



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

19 May 2016

Excellency,

Please find enclosed an informal paper containing the main elements to guide the discussions of the fifth Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, which has been prepared by the co-facilitators of this process, H.E. Mr. Roberto García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina and H.E. Mr. Einar Gunnarsson, Permanent Representative of Iceland.

The co-facilitators have informed that this document will be considered at the next informal meeting to be held next Monday, 23 May 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room 11.

We look forward to your continuous support in this important process.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

## **Main elements of the fifth Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review**

Following the appointment of Argentina and Iceland as co-facilitators of the fifth Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy we have maintained series of bilateral contacts, both at PR and expert level. We further convened the first informal consultations on 13 May 2016.

In light of discussions so far we have identified the following three main areas of focus:

- How to reflect main developments, emerging trends and challenges since the last review two years ago;
- How to fulfill the mandate given to us by GA Resolution 70/254 to give further consideration to the Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism;
- How to best reflect on possible ways to improve the coordination within the UN and possible institutional changes to that end.

Our consultations have demonstrated the general will to explore the restructuring of the resolution. The intention of the co-facilitators is therefore to base the zero draft on Resolution 68/276 and previous reviews, but present a new structure in accordance with the four pillars of the Global CT Strategy. This will not entail the deletion of any substantive elements but rather a reorientation of the content in accordance with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In order to facilitate the discussions leading up to the zero draft, the following outline of non-exhaustive list of elements is proposed:

### **Principles and cross-cutting elements**

- Reaffirmation of general principles such as the condemnation of terrorism in all its form and manifestation, the importance of practices and measures being consistent with international law, including the Charter, human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, as well as reiteration that terrorism is not associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group;
- Reaffirmation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, its four pillars and the importance of keeping it relevant and balanced; the principal responsibility of Member States to implement the strategy; role of the General Assembly and importance of international cooperation;
- Consideration of the SG report on the implementation of the strategy;
- Reference to relevant conventions and efforts to finalize a comprehensive treaty;
- Role of civil society and private sector, regional cooperation, role of victims, contribution of women and youth to the implementation of the strategy.

Questions:

1. Are there further cross-cutting elements that should be addressed?
2. Many Member States expressed support for an "All of UN" and "All of society" approach, how would this be reflected in the resolution?

### **Pillar I: Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism**

- Consideration of conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, tolerance and dialogue among civilizations, as well as violent extremism and incitement of terrorism;
- Further, this would be the relevant placeholder for the consideration of the SG Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and a balanced discussion on the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism.

Questions:

3. How should the SG Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism be addressed? How should the recommendations be reflected? How to ensure national ownership of the PVE agenda?
4. How should the SG Plan of Action on PVE be contextualized and in which manner should drivers be addressed in the resolution?

**Pillar II: Measures to prevent and combat terrorism**

- Reiteration of general co-operation obligations; specific methods or acts of terrorism, such as lone terrorists, use of information and communications technologies, kidnapping and hostage-taking, border controls, foreign terrorist fighters and financing of terrorism;
- This part could further address emerging threats or new methods, such as destruction of cultural property.

Questions:

5. How would current concerns regarding the financing of terrorism and efforts to stem the flow of foreign terrorist fighters, including through the internet, be best reflected in the resolution?
6. Which emerging threats should be addressed under measures to prevent and combat terrorism?

**Pillar III: Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard**

- Reaffirmation of the role that the UN plays in facilitating and promoting coordination and coherence in the implementation of the strategy; the need for enhanced dialogue and cooperation among officials of Member States and the importance of regional and subregional cooperation with the UN;
- Reference to the different CT entities of the UN, such as CTITF, CTED and the UNCCT and a call for greater co-ordination, visibility and effectiveness of the system;
- Capacity building requirements and interaction of the CT entities with the Member States.

Questions:

7. How may the convening power of the UN be optimized, such as enabling the sharing of expertise and best practices?
8. Are there any international organizations that may be referenced specifically in the resolution?

**Pillar IV: Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism**

- Promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the rule of law, while countering terrorism; specific areas from the last review include privacy and the use of remotely piloted aircraft;
- Additions could include agreed language from other resolutions relevant to the topic.

Questions:

9. Many Member States raised the importance of balance between the four pillars of the strategy. Which elements could be used to strengthen pillar IV of the strategy?
10. To which extent and in which manner should the SG Plan of Action on the Prevention of Violent Extremism be reflected in pillar IV?

**Institutional aspects**

- Many Member States have mentioned that there is room for improvement in the organization within the UN, while taking into account existing mandates and competences, in order to better support Member States in the implementation of the strategy.

Questions:

11. Would delegations have specific thoughts or ideas on how improved organization could be best reflected in the resolution?
12. In light of paragraph 54 of the SG report on the implementation of the strategy, is further clarification needed on the current structure and possible options for institutional rearrangements?
13. Are there further elements that should be considered, such as financing of and resource mobilization for CT and PVE efforts?