



2021

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

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to the Secretary-General

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# Introduction

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (hereafter Counter-Terrorism Compact), launched by the Secretary-General in 2018, has continued to serve as the primary vehicle for coherent, coordinated and increased support to Member States in their implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

Throughout 2021, the Counter-Terrorism Compact enjoyed strong support from Member States, growing recognition from international partners, and sustained commitment from all its participants towards an “all-of-United Nations” approach that leverages multi-dimensional expertise and mandates across the United Nations system.

During the Second United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week held from 24 to 30 June 2021, Member States expressed appreciation for the counter-terrorism work of the United Nations system and reiterated the important role played by the Counter Terrorism Compact in this regard.

The seventh review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by consensus in June 2021, refers to the Counter-Terrorism Compact 29 times and provides a strong mandate for the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) to sustain counter-terrorism coordination and coherence efforts across the United Nations-system.

The membership of the Counter-Terrorism Compact throughout the year composed of 43 signatories, including 40 United Nations entities plus the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

The Counter-Terrorism Compact’s eight thematic interagency working groups advanced the implementation of their 2021-2022 work plans, under the strategic guidance of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee, chaired by the

Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov. Counter-Terrorism Compact entities continued ensuring business continuity by engaging and collaborating online, which was further facilitated through the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination [Platform](#) (hereafter the Platform), launched shortly after the COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020.



The implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact was supported by a small yet dedicated team established within UNOCT, in line with its mandated policy and coordination functions, and thanks to a voluntary contribution from the State of Qatar. These efforts also benefited from the financial support of the Republic of Korea.

This third annual report on the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact was prepared by the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat, as foreseen by the Counter-Terrorism Compact document. It draws on the 2021 progress reports submitted by the eight thematic working groups to the Chair of the Coordination Committee. The report outlines key progress in 2021 and provides a summary of accomplishments in three main areas:

- *Consolidation of the inter-agency framework;*
- *Strategic leadership on counter-terrorism;*
- *Capacity building support to Member States*

## Key deliverables in 2021

### A) Consolidation of the inter-agency framework

During the reporting period, the eight Counter-Terrorism Compact working groups progressed in the implementation of their work plans, and held 44 regular and in-focus meetings, to facilitate information flow on initiatives and best practices, joint research, and capacity-building. The working group meetings included:

- Dedicated and in-depth thematic briefings on the seventh review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by consensus in June 2021;
- The implementation of the human rights due diligence policy (HRDDP);
- Gendered dimensions of counter-terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism;
- Counter-terrorism financing; protection of vulnerable targets; technology and counter-terrorism;
- Small arms and light weapons;
- Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) and explosive materials;
- The technical assistance needs and recommendations identified by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's (CTED), on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and based on its country assessments and analysis;
- The development and implementation of counter-terrorism strategies;
- Critical infrastructure protection;
- Weapons of mass destruction; maritime security;
- Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS);
- Procurement and financing of arms by terrorist groups;
- Countering terrorist narratives;
- The nexus between terrorism and climate change.

Working groups made additional efforts to invite Member States representatives to their meetings, as well as representatives from United Nations entities in the field, in line with the expectation set in the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Five joint working group projects with seed-funding from UNOCT were successfully completed and led to the development of common reference tools and guidance materials.

**Box 1: Priorities to advance the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact:**

- (1) To align capacity-building efforts with Member States' strategic priorities and technical assistance needs identified by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

- (2) To move towards joint planning, resource mobilization and allocation, and monitoring and evaluation
- (3) To ensure a field-centered approach and sharpen impact on the ground
- (4) To strengthen human rights, rule of law and gender mainstreaming as cross-cutting priorities; and
- (5) To increase transparency and visibility of common efforts vis-à-vis Member States.

Concrete steps were also undertaken to address the five priorities aimed to advance the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact (Box 1), including:

- CTED and UNOCT further facilitated the sharing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)'s technical assistance needs recommendations and country assessment reports from consenting Member States with United Nations entities, in line with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017). This was materialized through the Platform, which features a new and user-friendly matrix with 705 technical assistance needs and recommendations identified by CTED on behalf of the CTC, to inform entities' capacity-building efforts and through in-focus briefings to all working groups;
- The working groups sought to involve representatives from United Nations entities in the field, including their regional and country offices, as well as Resident Coordinators, in regular meetings to share their perspectives and experience on specific themes, countries or regions (e.g. Iraq, Southeast Asia, Tunisia).
- The working groups revised their terms of reference to encourage all entities to actively take into account in their respective work relevant reports and recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review, Human Rights Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council, country offices and field presences of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and human rights components in peace operations; and were provided in-focus briefings on the implementation of the human rights due diligence policy (HRDDP) by OHCHR.

- Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat focused on increasing visibility and communication on the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact, including producing six bi-monthly newsletters for public dissemination on UNOCT's website and the Platform, an annual newsletter for 2021, public web stories on the Coordination Committee meetings on UNOCT's website, a joint web story with the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), and news posts on the Platform (Box 2).

### Box 2: United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform

The Platform, which is maintained with the financial support of the State of Qatar, has continued to serve as an innovative and need-based coordination tool for Member States and Counter-Terrorism Compact entities.

In 2021, the Platform facilitated the digital interaction and information exchange between over 911 focal points of Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and 131 Member States, the European Union and the GCTF. It presently includes over 2,808 resource documents on its various pages and has been visited over 126,300 times since its launch.

