

**Joint intervention on the cooperation between
the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)
and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
(6 May 2008)**

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Chairmen of the three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004), I would like to make some introductory remarks on the cooperation between these Committees.

As requested by the Security Council in all its recent resolutions pertaining to the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee, and more specifically in resolutions 1735 (2006), 1805 (2008) and 1810 (2008), we have worked on enhancing the ongoing cooperation between our three Committees, mostly through our expert groups.

Over the last few months, the three expert groups have continued to jointly implement their common strategy, approved by the three Committees in 2007, to assist the non- and late-reporting States. After the first regional workshop held in Dakar, Senegal, at the end of September 2007 for West and Central African States, a second one, still in cooperation with the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB), was organized from 29 to 30 November 2007 in Gaborone, Botswana, for the Southern African States. As it was done after the Dakar workshop, a post-workshop briefing for all African Union Missions in New York was held on 18 December 2007. The third sub-regional workshop for the Northern and Eastern African States is envisaged to take place in November 2008. These workshops provided the opportunity for the experts of the three Committees to jointly interact with the officials in charge of the implementation of the measures decided by the Council and hence to update them on the work of the Committees. They also enhanced Member States' understanding of the different mandates and roles of the three Committees. Progress has already been achieved as new reports and additional information on States' implementation have been submitted to the three Committees.

Another concrete example of such cooperation is the conduct of visits to Member States carried out jointly by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the experts of the 1267 Committee's Monitoring Team. So far, 9 such visits have taken place, the most recent one to Saudi Arabia from 22 to 29 March 2008. In order to derive common benefit from the CTC visit to Niger last February and from the mission led by the Chairman of the 1267 Committee to Mauritania, Senegal and Mali from 29 March to 5 April 2008, input and questions were provided to each other prior to the trips and information was subsequently exchanged between the Committees and expert groups.

Mr. President,

We continue to encourage our three expert groups to share information and their analyses, as appropriate, of the efforts by Member States to implement their obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions. This exchange of information also includes requests for technical assistance and other requests made by States. Since the last briefing to the Security Council, the Monitoring Team, CTED and the 1540 Expert Group have continued their regular contacts in order to maximize exchange of information and sharing of resources, as well as to avoid duplication. We also encourage our experts to work closely together as they develop their relationships with other relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations and this could possibly be an avenue for even closer cooperation.

The three expert groups are also cooperating within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) established to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, in the context of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy..

Mr President,

This cooperation is not only crucial for the effectiveness of the work of our respective Committees but it is also essential for the coherence of the important contribution of this Council in countering these threats. Avoiding duplication of efforts is of paramount importance. To this end, together with our expert groups, a comparative table has been developed to highlight the main aspects of the respective mandates and areas of competence of the three Committees and of their expert groups. We are of the view that this will be a useful tool for Member States to better understand the specificities and complementarities of our work. This table will be issued today in a press release and will be posted on our respective websites. It will also be used in our various outreach activities and interactions with Member States with whom rests the primary responsibility to implement the obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Mr. President,

Terrorism as well as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction pose a threat to international peace and security and the cooperation by all remains crucial. The Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 as well as their respective expert groups remain committed, within their respective mandates, to their work to contribute to the overall UN and international efforts in assisting States to fully implement the respective resolutions.

In this context, the three Committees look forward to further guidance from the Council on areas of common interest in order better to coordinate their efforts, as indicated in resolutions 1805 (2008) and 1810 (2008).

I thank you Mr. President.
