

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)

26 May 2009

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) dealing with the issue of terrorism, I would like to give an update on the continued cooperation among the Committees and their expert groups.

During the last six months the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee (1267 Committee), the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee and their respective expert groups have increased their cooperation as requested by the Security Council in recent resolutions pertaining to the three Committees, notably in resolutions 1805 (2008), 1810 (2008) and 1822 (2008).

The three Committees attach great importance to the **coordination of activities of and cooperation among their expert groups**, namely the Monitoring Team, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the 1540 Committee Experts. The Committees welcome the continuing efforts of the expert groups to develop common strategies on areas of common concern, to organize joint workshops, to coordinate their participation in conferences and joint country visits, and to exchange information on their activities. The Committees encourage their expert groups to further enhance their exchange of information and coordination with regard to capacity building, assistance requests and delivery of technical assistance activities. In this context, I would also like to recall that the cooperation and coordination would be facilitated by the co-location of the experts in the framework of the Capital Master Plan.

The three expert groups continued to implement the **common strategy on dealing with non- or late-reporting States** through exchange of information and joint visits, when appropriate, and in assisting Member States in submitting their responses to the three Committees on their implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

In particular, the three expert groups have completed a **series of three workshops on reporting for African States** by holding a workshop in Kenya, from 11-13 November 2008 for Northern and Eastern African States, organized in cooperation with the Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB) of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna. Similar workshops are being planned for Member States in Asia, including the Pacific countries, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean region. In addition to these workshops, the three expert groups are exploring the use of common video conferences. These would be conducted from New York interacting with officials in the capitals of Member States, for example, as took place with officials from the Central African Republic on 11 May, in order to receive further information and updates on the status of implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Committees

believe that such workshops and interactive discussions with officials from capitals are very important tools to enhance the cooperation between the three Committees and Member States, to help improve the understanding of the distinct though connected mandates of the three Committees, and to assist Member States in the implementation of the relevant resolutions.

In response to Security Council resolutions 1805 (2008), 1810 (2008) and 1822 (2008), the three expert groups have recently presented another **common strategy to engage with international, regional and sub-regional organizations, entities and agencies (IROs)**. The objectives of this new strategy are to increase coherence and coordination in the counter-terrorism efforts of the three Committees in their relations with IROs, and to facilitate the latter's efforts to cooperate with the expert groups of the three Committees. The three Committees welcome the presentation of a second common strategy as further evidence of the close working relationship between the three expert groups, and are currently considering their joint proposal.

The expert groups continue to **coordinate their visits to Member States and participation at relevant conferences**. CTED and the Monitoring Team also exchange their schedules of visits to explore whether these could be conducted jointly. When an expert group does not participate in a visit, they exchange information on the Member State that is to be visited. In addition, the three expert groups also share their reports on their visits, whenever possible. The last visit to Uganda (17-21 November 2008) was the twelfth joint trip of CTED with the Monitoring Team to a Member State and more joint visits are envisaged later in the year. The three expert groups also jointly participated in a regional Ministerial Meeting on Organised Crime and Terrorism organized by UNODC in the Dominican Republic in February, and in a Sub-regional Workshop organized by UNODC and OSCE, in Bucharest on 1-2 April.

The expert groups also cooperate on issues regarding the **implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions by States of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)**. They attend periodic meetings with PIF missions to the United Nations in New York on implementation of the resolutions. The three expert groups also continue to work together on risk management and border security issues and participated in the organization of relevant workshops, most recently in Fiji (2 - 4 March 2009) and Vanuatu (29 April – 1 May 2009).

The three expert groups also continue to contribute to and coordinate their work within the framework of the **Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)**, which was established to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system and to help implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The expert groups contribute to the work of several CTITF Working Groups, and the Monitoring Team and CTED have assumed leading functions.

In addition to the above mentioned activities, there are **regular meetings** of the expert groups in New York. Moreover, when CTC organizes briefings in the framework of its official meetings, the Monitoring Team and the 1540 Committee Experts are also invited to participate.

Finally, **the three Committees and their Chairmen have worked to enhance their cooperation.** To this end, we recently organized an informal exchange of views among the Chairmen of the three Committees and discussed issues of common interest and possible areas for enhanced cooperation. It is intended to hold these meetings on a regular basis.

In this context, I would like to note that the **1540 Committee adopted the topic of “Enhancing ongoing cooperation between the 1540 Committee, and other international organisations, including the 1267 Committee and CTC”** in its programme of work for 2009. For this purpose, it recently established a working group on cooperation in order to promote information sharing, coordination on country visits and workshops, technical assistance and other issues of relevance to all three committees.

On the occasion of previous briefings, 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. That table has served as a useful tool for Member States, as it has helped them to better understand the specificities and complementarities of our work. An updated version of the table is available today and has been posted on our respective websites.

Terrorism and proliferation continue to be a daily reality and a threat to international peace and security, faced equally by States and individuals alike. Cooperation is therefore a crucial element in the efforts to counter the threat of terrorism, including that from nuclear, chemical and biological weapons for terrorist purposes. The three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council and their respective expert groups continue to be committed to cooperate and to coordinate their work, within their respective mandates, in order to contribute to an effective and efficient approach within the overall UN framework, as well as within international efforts. In this respect, the Committees look forward to receiving further guidance from the Council on areas of common interest in order to better coordinate counter-terrorism efforts.