaluation to

strengthen performance, accountability, and learning among Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and Member States.

In 2023, UNOCT will finalize the Evaluation Handbook and Guidelines and publish it in the UNOCT website to maximize its reach and use. This will be followed by sensitization sessions for staff on the usage of the guidance materials and retrieval of templates for evaluation purposes. The Office will also review its evaluation policy to ensure mutual conformity of the two documents and compliance with the Administrative Instructions on Evaluation issued by the Secretariat. In line with the requirements established by the handbook, a call for evaluation proposals will be sent to all sections in the Office and compiled into an evaluation plan for the period 2023-2024. This will be followed up with the conduct of evaluations of selected programmes including through cooperation with other entities to undertake joint evaluation as necessary.

Also in 2023, the Counter-Terrorism Compact RMME Working Group will continue to work on a joint project with the EU which was launched to develop a **UN-EU Compendium of Good Practices in Evaluating and Monitoring Results of CT and PCVE initiatives**. This work which involves three workshops in New York, Rabat and Brussels will bring together experts in evaluating CT and PCVE initiatives to collect good practices, tools, and successful examples that will be compiled into the Compendium for use by Compact entities and Member States. This work is expected to be presented at the Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations in June. Additionally, through the RMME Working Group, UNOCT will continue to develop and operationalize the Monitoring and Evaluation Community of Practice on CT and PCVE.



EU-UN Leaders' Dialogue on Counter-Terrorism, 8 April 2022. Photo/UNOCT

# 11 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



As of the end of 2022, UNOCT had secured \$347,340,582 in contributions from 36 funding partners to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism since its creation in 2009. In 2022, UNOCT and the State of Qatar celebrated an important milestone in its partnership as Qatar became the largest contributor to the Trust Fund with a total contribution of \$137.8 million. This represents 37% of the cumulative funds secured in the Trust Fund, and includes contributions under three main agreements, namely:

- **Contribution agreement of \$120 million** for eight years (2019-2026) to support UNOCT core staffing and operational costs, as well as capacity-building programming, which includes \$45 million announced on

the occasion of the Beneficiaries Forum, and the initial contribution of \$75 million signed in December 2018 (grant number S1-32CTI-000088).

- **Contribution agreement of \$5 million** for three years (2020-2023) for the establishment and operations of the International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism in Doha (grant number S1-32CTI-000103).
- **Contribution agreement of \$12.5 million** for five years (2020-2025) through the Shura Council of the State of Qatar for the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism in Doha (grant number S1-32CTI-000111).

Despite the approval by the United Nations General Assembly of the Secretary-General's 2023 programme budget proposal for UNOCT and the conversion of 25 extra-budgetary posts to United Nations Regular Budget, less than 9% of the Office's annual budget is sustained through assessed contributions.

UNOCT continues to rely on extrabudgetary contributions for the fulfillment of its mandated activities and will continue to be guided by the UNOCT Resource Mobilization Strategy launched in December 2021 to secure sustainable, diversified, flexible and predictable funding.

## List of contributions and allocations to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism (2009-2022)

#	Funding partners	Total in US\$
1	Qatar	137,770,000
2	Saudi Arabia	110,000,000
3	European Union	27,934,350
4	United States of America	10,147,377
5	UN Peace and Development Fund/ China*	9,100,937
6	Netherlands**	8,311,928
7	Germany	5,591,088
8	Japan	5,234,945
9	Russia	4,800,000
10	Canada	4,085,724
11	Norway	3,747,148
12	Spain	2,984,798
13	United Kingdom	2,314,498
14	Australia	2,247,089
15	India	2,050,000
16	Morocco	1,875,333
17	Republic of Korea	1,743,202
18	Italy	1,197,524
19	UNDP/European Union	1,001,963