#### About the Counter-Terrorism Platform



#### Key functionalities

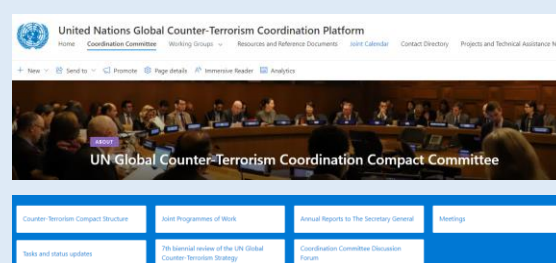
The Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination platform provides to designated focal points from Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and Member States the following key functionalities:

- Global Networking
- Searchable Contact Directory
- Thematic Resource Library
- Joint Calendar
- Multi-stakeholder Collaboration
- Dedicated Working Group Spaces
- Joint Planning and Prioritization
- Activity Trackers
- Matrix of UN Projects on preventing and countering terrorism
- CTED Technical Assistance Recommendations

In addition to the collaborative spaces used daily by working groups, the Platform features a new and user-friendly matrix with 705 technical assistance needs and recommendations identified by CTED on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) to

inform entities' capacity-building efforts, and a project matrix.

In 2021, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat also developed, in collaboration with the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), chat and discussion forum functionalities to improve interactivity on the Platform; and commenced developing a dedicated page for Member States resources. This space is another step towards enhancing the Counter-Terrorism Compact's engagement with Member States and its key partners, and is expected to facilitate the understanding by Counter-Terrorism Compact entities of the counter-terrorism needs and priorities of Member States, foster further information exchange, and enhance Member States' visibility of the efforts carried out through the United Nations system.



The Platform is also used by CTED to share with United Nations entities the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee's technical assessment recommendations and country assessment visit reports, in line with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), resulting in their much broader dissemination and ease of access by entities to inform their capacity-building activities.

### B) Strategic leadership on counter-terrorism

The Coordination Committee, chaired by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Mr. Voronkov, met twice in 2021 at principal-level to provide strategic direction to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact. In June 2021, the Chair submitted to the Secretary-General the second annual report on the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact in 2020, which highlighted key achievements and progress of its work.

Against the backdrop of developments in Afghanistan, the Coordination Committee served as a platform for information exchange

on the evolving situation in the country and its impact on other regions. The Coordination Committee’s meeting in October and December 2021 gathered 27 and 26 entities respectively, to hold strategic discussions on the risks and challenges related to recent developments and their impact on the United Nations’ counter-terrorism efforts.

During the October meeting, the Permanent Representatives of Kenya and Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of the European Union and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization shared their counter-terrorism concerns and expectations in terms of the United Nations role. Participants agreed on the need to prioritize the humanitarian response to support the people of Afghanistan, while helping to mitigate the potential destabilizing impacts for the immediate region and beyond, with a particular focus on strengthening border security and preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

Additionally, a strong emphasis was put on coherence, coordination and integration of the Counter-Terrorism Compact efforts with the field to enhance the impact of the United Nations’ counter-terrorism engagement, in particular for capacity-building. In this regard, the Coordination Committee welcomed the growing involvement of Resident Coordinators and field representatives from entities, as well as civil society in the meetings of the working groups.

*Sixth meeting of the Compact Coordination Committee, 8 October 2021*



The December 2021 meeting was convened at the initiative of United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, who underscored how the terror threat is presently more diverse, spreading offline and online amid growing mistrust, polarization, weak governance, organized crime, and conflict. He encouraged entities to strengthen their efforts

and partnerships through the Counter-Terrorism Compact to deliver technical assistance rooted in human rights and the rule of law. Participants highlighted the high threat level in Afghanistan and agreed that while there seems to be no major direct threat to Central Asian countries in the short-term, the medium- to long-term scenario is filled with uncertainties, including how fast Al-Qaida and Da’esh’s “Khorasan Province” may be able to constitute external operations capabilities.

Counter-Terrorism Compact entities assessed that the dire economic, humanitarian and human rights situation will likely contribute to the expansion of the terrorist footprint in the country, creating a breeding ground for radicalization and spreading insecurity. They further noted that Afghanistan could become an appealing destination for terrorist groups and foreign terrorist fighters to receive trainings and organize attacks, with inevitable regional implications, and underscored the potential for a “global ripple effect” from the Taliban takeover as an inspirational factor for terrorist groups around the world.

Going forward, Counter-Terrorism Compact entities agreed that collective efforts through the Counter-Terrorism Compact are critical to strengthen the collective situational awareness and provide assistance to requesting Member States, notably through enhancing border controls, screening operations, the use of biometrics, and supporting the judiciary. They also called for continued engagement to ensure the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan are respected and the delivery of principled humanitarian assistance. To this end, the Coordination Committee unanimously approved seven practical steps to enhance regional coordination through the Counter-Terrorism Compact and its impact in the field (**Box 3**).

*Seventh meeting of Compact Coordination Committee, 14 December 2021*



In the seventh review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/75/291), Member States called for enhanced “coordination and coherence through consultative, inter-agency efforts, and interacting in their field engagement with country team presences”. Additionally, the resolution noted the role of partnerships with Member States and regional and subregional organizations, and encouraged close cooperation at the national, regional, and international levels in the consideration of thematic counter-terrorism priorities. In the General Debate of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, Member States underscored the need for global and regional counter-terrorism cooperation and the critical role of the United Nations in this regard.

During the reporting period, and in connection to the above, the Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation working group convened a special session with select donors in preparation of the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism, in which Member States were requested to address their main counter-terrorism priority issues and the work done in partnership with United Nations entities, including their added value in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions.

The working group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection organized thematic briefings with the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh (UNITAD), which focused, *inter alia*, on: (i) key findings regarding Da’esh crimes committed in Iraq; (ii) Da’esh’s use and attempted use of chemical and biological materials; and (iii) lessons learned from battlefield evidence collection and analysis, including for chemical and biological incidents; and (iv) on field investigation findings on “New Techniques in Procurement and Financing of Components and Expertise for Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Improvised Weapons,” with the international organization Conflict Armament Research.

