

**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)**

12 November 2008

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) which deal with the issue of terrorism, I would like to make some remarks on the cooperation among the Committees.

As requested by the Security Council in all its recent resolutions pertaining to the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee (1267 Committee), the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee, and more specifically in resolutions 1805 (2008), 1810 (2008) and 1822 (2008), we have worked on enhancing the ongoing cooperation among our three Committees, including our expert groups.

Over the last six months, the three expert groups have continued to implement jointly their common strategy, approved by the three Committees in 2007, in order to assist States in responding to the calls of the three Committees for necessary information. After the first regional workshop held in Senegal at the end of September 2007 for West and Central African States, and a second one in Botswana at the end of November 2007 for the Southern African States, the third sub-regional workshop for the Northern and Eastern African States is taking place in Nairobi, Kenya, 11-13 November 2008. All three events are organized in cooperation with the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB). These workshops have provided an opportunity for the three expert groups to enhance Member States' understanding of the differing mandates and roles of the three committees, and jointly interact directly with the officials in charge of implementation of measures outlined in the respective resolutions. This common strategy is also being considered for other regions.

The success of these workshops is reflected in the content and quality of the new reports and additional information on States' implementation received by the three Committees. This has led to an effort to apply a common approach to other areas where the three expert groups are being encouraged to intensify their cooperation. In particular, the expert groups are working towards a common strategy to assist the three Committees in their cooperation with key

international, regional and sub-regional organizations and relevant UN agencies and entities, as directed by this Council in resolution 1822 (2008). This is another concrete example where cooperation and coordination among the three Committees and their expert groups can be enhanced with the use of common resources to increase efficiency and minimize possible duplication when each group approaches the same organization on similar issues.

Another concrete example of such cooperation is the 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. Over the last 6 months, such joint visits have been conducted to South Africa and Egypt and another is scheduled later this month. CTED and the 1267 Monitoring Team are also preparing for the first time, their participation with the 1540 experts in a new series of regional workshops on implementation of resolution 1540, starting with Sao Paulo, Brazil at the end of November. These workshops are being organised by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, and sponsored by the Government of Norway and the European Union.

We continue to encourage our three expert groups to share information and work in common areas of interest to facilitate the efforts by Member States to implement their obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions. This exchange of information also relates to technical assistance and includes sharing experiences and lessons learned on implementation of the resolutions. The three Committees welcome this further evidence of the close working relationship between the expert groups. The Committees attach great importance to the joint work and, in order to promote it further, hope that the Secretariat will take every advantage of moves related to the Capital Master Plan once again to ensure the collocation of the Monitoring Team with their colleagues of CTED.

The three expert groups continue to cooperate 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. The Monitoring Team, CTED and the experts of the 1540 Committee are not only all part of the CTITF but also play a leading role in some of the working groups.

This cooperation is crucial for the effectiveness of the work of our respective Committees and essential for the coherence of the important contribution of this Council to the fight against terrorism. Avoiding duplication of efforts is of paramount importance. On the occasion of the previous briefing in May 2008, a comparative table was issued to highlight the main aspects of the respective mandates and areas of competence of the three Committees and of their expert groups. This table has served as a useful tool for Member States to assist them in better understanding the specificities and complementarities of our work. An updated version of that table is available today, and is posted on our respective websites. It is 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. A better understanding of what is required can only be beneficial for their effective implementation of the measures decided by this Council and ultimately for countering terrorism and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Terrorism remains one of the most serious threats 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 the fight against terrorism and are convinced that their work contributes 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), 1810 (2008) and 1822 (2008).

Thank you.