

2021 United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week

21–30 June 2021

Virtual side event

“Multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation: the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact—Global Counterterrorism Forum partnership”

Wednesday, 30 June 2021, 8.00–9.30 am EDT (via Microsoft Teams)

Statement of

**Assistant Secretary-General Michèle Coninsx
Executive Director, CTED**

“The value of the GCTF and the practical implications for the UN”

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Allow me to begin by thanking the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact for inviting me to deliver remarks at this side event.

I would also like to reiterate the vital point already made in this, and in a number of other events during Counter-Terrorism Week, that, despite the many challenges brought by the global COVID-19 pandemic, the international community has been able to persevere and even make headway in its collective efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism leading to terrorism.

And this is in large part owing to the partnerships and synergies developed through the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and its strong collaboration with the GCTF.

2021 is a year of milestone anniversaries for those of us involved in countering terrorism.

CTED, the Office that I currently lead, this year commemorates the 20-year anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the creation of the Security Council's Counter Terrorism Committee.

This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the 10-year anniversary of the creation of the GCTF.

Since its launch in 2011, the GCTF has provided an essential multilateral platform for its founding members to share expertise, strategies, and good practices relating to counter-terrorism in an effort to enhance global counter-terrorism cooperation.

And it cannot be sufficiently stressed how effectively the many activities conducted under its various working groups and through Member State-led initiatives has helped increase States' capabilities to deal with terrorist threats, both locally and regionally.

I specifically wish to highlight several key areas where the partnership between CTED and the GCTF has facilitated the delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building, identified emerging threats and trends, and initiated expert cooperation and the sharing of the information and experience needed to counter terrorism.

- **CTED and the GCTF have collaborated in a number of key thematic areas, including, inter alia, the protection of “soft” targets, maritime security, countering the financing of terrorism, addressing the linkages between**

terrorism and transnational organized crime, addressing gender-based violence, ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law, and countering human trafficking.

- **The Global Compact Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement, chaired by CTED, has worked consistently to strengthen cooperation and coordination with GCTF.**
- **CTED has worked with GCTF on its draft memorandum on criminal justice responses to linkages between terrorism, transnational organized crimes and international crimes, and the GCTF Co-Chairs have been invited to brief the Committee on issues of common interest**
- **CTED has also been notably involved in the work of the GCTF West Africa and East Africa Working Groups.**

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

In the context of these and many other joint activities, the UN and GCTF have also continued to ensure that the human rights- and gender-related implications of counter-terrorism efforts remain fundamental and cross-cutting issues to be integrated throughout all initiatives.

I can assure you that CTED will continue its close interaction and cooperation with its Global Compact partners and with the GCTF to explore further ways to monitor, promote and facilitate the effective implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Thank you.