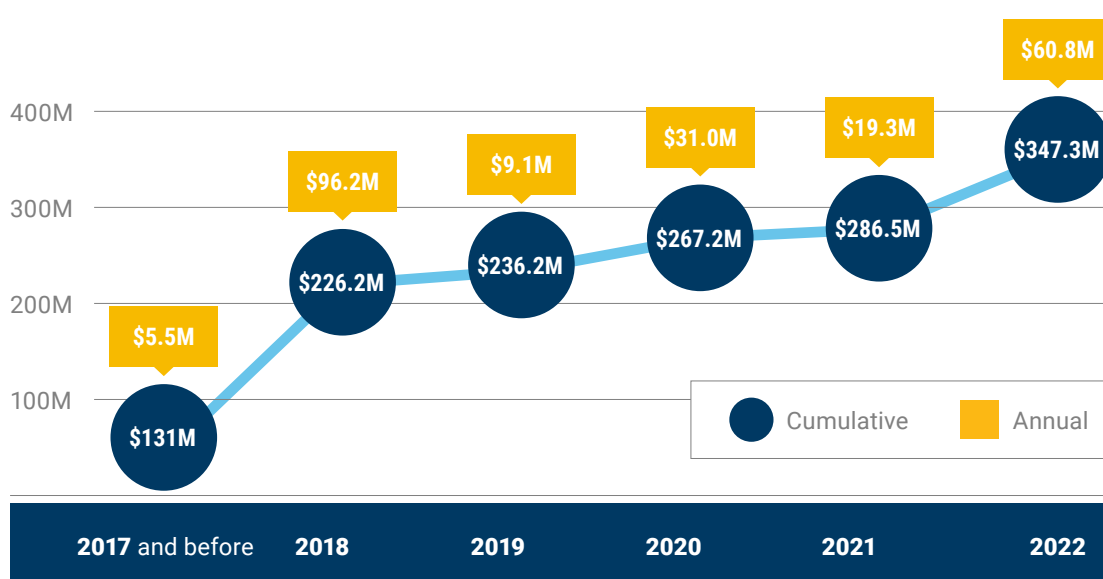
20	Sweden	800,772
21	Denmark	683,858
22	Hungary	577,125
23	Switzerland	548,621
24	Portugal	527,163
25	France	461,586
26	Kazakhstan	378,552
27	United Arab Emirates	350,000
28	Belgium	270,855
29	UNDP MPTF	191,788
30	Finland	149,858
31	Colombia	125,000
32	Turkey	60,000
33	Liechtenstein	40,000
34	Algeria	22,500
35	Nigeria	10,000
36	Kenya	5,000
<b>Grand total</b>		<b>347,340,582</b>

\* Allocations from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund/China

\*\* In addition, in-kind contribution provided by the Netherlands (valued at \$11.5 million in 2018) and Hungary (\$1.1 million 2021-2022)



### Cumulative and annual pledges and allocations to the Trust Fund of Counter-Terrorism (2009-2022)



In 2022, UNOCT programmed a total budget amounting to \$27.8 million (compared to \$23.3 million in 2021) and spent \$25 million (compared to \$21.3 million in 2021).

The costs for functions providing leadership, strategic planning, managerial capacity as well as oversight, evaluation and administration support for the Office funded with the Qatari

contribution have been apportioned among the five priority areas presented in the table below.

The utilization rate in 2022 averaged 90% of the total budget, compared to 91% in 2021. UNOCT prioritized the use of earmarked contributions to ensure the most efficient and impactful use of the unearmarked contribution from the State of Qatar.

