

## Second Counter-Terrorism Week

### *Countering and Preventing Terrorism in the Age of Transformative Technologies: Addressing the Challenges of the New Decade*

#### Side Event:

### *Securing of Vulnerable Targets from terrorist attacks: Challenges and opportunities of Major Sporting Event security governance*

29 June 2021 – 1:30-3 p.m. New York Time

#### **Background**

Protecting Major Sporting Events (MSEs) from terrorist attacks requires complex security and policing arrangements, such as securing locations, cybersecurity measures, managing and responding to attacks, communication, crowd management and first response operations. These critical measures often go far beyond the capacity of individual States and require coordination for supporting not only the countries hosting the MSEs, but all other stakeholders potentially affected by terrorist threats. As spectators begin to return to sporting venues, it is of the upmost importance that Member States are equipped with the proper tools to combat these challenges.

In this context, the *Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism* (Global Sports Programme) led by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and its implementing partners, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS) developed ‘the United Nations Guide on the Security of Major Sporting Events: Promoting Sustainable Security & Legacies’ to assist Member States in the successful planning and implementation of security measures for MSEs.

#### **The Global Guide**

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the United Nations Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) recognize the importance of protecting MSEs from terrorist attacks. On the occasion of the launch of the Global Sports Programme in 2020 at the UN Headquarters, an expert-level meeting was convened with contributions from Member State senior officials, international and regional organizations, the International Olympic Committee, the FIFA and other main sports federations, and private entities with direct interest in MSEs. Follow-up technical consultations led to the preparation of the *United Nations Guide on the Security of Major Sporting Events: Promoting Sustainable Security & Legacies* which reflects innovative methods and successful practices for guiding policy and decision makers on MSE security planning.

#### **Capacity-Building**

The Global Programme provides capacity-building activities to requesting Member States engaged in the planning of MSEs. Through a network of national focal points nominated by Member States for the Global Sports Programme, Members States engaging in the Programme benefit from the

expertise and experiences of an international community of experts and have the opportunity to share knowledge and actionable good practices.

### Side event goal

- ✓ Launching the new United Nations Guide on the Security of Major Sporting Events: Promoting Sustainable Security & Legacies.
- ✓ Presenting the technical assistance and training offered by the Global Sports Programme to Member States that are planning or intending to host MSEs, including on using these events for building resiliency to violent extremism.

**Platform to be used:** Live stream: [CISCO WebEX](#)

### Agenda

(1:30 – 3:00 PM New York Time)

- *Opening Statement*
  - Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary General, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)
- *Overview of the Global Programme: Progress, Priorities and Achievements*
  - Mr. Mauro Miedico, Deputy Director and Chief of Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB), UNOCT
- *Global Guide on the Security of Major Sporting Events*
  - Ms. Anne-Maria Seesmaa, Senior Legal Officer, Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)
  - Mr. Massimiliano Montanari, Chief Executive Officer, International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS)
- *The Global Guide's Added Value: International and National Perspectives and Experiences*
- *Discussion on the Technical Assistance Missions Provided by the Global Programme*
  - Mr. Duccio Mazarese, Programme Management Officer, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- *Leveraging Sporting Events to Prevent Violent Extremism*
  - Mr. Bram Van Haver, Programme Management Officer, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- *Closing Remarks*
  - Ms. Guadalupe Megre, Chief of Special Projects Section, SPIB, UNOCT