Through its standing agenda item addressing “an experience from the field”, the working group on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism organized interactions with the Resident Coordinators

and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representatives in Tunisia and Iraq, and convened a thematic briefing on whole-of-society approaches to preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism (PCVE) to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the engagement of civil society in PCVE, and implications for UN programming, with the participation of a civil society organization, a youth leader from the Central African Republic, and the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).

During its seventh meeting in December 2021, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee welcomed the efforts made so far in interacting with country team presences, Member States, civil society and regional organizations, and decided for the Counter-Terrorism Compact to render these interactions more systematic and focus its efforts on further strengthening the impact of the engagement with Member States, as well as of the Counter Terrorism Compact on the ground, allowing for greater coherence in the delivery of United Nations assistance to Member States.

**Box 3: Practical steps to enhance regional coordination through the Counter-Terrorism Compact**

In consultation with the working groups Chairs, Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat proposed the following seven practical steps for working groups to enhance regional coordination through the Counter-Terrorism Compact, which were unanimously endorsed by the Coordination Committee in December 2021:

- (1) Take into account country-specific recommendations from entities that have developed a strong knowledge and expertise in country situations
- (2) Include agenda items focused on addressing thematic issues in specific countries or regions
- (3) Invite field staff of entities to their meetings, including Resident Coordinators and UNCT’s of countries affected by terrorism
- (4) Engage with civil society organizations, women-led organizations and networks, youth, as well as with academic institutions, and the private sector representatives

- (5) Strengthen their engagements with Member States and regional organizations, and invite them to brief during their sessions and/or meetings
- (6) Explore concrete options for collaboration with the GCTF working groups
- (7) Leverage the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform to increase the online collaboration between Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and Member States' focal points, and to grant access of field representatives of Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to working groups' spaces.

In 2022, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat will carry out an evaluation exercise to draw on the lessons-learned from the implementation of these options.

### Strategic Initiatives

A number of initiatives were undertaken in 2021 under the umbrella of the Counter-Terrorism Compact to provide strategic leadership for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts, including:

- The Second High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States on “Countering and Preventing Terrorism in the Age of Transformative Technologies: Addressing the Challenges of the New Decade from 28 to 30 June,” with over 2,100 in-person and online participants representing 147 Member States, 38 United Nations entities, 38 international and regional organizations, and 88 civil society and private sector organizations in 13 interactive sessions featuring 85 eminent speakers. 36 side events with Member States, United Nations entities and other key stakeholders were also organized with online attendance from 25,000 participants;
- A tribute ceremony to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, jointly organized by UNOCT, on behalf of the United Nations, and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, with more than 300 participants from over 90 Member States and international organisations, including six Heads of State (Austria, Bosnia-

Herzegovina, Cyprus, Guyana, Lithuania and Sri Lanka), and 30 Ministers.

*The United Nations Pays Tribute to Victims of 9/11 Terrorist Attacks*



- The fourth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 20 August, attended by over 300 participants, including Member States representatives, United Nations entities, civil society organisations and victims of terrorism. The event served as an important reminder that the rights and needs of victims of terrorism are at the centre of the United Nations counter-terrorism support to Member States;



 **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF**  
Remembrance of and Tribute  
to the Victims of Terrorism

**SURVIVING TERRORISM**  
THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS

- A Virtual Dialogue with Human Rights and Civil Society Partners on Building a Better Paradigm to Prevent and Counter Terrorism, organized by UNOCT on 25 May in partnership with the Kingdom of Spain. The event brought together over 325 participants, including 152 participants from 76 Member States, 34 participants from 15 United Nations entities, and 98 participants representing 67 civil society organizations, including human rights, women-led and youth organizations.



- The launch of two Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) initiatives co-led by the United Nations for the development of a Guidance Manual on watchlisting in the counter-terrorism context, and on ensuring the implementation of counter-financing of terrorism measures while safeguarding civic space (**Box 4**);
- The establishment of a sub-group on Critical Infrastructure Protection under the working group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection to update the 2018 Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure Against Terrorist Attacks;
- The First Global Parliamentary Summit on Counter-Terrorism on 9 September, co-organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and UNOCT.
- The preparation of the Secretary-General's update report on the activities of the United Nations System in implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/75/729), pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/284 and ahead of its 7th biennial review; and
- The preparation of the Secretary-General's 12th and 13th reports on the threat posed by Da'esh to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat.

#### **Box 4: Collaboration with the Global Counterterrorism Forum**

Throughout 2021, the Counter-Terrorism Compact further strengthened its coordination with the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF). The Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat facilitated information-sharing and coordinated the participation of Counter-Terrorism Compact entities in GCTF expert and working groups meetings, ensuring that GCTF efforts could benefit from United Nations expertise.

The United Nations partnered with the GCTF to co-lead Initiatives that developed the [GCTF Good Practice Memorandum](#) for the Implementation of Countering the Financing of Terrorism Measures While Safeguarding Civic Space and the [GCTF Counterterrorism Watchlisting Toolkit](#).



Both entities have made steady progress to identify common priority areas, established a continuous exchange of information, and come together for regular coordination meetings, including a jointly organized side event during the Second United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week on “Multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation” to exchange information and mobilize expertise to support Member States in their efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism.