Programmatic Area	2022 Budget	2022 Expenditures <sup>1</sup>	Budget Utilization Rate %
<b>PRIORITY 1:</b> Strengthen coordination, coherence and common action	\$10,884,277	\$10,218,247	94%
<b>PRIORITY 2:</b> Special projects and innovation	\$3,811,020	\$3,444,949	90%
<b>PRIORITY 3:</b> Preventing and countering violent extremism	\$425,069	\$270,941	64%
<b>PRIORITY 4:</b> Countering terrorist travel	\$6,561,608	\$6,191,115	94%
<b>PRIORITY 5:</b> Victims of terrorism	\$1,332,452	\$798,427	60%
Behavioural Insights Hub in Doha	\$2,787,214	\$2,561,708	92%
Parliamentary Engagement Programme Office in Doha	\$2,041,488	\$1,553,289	76%
<b>Total**</b>	<b>27,843,128</b>	<b>25,038,676</b>	<b>90%</b>

1 At the time of the publication of this report, the closure of the 2022 financial year is still ongoing and hence the figures provided are subject to small variations.

The interim statements of income and expenditures for the period ending on 31 December 2022 for the three contributions provided by the State of Qatar are submitted with this report. In relation to the grant number S1-32CTI-000088 pertaining to the main contribution to UNOCT of \$120 million, the cash available at the end of 2022 was negative \$331,173. This means that the expenditures and commitments raised in 2022 exceed the

cash available. For this reason, UNOCT would appreciate an earlier disbursement of the annual tranche to enable smooth operations of the Office. An earlier disbursement would be in line with the Contribution Agreement between the Government of the State of Qatar and UNOCT (section B.V.) which indicates that the annual contributions of \$15 million will be transferred in the month of January each year.

## 12 CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

Through the strong political, financial and technical support of the State of Qatar, UNOCT continued to deliver on its mandated functions, working in close collaboration with Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and other external partners, to support Member States and other counter-terrorism actors in the comprehensive, effective and balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its review resolutions, as well as other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism around the world.

Qatar's contribution was used in accordance with the operational parameters stipulated in the multi-year Contribution Agreement signed

between the State of Qatar and UNOCT on 16 December 2018 to support strategic initiatives to address the scourge of terrorism. This contribution not only enabled the achievement of impactful results under the four key strategic initiatives defined in the agreement, namely, the promotion of "whole of UN" approach to counter-terrorism through the Counter-Terrorism Compact, implementation of the UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme, prevention and countering of violent extremism, and supporting victims of terrorism, but went beyond and supported the implementation of UNOCT's several flagship global programmes in priority counter-terrorism areas set out in the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its seventh review, as well as various Security Council resolutions.



Photo/UNOCT

As detailed in the report, in 2022 UNOCT exercised its policy leadership and coordination mandate, through the preparation of the Secretary-General's reports on counter-terrorism, participation in United Nations system-wide policy processes such as the development of the New Agenda for Peace, the organization and delivery of high-level international and regional conferences, periodic briefings to Member States and the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee on the threat landscape and the United Nations' counter-terrorism efforts, and bilateral and multilateral meetings and engagements with Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society, the private sector, academia, think tanks and other counter-terrorism actors.

In 2022, UNOCT together with its partners successfully organized several landmark events around the world, which promoted multilateral cooperation and strengthened commitment against terrorism, established and expanded partnerships and professional networks, raised awareness of new and emerging threats and trends, enabled the sharing of expertise, good practices and lessons learned, and identified innovative solutions and initiatives to better respond to the terrorist threat. These included, among others, the high-level international conference on "Regional cooperation among Central Asian countries within the framework of the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy" in Tashkent; the Annual Forum of Beneficiaries of Technical Assistance in Doha; the high-level international conference on "Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism" in Málaga; the Global Congress on Victims of Terrorism in New York; and the international high-level conference on "International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movement of Terrorists" in Dushanbe.

UNOCT continued to lead the coordination of the United Nations' counter-terrorism efforts through the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which reached 45 UN and non-UN members, and registered 1,000 focal points from 136 Member States and 13 regional and international organizations, serving as the largest coordination framework across the Organization.

