

**United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism Ambassadorial-level
Quarterly Briefing to Member States**

5 March 2024, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Statement of
Assistant Secretary-General Natalia Gherman
Executive Director
Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate**

Thank you, dear Under-Secretary-General Voronkov.

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues,

It is a pleasure to brief you on recent developments in the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's (CTED) work.

On behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, CTED conducts assessments of States' efforts to implement relevant Security Council resolutions and facilitates the provision of technical assistance aimed at enhancing counter-terrorism capacities.

In 2023, CTED conducted nine assessment visits to Member States, including Benin, Canada, Chile, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Thailand.

In addition to identifying possible needs, these visits also made possible discussions about areas for which the host country may become a donor of technical assistance and areas in which its experience and effective practices might be shared with other States.

For 2024, the Committee has approved the annual list of assessment visits as proposed by CTED.

In facilitating the delivery of technical assistance, CTED continues to contribute to several global capacity-building programmes, in partnership with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and other United Nations entities, through which CTED leads national consultations and provides expertise in areas such as advance passenger information and passenger name records, small arms and light weapons, and vulnerable targets.

CTED also continues to raise awareness of the Security Council, the Committee and Member States concerning emerging terrorism issues, trends and developments. It promotes Council and Committee policy papers and guiding principles, as well as international standards, codes and best practices to address terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

In December 2023, the Committee adopted the Abu Dhabi Guiding Principles.

These non-binding guiding principles are intended to guide Member States in their responses to the threats posed by the use of unmanned aircraft systems for terrorist purposes.

This year, the Committee is also expected to adopt non-binding guiding principles on preventing, detecting and disrupting the use of new and emerging financial technologies, as well as information and communications technologies, for terrorist purposes.

CTED has recently launched an analytical brief on “Establishing effective public-private partnerships on countering the financing of terrorism”.

It also published its third annual thematic summary assessment of gaps in implementing key countering the financing of terrorism provisions of Security Council resolutions.

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues,

The evolution of the terrorist threat in many subregions in Africa illustrates the importance of ensuring that the United Nations' counter-terrorism efforts are attuned to national and regional dynamics.

To that end, in the past five years, CTED conducted visits to Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Sudan, Togo and Uganda.

The findings from these visits, as well as the recent 16 desk assessments of African States, have been made available to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities for the design and programming of capacity-building activities.

We welcome the fact that the 10 initiatives of the United Nations Joint Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in Africa have all been developed accordingly.

In this context, I also wish to highlight the pilot project CTED, UNOCT, the Resident Coordinator and the United Nations country team in Benin have launched, under which the Government formally

requested the development of a coordinated and prioritized United Nations technical assistance plan in support of its counter-terrorism efforts.

Against this background, and while building on its assessments and dialogue with Member States, CTED is committed to contributing to the success of the Abuja high-level meeting, aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and institution-building in Africa.

Thank you.