Leadership

The Office provides its capacity-building support to Member States through the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB). UNCCT was established by an initial contribution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund in 2011. UNCCT has an Advisory Board composed of 21 Member States plus the European Union (EU) as a Guest Member. SPIB was established following a contribution by the State of Qatar as part of the Contribution Agreement between UNOCT and the State of Qatar signed in 2018. To enhance coordination and coherence, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which is a coordination framework bringing together 43 entities, was launched by the UN Secretary-General in December 2018. The Compact operates thanks to the contribution of the State of Qatar. It operates through its Coordination Committee and 8 thematic Inter-Agency Working Groups, which were revitalized in April 2019, providing an “All-of-UN approach” to the system’s work on counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism as conducive to terrorism.

Highlights

- The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center (UNCCT) and Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in a number of key areas related to counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism. (1 Oct)
- UNOCT launched its “Connect & Learn” platform to offer a widely accessible all-in-one virtual space for learning and connecting stakeholders from all-of-society, including Member States, civil society, private sector and academia. This innovative platform will expand the Office’s reach and ability to deliver online CT and P/CVE capacity-building to CT practitioners around the world, thereby reinforcing in-person capacity-building delivery. (1 Oct)
- UNOCT Vulnerable Targets Programme held its third International Expert Group Meeting on the protection of Vulnerable Targets and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Member States, UN, IROs, CSOs, academia and the private sector shared experiences/good practices. Key takeaways included the importance of public-private partnerships, further international cooperation, and respect of international human rights when using UAS to protect vulnerable targets. (6-7 Oct)

About UNOCT

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UNOCT Mandate

Established through GA resolution 71/291 on 15 June 2017, the Office has five functions:

- **Provide leadership** on the GA counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the UN system
- **Enhance coordination and coherence** across the 38 Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global CT Strategy
- **Strengthen delivery** of UN counter-terrorism capacity building assistance to Member States
- **Improve visibility**, advocacy and resource mobilization for UN counter-terrorism efforts
- **Ensure that due priority is given** to counter-terrorism across the UN system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy
October in Review 2021

**Highlights (cont’d)**

- UNOCT and OHCHR launched a new publication, entitled *Human Rights at International Borders: A Trainer’s Guide* during a virtual event. This new capacity-building resource seeks to support the work of Member States and frontline border officials to adopt a human rights-based and gender-sensitive approach to border governance. (25 Oct)

**Capacity Building**

**UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)**

UNCCT held a hybrid regional capacity-building workshop on Investigation of Terrorist Financing in Cairo. The workshop was tailored to enhance the technical capabilities of participating law enforcement agencies, prosecutors’ offices and financial intelligence units from the 21 MENAFATF member jurisdictions to conduct financial investigation in relation to counter-terrorism cases. (3-5 Oct)

UNCCT convened a three-day hybrid training on counter-terrorism investigations online for Burkina Faso, in which Burkina Faso officials were introduced to recent trends in the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, Member States’ roles in countering this transnational threat, legal and human rights aspects of using open source intelligence (OSINT) for counter-terrorism and OSINT tools and techniques. (11-13 Oct)

UNCCT in cooperation with the US Department of State, CRDF Global and the Iraqi National Monitoring Authority for Nonproliferation, held a training and a table-top exercise in Istanbul for Iraqi national security agencies, law enforcement and the military sector. The training provided the participants with a framework by which a chemical awareness, security and countermeasures programme may be implemented by law enforcement, government authorities and industry partners. During the table-top exercise participants practised coordination among key national agencies during a simulated chemical terrorist incident. (17-19 Oct)

**Special Projects & Innovation Branch (SPIB)**

**The Addressing Counter-Terrorism in Aviation Security Unit**, in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community (SADC), organized a workshop on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security for SADC Member State representatives working for government agencies with mandates for civil aviation, counter-terrorism, intelligence services and law enforcement. Officials learned about successful national inter-agency cooperation and received training on models of interagency cooperation drawn from UNOCT’s global scan of best practices. (19-20 Oct)

UNOCT, under the framework of the CT Travel Programme, and the OSCE organized the Fifth Passenger Data Exchange Seminar in Vienna which brought together experts from the OSCE, international organizations, and the private sector to discuss various issues and share good practices relating to the collection and analysis of passenger data. (28-29 Oct)

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**UNOCT & SPIB: Jan-Oct 2021**

- **7,621** Individuals trained
- **145** Workshops organized
- **227** Experts meetings held

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**Top Contributors to UNOCT**

UNOCT cumulative pledges since inception of the Trust Fund for Counter Terrorism and from other funds to date, amount to $275.2 million, out of which $224.3 million has been received from 35 donors. Overall, the top donors to date are:

- Saudi Arabia
- Qatar
- European Union
- EOSG PDF funds (China)*
- United States of America
- Netherlands**
- Japan
- Norway
- Canada
- Russia
- Other contributors

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* Allocation from the UN Peace and Security Sub-Fund of the EOSG
** In addition, in-kind contribution provided by the Netherlands (valued at USD 11.5 million in 2018) and Hungary (USD 534k in 2021).

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**UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**

- **Pillar I** Addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism
- **Pillar II** Preventing and combating terrorism
- **Pillar III** Building States’ capacity and strengthening the role of the UN
- **Pillar IV** Ensuring human rights and the rule of law