At the same time, UNOCT continued its results-oriented programmatic delivery through the effective implementation of several global programmes funded by the State of Qatar, both at Headquarters and through its programme offices in the field, in the areas of countering terrorist travel, aviation security, protection of vulnerable targets, autonomous and remotely operated systems, national inter-agency coordination mechanism or fusion cells, counter-terrorism investigations, security of major sporting events and promotion of sports as a tool to prevent violent extremism, victims of terrorism, behavioural insights, and parliamentary engagement. These programmes effectively supported Member States capacities in preventing and countering terrorism through the provision of specialized technical assistance, advocacy and outreach, production of policy guidance and knowledge products, delivery of trainings and workshops, and organization of several high-level thematic events with the participation of diverse counter-terrorism actors.

2022 was also a defining year for new and strengthened partnerships with a diverse range of counter-terrorism partners, including international and regional organizations, civil society, private sector entities, academic and research institutions, and think tanks, solidified through the conclusion of cooperation agreements and instruments. Enhanced outreach and partnerships supported UNOCT's capacity-building and coordination efforts, created opportunities for further collaboration, and promoted an inclusive and meaningful multi-stakeholder approach to counter-terrorism. The Office

continued virtual and hybrid modalities to ensure broader participation and offset costs, while holding in-person meetings and events as required. It also strengthened its digital capabilities and tools for broader outreach and impact of assistance. For example, the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform reached a record of over 2,000 beneficiaries from 144 Member States through 46 courses and 22 communities of practice, becoming a go to forum to learn, connect, coordinate, and share knowledge.

While 2022 was the year in which UNOCT focused on supporting counter-terrorism efforts in Central Asia, among other geographic and thematic priorities, 2023 will be the year of Africa. A signature event in that regard will be the co-organization of the African Counter-Terrorism Summit in Abuja with the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in close collaboration with other partners, on the theme “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa”. African Heads of State and Government, together with key international and regional actors, will review the nature and severity of the threat of terrorism in Africa and agree on concrete priorities and measures pivoted on institutional approaches to address this scourge. The Summit will help strengthen regional cooperation and institution building and reinvigorate international support for the African continent. Ahead of the Summit, UNOCT will work closely with the State of Qatar on the organization of the Second Beneficiaries Forum in Marrakesh, with a geographic and thematic focus on Africa, as well as the Fifth High-Level Strategic Dialogue.

Another priority event for UNOCT will be the organization of the biennial Third Counter-Terrorism Week in June at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, which will include (i) the Third High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member

States on the theme of “Addressing Terrorism through Reinvigorated Multilateralism and Institutional Cooperation; (ii) the Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly for the adoption of the eighth review resolution of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy; and (iii) side events jointly organized by Member States, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, and civil society partners. The signature event will also serve as an important platform to inform the Abuja Summit.

As co-lead with DPPA, DPO and ODA, UNOCT will undertake consultations with Member States, civil society, and other United Nations entities to develop the New Agenda for Peace. A policy brief that summarizes the key points and recommendations of the Agenda will be issued in June for consideration by Member States at the preparatory ministerial meeting in September 2023. The Agenda is one of the high-level tracks of the Summit of the Future that will take place in September 2024 and adopt a Pact for the Future. The Office will ensure that the document clearly articulates global terrorism as a transnational threat in the broader peace and security landscape, as well as possible actions for ensuring more effective responses to terrorism across the United Nations system.

As secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Compact and chair of its Coordination Committee, UNOCT will focus the Compact’s work on:

- 1. strengthening engagement and coordination** with Member States by enhancing access to the Coordination Platform and facilitating participation in the Coordination Committee and Working Group meetings;
- 2. advancing partnerships and cooperation** with regional organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector at strategic and practical levels; and

**3. fostering joint planning** and ensuring coherent and effective fundraising for United Nations' counter-terrorism projects. Additionally, the Counter-Terrorism Compact will further align its work with the outcomes of the eighth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as the needs and expectations of Member States to further strengthen a coordinated and coherent response to the evolving terrorism landscape.

