ABOUT US

Countering the scourge of terrorism has been on the agenda of the United Nations for decades. In the aftermath of the 11 September attacks against the United States in 2001, the Security Council unanimously adopted 1373, which for the first time established a dedicated Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) of the Council. The CTC is assisted by an Executive Directorate (CTED), which carries out its policy decisions and conducts expert assessments of the 193 United Nations Member States. By July 2021, CTED will have conducted more than 176 visits to some 114 UN Member States on behalf of the CTC since CTED was declared operational over 17 years earlier.

Over 20 Security Council resolutions exist that pertain to the CTC and CTED, an overwhelming majority of which were adopted since 2017. CTED’s mandate was most recently renewed by Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), which extends the Special Political Mission until 31 December 2021. This resolution underscores that CTED’s assessments, and the analysis and recommendations from those assessments, are an invaluable aid to Member States in identifying and addressing gaps in implementation and capacity, and calls on the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), all other relevant United Nations funds and programmes, Member States, donors, and recipients to use these expert assessments in their development of technical assistance and capacity-building projects. The resolution further underlines the essential role of CTED within the United Nations to identify and assess issues, trends, and developments related to the implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions.

MORE INFORMATION

More info about CTC and CTED, including the CTC Chair and CTED’s Executive Director, can be found here: https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/content/about-us-0.

A list of FAQs is available here: https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/content/frequently-asked-questions-faqs.

COUNTRY VISITS

CTED conducts country visits on the Committee’s behalf to assess Member States’ counter-terrorism efforts, including progress made, remaining shortfalls, and priority areas for technical assistance needs, as well as to identify terrorism-related trends and challenges and good practices employed in the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions. CTED leads these assessment visits, which can include experts from relevant international organizations to include the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), the World Customs Organization (WCO), as well as relevant regional and subregional organizations and other specialized bodies and institutions with expertise in specific aspects of counter-terrorism.
NEW AND IMPROVED ASSESSMENT TOOLS & PROCESSES

CTED has developed new, cloud-based assessment tools & processes, which it will launch in mid-2021. One key tool is the CTED assessment and analysis portal, which will reflect the new mandates conferred upon CTED by relevant resolutions, be user-friendly, and make the most effective possible use of qualitative and quantitative data. This portal will allow password-protected access, retaining key elements of CTED’s current assessment and survey tools to allow comparability with previous Committee-approved reports. The tool will serve to simplify and streamline CTED assessments, improve their utility for the design of technical assistance and capacity-building support, and facilitate current and real-time production of analysis and reports. Additionally, the portal will facilitate the availability of the country assessments, recommendations, surveys, and analytical products throughout the United Nations system, and enhance the sharing of its findings with Member States and relevant partners.

STRENGTHENED COOPERATION BETWEEN UNITED NATIONS COUNTER-TERRORISM BODIES

In line Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), CTED and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) have continued to strengthen their cooperation. This includes the sharing of information, identifying priority regions and areas for collaboration, cooperating on the design and development of technical assistance projects and programmes, and aligning their strategic communications and joint outreach activities.

PRODUCTS

- 2020 Year in Review
- Compendium on the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics
- Trends Alerts and Trackers
- The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Counter-Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism, June 2020 and December 2020 Update
- Identifying and Exploring the Human Trafficking, Terrorism, and Terrorism Financing Nexus
- Military Evidence Guidelines