*Compact - GCTF side event during the Second United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week, 30 June 2021*



In the context of structured consultations at the Sixth (19 March 2021) and Seventh (28 September 2021) GCTF-Counter-Terrorism Compact Partnership Consultations and at the Nineteenth GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (6 October 2021), the Counter-Terrorism Compact and the GCTF have emphasized their willingness to enhance cooperation to reinforce multilateral collaboration to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

The respective Secretariats have continued to push forward the partnership, including by granting access to the GCTF Administrative Unit focal points to the Coordination Platform, with the objective to further enhancing cooperation between respective Counter-Terrorism Compact and GCTF Working Groups in 2022.

### C) Capacity-building support to Member States

One of the key objectives of the Counter-Terrorism Compact is to improve joint planning, prioritization, monitoring and evaluation of technical assistance and capacity-building support to Member States.

Specific progress achieved in 2021 in this regard, under the umbrella of the Counter-Terrorism Compact working group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation (RMME), includes:

- Technical assessment recommendations and country assessment visit reports of CTED, on behalf of the CTC, were made accessible through the Coordination Platform to all United Nations entities to inform the development and provision of capacity-building support, in line with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017);
- The 2021-2022 United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism, launched during the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations. The Multi-Year Appeal has enabled Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to coordinate their request for the funding of 52 projects for a total of \$179 million from 12 entities, with an aim to avoid potential duplication, and to ensure that priority needs of Member States are supported in the most effective and efficient manner.
- A comprehensive database of United Nations projects on counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism, developed and made accessible on the Platform to entities and Member States through a dashboard.
- The first system-wide meta-synthesis of evaluations under the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, led by the Sub-Group on Evaluations composed of UNOCT, UNODC and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). The sub-group first completed a comprehensive data collection and analysis of 118 oversight reports, external reviews or assessments produced since 2018. A key recommendation made was to validate existing findings with a full-fledged evaluation to derive robust findings from the current synthesis. The synthesis also recommended the establishment of a

common and harmonized M&E framework, a knowledge platform for sharing knowledge, and strengthening the evaluation capacity among Compact entities. The final report will be disseminated in 2022 and will be followed by the development of the management response with follow-up actions to implement the recommendations.

Increased information exchange and interaction through the Counter-Terrorism Compact working groups has translated in a growing number of joint projects and activities. During the reporting period, the Counter-Terrorism Compact umbrella served as a forum to coordinate information sharing, contributions and discussions on multi-agency capacity-building initiatives, including:

- The implementation of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Travel Programme led by UNOCT together with CTED, the UNODC, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), OICT, and INTERPOL, to assist Member States in building their capabilities to detect and counter terrorists and serious criminals.
- The further implementation of the Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration led by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) in UNOCT, in close cooperation with UNODC and CTED.
- The finalization and launch of the Global Framework for United Nations Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country National Returnees, coordinated by UNOCT/UNCCT and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to enable a 'whole of United Nations' response together with 13 other United Nations entities to address the needs of Member States to ensure human rights-based, age- and gender- sensitive protection, repatriation, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of foreign nationals returning from Syria and Iraq who may have alleged or actual links or family ties to designated terrorist groups. The Global Framework is led by a steering committee, composed of all participating UN entities and co-chaired by UNOCT/UNCCT, coordinating work streams contributing to security and accountability objectives, as well as UNICEF, coordinating work streams contributing to humanitarian, recovery, and development objectives.

- The launch of the Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats against Vulnerable Targets led by UNOCT, in partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), UNICRI and in consultation with INTERPOL and CTED.
- The launch of the Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security (“TAM Programme”), which contributes to global counterterrorism efforts by providing technical assistance and capacity-building tools to Member States for risk-based decision-making to secure global civil aviation systems as called for by Security Council resolution 2309 (2016). The Programme is led by UNOCT with integrated expertise from CTED, ICAO, UNODC, and INTERPOL.

*Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security*



[Image source](#)

Joint projects seed-funded by UNOCT to incentivize ‘all-of-United Nations’ efforts remained an important aspect of the collaborative efforts undertaken through the Counter-Terrorism Compact in 2021. Working groups completed five projects on the gender dimensions of counter-terrorism, PCVE, evaluation, human rights, and technology and security respectively, and continued their collaboration on six other projects (Box 5). More details are provided in Section 3 below.

**Box 5: Status of Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group projects seed-funded by UNOCT**

**Completed projects**

- “Global digital consultation with civil society organizations on gender equality and women empowerment in the context of counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism”, implemented by UN Women (Chair) on behalf of the working group on adopting

a gender sensitive approach to preventing and countering terrorism;

- “Intercultural Dialogue and Socio-Emotional Competencies for Peacebuilding” implemented by the working group on preventing and countering violent extremism.
- “Independent meta-synthesis of evaluations under the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy”, implemented by the working group on resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation;
- “Publication of a basic human rights reference guide on proscription of organizations in the context of counter terrorism”, implemented by the working group on promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism;
- “Technology and security: Enhancing knowledge about advances in science and technology to combat weapons of mass destruction terrorism” implemented by the working group on emerging threats and critical infrastructure protection.

**Ongoing projects**

- “Developing guidelines for Member States to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017) and relevant international standards and good practices”, implemented by the working group on border management and law enforcement relating to counter-terrorism, will continue in 2022;
- “Developing a compendium of existing good practices on data protection rules to facilitate international cooperation in counter-terrorism”, implemented by the working group on criminal justice, legal responses and countering the financing of terrorism, will continue in 2022;
- “Preparing a comparative analysis of five regional counter-terrorism strategies to identify good practice and lessons learnt to enhance regional counter-terrorism cooperation”, implemented by the working group on national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, will continue in 2022;

- “Preparing a research and policy report on human rights aspects of the use of artificial intelligence in counter-terrorism”, implemented by the working group on promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism, continue in 2022;
- Capacity building on gender dimensions in SPRR in Uzbekistan, implemented by UNODC on behalf of the working group on adopting a gender sensitive approach to preventing and countering terrorism, planned to take place in September 2022;
- “Ensuring effective interagency interoperability and coordinated communication in case of chemical and/or biological attacks - Phase III”, led by the working group on emerging threats and critical infrastructure protection, will continue in 2022.