In terms of programmatic activities, the Global Sports Programme will continue to provide technical assistance to Member States on how to integrate sport into their strategies and national action plans on PVE as well as to protect major sporting events against the threat of terrorist attacks, develop a second phase of the #MoreThanAGame campaign, support civil society organizations in the implementation of sport-based PVE initiatives, launch e-learning modules, and organize youth forums. The Global Programme on Vulnerable Targets Protection will develop additional guidance on specific sectors and priorities, enhance its outreach through its Global Expert Network, and expand its capacity-building efforts and partnerships with Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and academia. The Global Programme on Counter-Terrorism Investigations will continue to deliver trainings on special investigations techniques, and the AROS Programme will offer Micro-UAS Operator and pilot Training Courses in addition to developing other training modules addressing threats from unmanned aircraft systems. In addition, the Global Fusion Cells Programme will seek to establish and develop analytical capabilities of national inter-agency coordination mechanisms in requesting African countries.

Regarding countering terrorist travel, the UN CT Travel Programme will launch new regional informal working groups in the Middle East and North Africa and Southeast Asia, expand the

scope of its support to border management, and enhance technical capabilities including compatibility with external solutions. On the other hand, the Global TAM Programme will finalize the delivery of technical assistance to the Philippines, Nigeria and Viet Nam and transition into a second phase of implementation to address new and emerging threats to civil aviation. The VoT Programme will assist Member States and victims of terrorism and their associations through the implementation of the Model Legislative Provisions pilot project, commemoration of the sixth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, preparation of the 2024 International Conference of Victims of Terrorism, launch of the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network, and finalization of knowledge products.

In terms of implementation through UNOCT's programme offices in Doha, the BI Hub plans to deliver several activities and outputs, including the development of a Behavioural Insights for Counter-Terrorism Strategy (BI4CT), launch of the BI4CT Academy, creation of a BI4CT Community of Practice, establishment of a Youth Summer School, and development and launch of podcast mini-series focusing on the power of sport in behavioural change. On its part, the Parliamentary Engagement Programme Office will continue providing legislative and normative assistance, developing specialized tools, enhancing capacities of parliamentarians and parliamentary assemblies at national, regional and global levels, enhancing the role of youth and women in preventing and countering terrorism, and fostering cooperation and coordination through the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies, the Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Working Group for Africa, and the Online Global Parliamentary Network.

In implementing these priorities, UNOCT will continue its institutional business modality of consolidation, strengthening horizontal integration among its organizational work

units at Headquarters and programme offices in the field, as well as between Headquarters and field presences. This will ensure greater efficiencies, synergies, and coherence in the work of the Office across its mandated functions. As part of consolidation efforts in the field, the Office will implement a data-driven annual review to ensure programme offices are substantively fit-for-purpose, given the evolving terrorist threat at regional and country levels, while at the same time streamlining business processes to be more efficient and effective.

Securing sufficient, predictable, and diversified funding will remain a priority for UNOCT in 2023. The Office will seek to enhance the number of strategic partners to avoid any funding gaps and sustain its full-scale programmatic delivery to meet the growing demand for assistance by Member States. Further to the General Assembly's approval of conversion of 25 UNOCT extrabudgetary posts to the United Nations Regular Budget, the Office will continue advocating for increased

Regular Budget allocation for UNOCT through the regularization of the remaining 24 extrabudgetary posts to ensure sustained funding for core non-programme functions. The Office will also continue to deepen and expand its partner base by actively engaging with civil society, the private sector, and the academia through consultations and several joint initiatives, while further developing the UNOCT Connect & Learn platform through the launch of new courses.

As demonstrated in this report, UNOCT was able to achieve significant results in 2022 across all pillars of its mandate through the generous financial, political, and technical support of the State of Qatar. The Office will continue to count on the vital contribution of the State of Qatar, as a key counter-terrorism partner of UNOCT and the United Nations, as well as the support of other donor partners, to ensure the full and effective delivery of its mandate in support of Member States' efforts to prevent and counter terrorism.







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