## Progress in the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact working groups

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The eight thematic working groups of the Counter-Terrorism Compact progressed in the implementation of their 2021-2022 work plans and held 44 meetings during the reporting period to facilitate information flow on initiatives and best practices, joint research, and capacity-building.

Working groups also made additional efforts to invite Member States representatives to their meetings, as well as representatives from United Nations entities in the field, in line with the expectation set by Member States in the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Throughout 2021, working groups activities entailed different levels of complexity and efforts, such as the organization of coordination meetings and implementing joint working group projects, high-level side events during the Second United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week, thematic briefings, the drafting of in-focus studies and reports, repositories of data.

# Pillar I

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## MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CONDITIONS CONDUCTIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM

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### *Working Group on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism (PCVE)*

#### *Mandate, primary objectives and composition*

This working group seeks to promote coordination and coherence to support the PCVE efforts of Member States, in line with international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, with an essential focus on gender equality and youth empowerment.

The working group, chaired by UNOCT, is guided by the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (A/70/674) and its recommendations. It also serves as the Secretariat to the Secretary-General's High-Level Action Group on Preventing Violent Extremism. UNAOC, UNDP and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) serve as Vice-Chairs. All Counter-Terrorism Compact signatories are invited to participate in the working group.

#### *Coordination and coherence*

The working group met six times in 2021 and leveraged "all-of-UN" support to requesting Member States for the development and implementation of national and regional PCVE plans of action. It also served as a forum for thematic exchanges on whole-of-society approaches to PCVE, including on the meaningful participation of civil society

organizations and mitigating/addressing the impact of COVID-19; linkages between climate change, security and its implications for PCVE. The working group also engaged with the Resident Coordinators and UNDP Resident Representatives in Iraq and Tunisia, and working group members, including UNOCT, UNDP and UNODC, continued to provide support, including to Bangladesh, Sudan, and Sri Lanka.

The working group held several meetings and briefings, including:

- A special meeting on Countering Terrorist Narratives that briefed on the research conducted through the seed-funded project (2020) and "Voices from the field" (Kenya, Nigeria, United Kingdom) to showcase some of UNCCT's recent counter narrative work with StratCom alumni;
- A special meeting on UNDP-UNOCT joint PCVE programme in Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines), covering issues such as engagement with the private sector (tech and social media companies), securing national ownership, alignment between national and regional PVE agendas, coordination, as well as challenges and good practices;
- The first joint meeting with the working groups on gender and on promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism as part of ongoing efforts to mainstream gender and human rights;
- OHCHR briefing on the implementation of the Secretary-General's Guidance Note on civic space and also on the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces;
- The gender working group briefing on the key findings of the regional papers on the gendered dimensions of CT/PCVE developed under the framework of the Global Digital Consultation with civil society in 2020;
- UNESCO updates on the mapping of entities' engagement with CSOs, PVE through Education, protection of cultural heritage and combatting the illicit trafficking of cultural property, intercultural dialogue and communication and information via the promotion of media information literacy;

- UNAOC briefing on rollout of the pilot phase of mapping of religious sites in Burkina Faso;
- OSAPG briefing on the implementation of the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, including field support and social outreach;
- CTED briefing on PCVE related technical assistance recommendations;
- DPPA update on the work of the United Nations Climate-Security Mechanism and current concerns and dynamics in the Security Council regarding climate-security;
- UNOCT/UNCCT updates on Global PCVE Policy Programme, PCVE through Strategic Communications Project and Global Programme on Sports and Security.

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### Research and analysis

PCVE working group included joint mapping/inventory activities in its work plan and undertook several mappings and inventories including:

- (i) Mapping of entities' engagement with civil society on PCVE underscored the need for strengthened engagement with CSOs working on gender, human rights, youth (UNESCO);
- (ii) Mapping and analysis of Compact entities' PCVE related research and materials for ensuring evidence-based, human rights compliant UN efforts (UNDP);
- (iii) Inventory of existing PCVE strategies, plans of action adopted by Member States and regional organizations as well as PCVE programmatic guidance including a summary on the role of behavioral insights (UNOCT);
- (iv) Mapping of over 450 PCVE projects implemented by 20 entities for over 95 Member States addressing all seven priority areas recommended by the UN PVE Plan of Action (UNOCT) - in 2022, this mapping will be streamlined with the resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation working group mapping of existing CT/PCVE activities across the Counter-Terrorism Compact as a joint planning and resource mobilization tool to avoid duplication and ensure data/reporting consistency;
- (v) Project idea 'Unpacking the Nexus: PVE,

Hate Speech and Hate Crime' to strengthen the working group's 2020 project on "Strengthening the UN System Response to Far-Right Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism" to utilize the remaining UNOCT seed-funding (UNESCO/OSAPG).

The working group continued discussing the threat of terrorism based on "xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief," and produced, in April 2021, a set of key messages to engage Member States on this challenge.

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### Technical assistance and capacity-building

The working group continued supporting the development of national action plans, strategies and PCVE coordination on the ground. The working group was able to establish the status of PCVE strategies and plans of action in 63 countries and 5 regional organizations. It provided support to Tajikistan's "Strategy and Action Plan for Countering Extremism and Terrorism" and to Sudan's joint timetable for drafting of the PCVE National Action Plan.

To support PCVE policy coordination and capacity building in close coordination with Resident Coordinator's Offices, and other UN entities, UNOCT recruited National Programme Officers in Manila and Jakarta. The working group also provided support to Central and Southeast Asia through UN-EU STRIVE Asia initiative (implemented by UNOCT, UNDP, UNODC).

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### DigitalGamesForPeace challenge



*The challenge called upon youth (aged 18-35) from South and Southeast Asia to submit their applications for a chance to develop innovative ideas on the use of games for peacebuilding.*

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The working group continued to implement the UNOCT seed-funded project on “Intercultural Dialogue and Socio-Emotional Competencies for Peacebuilding” led by UNESCO, UNAOC and UNCCT and implemented by Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development, India, that aims to strengthen the positive role of youth in PCVE efforts through co-creating game-based methodologies that develop relevant competencies for intercultural dialogue and socio-emotional learning.

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*Global Programme on PCVE’s Youth Engagement and Empowerment*



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Following consultations with youth in Southeast Asia during 2021, the concrete project deliverable is a proof of concept for how video games can be used as an effective educational tool for PCVE interventions. The results and impact of the project will be presented to the working group in 2022.

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***Concluding Observations and Way forward***

The working group completed several objectives and activities as agreed in its 2021-2022 work plan. It also continued strengthening its engagement with UN Country Teams and the field, integrating civil society, youth, human rights and gender in its work. Outstanding activities will be implemented in 2022.

# Pillar II

## MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

### Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement relating to Counter-Terrorism (BMLE)

#### Mandate, primary objectives and composition

The working group's primary objective is to implement comprehensive and coordinated approaches to address terrorism in the context of cross-border activities, including through prevention, contingency planning, management and implementation of effective counter-responses, with the aim of providing assistance to Member States to implement counter-terrorism measures on border management and law enforcement issues, in line with international law, including human rights, humanitarian and refugee law. CTED chairs the working group, along with INTERPOL and UNODC as Vice-Chairs and WCO as Co-Chair. The working group's terms of reference and 2021-2022 work plan were revised and adopted in February 2021.

#### Coordination and coherence

The working group met four times in 2021 and emphasised on identifying gaps and challenges, sharing good practices and strengthening cooperation and coordination. Coordination for Security Council CTC meetings/briefings were also regularly held. The working group continued to reference the Security Council 2015 Madrid Guiding Principles on foreign terrorist fighters and its 2018 Addendum and integrated relevant guiding principles into its work.

The working group coordinated with ETCIP on interrelated mandates of the two groups; and increased cooperation with non-members

including GCTF. The GCTF 'Counterterrorism Watchlisting Toolkit', co-led by the United States and the United Nations, was endorsed by GCTF Ministerial Plenary in October 2021.

The main deliverable of 2021 was the development of the *Technical Guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017) and subsequent relevant resolutions, preventing terrorists from acquiring small arms and light weapons (SALW), improvised explosive device (IED) components and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and components* to be finalized by early 2022.

Since COVID-19 pandemic delayed some joint biometrics initiatives in 2020, the awareness-raising regional workshops resumed in 2021. The working group and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCT) plan to update United Nations Compendium mainstreaming human rights, privacy and data protection principles. The working group followed developments on API and PNR under the UN CT Travel Programme and received updates on UNOCT Programme on National-Level Interagency Coordination Mechanism - Fusion Cell.

The working group facilitated:

- Briefings and meetings on Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (OHCHR);
- ETCIP and BMLE WGs' overlap in the resolutions 2341 and 2396 (INTERPOL);
- Gender integration in BMLE's work (CTED); COVID-19, use of emergency powers and human rights, including to exchange views for its forthcoming report on Emergency Powers and COVID-19 (updating [A/HRC/37/52](#)), and new [Covid-19 Civic Freedom Tracker](#) developed with civil society (SR on HR/CT);

#### COVID-19 Civic Freedom Tracker





- Project on Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of SALW and their illicit supply to terrorists - Supporting the implementation of SCR 2370/2017 and the Madrid Guiding Principles(UNCCT);
- Outcomes of the Seventh review of GCTS (UNOCT);
- The new format of technical assistance recommendations (CTED).

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### Research and analysis

The working group circulated and referenced the trends alerts, reports, guidance, and analytical briefs published by member entities in 2021. All initiatives benefit from CTC/CTED assessments and recommendations, and good practices of Member States. The working group continued to observe the impact of COVID-19 on BMLE and human rights in the counter-terrorism context.

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### Technical assistance and capacity-building

CTED continued to upload its technical assistance need recommendations from 2016 to date in the platform. Working group members were consistently reminded to link the recommendations to increase the impact and efficiency of technical assistance to Member States. Upcoming *Technical Guidelines* will be an important development in assisting Member States in implementing SCR 2370 and related resolutions with compilation of international instruments and tools facilitating Member States' and relevant entities' implementation efforts.

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### Advocacy and visibility

The technical guidelines will showcase the efforts of the working group on a highly technical area of preventing terrorist access to weapons and explosives. CTED and UNIDIR will draft a communication plan to promote its visibility. A dedicated biometrics resources

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<sup>1</sup> Chair's note: during the drafting of the watchlisting toolkit, these elements were included in the WG proposed inputs, but not all fully agreed by the co-lead

webpage, launched during the 2020 virtual Counter-Terrorism week, promotes the Compendiu of recommended practices for the responsible use and sharing of biometrics in counterterrorism developed by the working group.

The working group was consulted and provided inputs on the GCTF initiative on the Counterterrorism Watchlisting Toolkit. Some members, including the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism, raised concerns over the lack of primary international human rights norms in the toolkit such as the principles of necessity, proportionality, non-refoulement, a lack of adequate safeguards for child rights, the right to an effective remedy, and the right to privacy<sup>1</sup>.

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### Efforts to enhance regional coordination

The working group was actively engaged in the GCTF watchlisting initiative and raised issues related to human rights in watchlisting. Some members viewed that the development process of GCTF products made it challenging to appropriately address all contributions made by working group entities. The Chair will explore ways to further improve this partnership and ensure coordination. The working group plans to invite civil society, regional desks and other stakeholders to discuss areas of interest, as well as share updates on regional developments and technical assistance needs and to further explore partnerships.

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## Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection (ETCIP)

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### Mandate, primary objectives and composition

INTERPOL chairs this working group and UNICRI, UNODA and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

of the initiative for reasons such as absence of explicit language in internationally binding instruments, Security Council resolutions included

serve as vice-chairs. There are no changes in the membership and the Terms of Reference of the working group. The 2021-2022 Work Plan was adopted in December 2020.

The main focus of the working group is to promote coordination and coherence in the work of entities signatory to the Global Compact, subject to their respective mandates, decisions, decision-making processes, and programmatic actions, to support the efforts of Member States to prevent and respond to emerging terrorist threats, including those related to the misuse of chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological (CBRN) materials, and to enhance the protection of critical infrastructure, including infrastructure housing CBRN materials, against terrorist attacks, with respect for human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis, in line with international law, including international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law.

During the reporting period, the working group met for six substantive meetings - four quarterly meetings and two thematic briefings from non-Compact entities. Through these meetings, eleven signatory entities and two external entities presented on current and upcoming initiatives and events, frequently soliciting support, guidance or cooperation from members of the Working Group. In an effort to identify cross-cutting elements and facilitate joint work with other Compact Working Groups, the working group invited the entire Compact membership to its two thematic briefings from non-Compact entities.

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### Coordination and coherence

In 2021, the working group held four meetings and two thematic briefings. 11 signatory entities<sup>2</sup> and two non-Compact entities<sup>3</sup> briefed on updates, frequently soliciting support, guidance or cooperation from members of the working group.

The working group facilitated coordination with the BMLE working group to ensure a clear

division of labour and alignment with regards to the Security Council resolution 2370; engagement with the 1540 Group of Experts and UNODA in exploring opportunities for supporting Security Council resolution 1540 and its upcoming Comprehensive Review process; and facilitated OHCHR briefing on Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

As per the suggestions of the Chair and Vice-Chairs in 2019-2020 to enhance awareness on working group members' mandates, it published an ETCIP Resource Document<sup>4</sup> in Feb 2021, and added a task "Enhance clarity on working group entities mandates and scopes of work, as they relate to working group focus areas, in an effort to stimulate increased cooperation and coordination" in the 2021-2022 Work Plan.

The working group organised *ad hoc* informal coordination meetings on:

- (i) Project on Protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks (SCR 2341 (2017) and soft targets (SCR 2396 (2017)), with a focus on developing an additional component on soft targets protection; and
- (ii) Project Phase III on interoperability in response to chemical and biological attacks. The majority of this project will be implemented in 2022.

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### Research and analysis

The working group provided updates on:

- (i) The review of the United Nations System's Existing Capacity to Effectively Manage Water Disputes and Leverage Water for Peace;
- (ii) Outcomes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Expert Group Meeting on the Protection of Urban Centres and Touristic Venues;
- (iii) outcomes of the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations (2021);

The document is divided into four sections: Projects and Programmes, Research and Analysis, Support to National/Regional Planning, and Support to National/Regional Planning, specific to Critical Infrastructure Protection. It was developed by the INTERPOL leadership, in line with the ETCIP Work Plan 2019-2020, and with support from UNICRI, UNODC, OPCW, UNODA and ETCIP entities.

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<sup>2</sup> UNODC, CTED, ICAO, 1267 Committee Monitoring Team, UNODA, WHO, INTERPOL, UNICRI, OHCHR, UNOCT, OPCW.

<sup>3</sup> Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD), and Conflict Armament Research

<sup>4</sup> The resource document features the mandates and work of ETCIP members and their support to Member States.

- (iv) COVID disinformation on social media including the risk of its intentional spread as an improvised bio-weapon (UNICRI);
- (v) Development of the Chemical and Biological Crime Scene Management Guidebook in partnership with INTERPOL;
- (vi) The 27<sup>th</sup> Report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities (The 1267 Committee Monitoring Team);
- (vii) Updates on ISIL's Development and Deployment of Chemical and Biological Weapons and Conflict Armament Research on New Techniques in Procurement and Financing of Components and Expertise for IEDs, UAS and Improvised Weapons (UNITAD).

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### Technical assistance and capacity-building

Based on CTED's assessments and Member States' requirements, the working group facilitated briefings on the Programme on Preventing and Responding to WMD/CBRN Terrorism (UNOCT-UNCCT); the Global Programme on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets (UNOCT); activities on the prevention of CBRN terrorism (UNODC); Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch activities (UNODA); and CBRN and Vulnerable Targets Sub-Directorate programming (INTERPOL).

The working group provided advance notice on programming initiatives and feedback as part of the project development process, including a UNOCT brief on a proposed Vulnerable Targets Protection Legislation project and a UNICRI-INTERPOL brief on a joint Chemical and Biological Crime Scene Management Guidebook.

UNOCT, CTED and INTERPOL continued to implement the initiative on the *Protection of Critical Infrastructure from Terrorist Attacks*. Due to limited regional engagements owing to COVID-19, the 2018 *Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure Against Terrorist Attacks*, will

be revised in 2022 building on Member States' requests and the concluding observations of the 2019 working group report.

The UNOCT Global Programme on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets developed thematic guidance modules on mitigating threats to religious sites and places of worship, urban centres and touristic venues, as well as threats associated with unmanned aerial systems in coordination with the ETCIP and aligned under the Compendium. The result will be well-coordinated with clear guidance to Member States on the various important dimensions of Security Council resolution 2341 and 2396.

OPCW's initiative<sup>5</sup> on *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks Phase III*, delayed by COVID, will be implemented in 2022.

Under the CONTACT Programme on *Enhancing Capacities to Prevent the Trafficking of Radiological and Nuclear Material*, UNICRI carried out assessments, as well as national and regional training and workshops for law enforcement agencies in the Middle East, Black Sea and Southeast Asia regions, including Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. A "CONTACT-Southeast Asia" project for Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippines and Vietnam was launched in June 2021.

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### Advocacy and visibility

Thematic briefings by the working group featured field-level voices (UNITAD and Conflict Armament Research), and facilitated productive exchange of views resulting in several bilateral follow-up action with individual working group members.

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### Efforts to enhance regional coordination

The working group brought voices from outside the Compact framework, including field-level investigative bodies, such as UNITAD and Conflict Armament Research, for thematic briefings.

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<sup>5</sup> OPCW together with WHO, OCHA, INTERPOL, BWC-ISU, UNICRI, UNOCT-UNCCT

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## Working Group on Criminal Justice, Legal Responses and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CJLR-CFT)

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### Mandate, primary objectives and composition

The working group derives its mandate from Pillars I, II and IV of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), successive biennial review resolutions on the Strategy and relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

Its primary objective is to promote coordination and coherence among its members, within their respective mandates, to support Member States reinforce the critical role of the criminal justice sector and their efforts in countering the financing of terrorism in line with the universal legal framework against terrorism, especially the 19 international conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, as well as international law, including human rights, humanitarian and refugee law.

UNODC serves as the working group's chair, with CTED and UNOCT serving as its vice-chairs. No new members or observers requested admission to the working group during the reporting period.

In the fourth quarter of 2021, the working group initiated a revision of its work plan to better align it with the outcomes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The new work plan was endorsed in 2022.

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### Coordination and coherence

The working group convened four quarterly meetings in 2021. Each meeting included a *tour de table* to promote information-sharing, discuss updates and flag upcoming events. In addition, a recurring agenda item on CFT was instated to relay the main takeaways of the monthly coordination calls among the working group's CFT entities.

The working group also received regular updates on United Nations cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), including its thematic reports and initiatives.

The working group facilitated briefings on:

- (i) CTED's technical assistance needs and recommendations and the new matrix on the platform;
- (ii) Outcomes and insights on the 7<sup>th</sup> review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by UNOCT;
- (iii) Application of United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy by OHCHR;
- (iv) Development of a compendium of existing good practices on data protection rules to facilitate international cooperation in counterterrorism (seed-funding project) by CTED. CTED also worked closely with the working group on promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism to develop a guidance document on "*Ensuring Respect for Human Rights when Taking Measures to Counter the Financing of Terrorism.*"

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### Technical assistance and capacity-building

Progress was made under phase II, led by UNODC, of the initiative on battlefield evidence (its predecessor, phase I, was led by CTED) which focuses on improving the criminal justice response to terrorism by facilitating the use and admissibility as evidence of information and materials collected from conflict zones by the military and other first responders in terrorism crime scenes.

In 2021, a new beneficiary country was included in the initiative, the Philippines. A series of instruments and technical assistance tools were produced and implemented, including an MoU developed for relevant national stakeholders (and in the case of Burkina Faso, the signing of an MoU was facilitated). Standard operating procedures were developed and operationalized, while legislative assistance was delivered to ensure conformity of all related practices with national legislation and international rule of law standards in beneficiary countries.

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### Advocacy and visibility

The working group continued to rely on the Platform to share relevant information among members and host its internal matrix, which focal points of entities were encouraged to periodically update with information relevant to the working group's work streams.

The Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat supported the working group in uploading relevant documents to the Platform, namely meeting minutes, revised templates of the work plan, as well as other items that required the collaborative input of the working group.

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### Efforts to enhance regional coordination

Cooperation with GCTF was one of the core components of the working group's work plan, and contributed to relevant GCTF events. In March, the Chair briefed the Plenary Meeting of the Criminal Justice and Rule of Law GCTF working group, highlighting the commonalities between the two groups and suggesting ways to enhance cooperation. In September, the working group's Chair and Vice-Chair delivered presentations on the work of the working group during the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> GCTF-UN Meetings, respectively.

Throughout the year, several members of the Criminal Justice, Legal Responses and Countering the Financing of Terrorism working group actively contributed to the *GCTF Initiative on Ensuring the Implementation of Countering the Financing of Terrorism Measures while Safeguarding Civic Space*, the outcomes of which informed the GCTF Good Practices Memorandum on the topic.

Several members of the working group also contributed to the drafting of the *GCTF Memorandum on Criminal Justice Approaches to the Linkages between Terrorism and Core International Crimes, Sexual and Gender-based Violence Crimes, Human Trafficking, Migrant Smuggling, Slavery, and Crimes against Children*, endorsed by the GCTF Plenary Meeting on 7 October 2021.

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### Concluding Observations and Way forward

Due to a broad range of activities under the purview of the working group, it was challenging to give an equal and balanced attention to all issues alike. The working group thus agreed to reflect only joint efforts as a whole, as opposed to focusing on entities' individual initiatives, which in turn helped to re-adjust focus on thematic areas and for more focused and dedicated discussions.

# Pillar III

## MEASURES TO BUILD STATES' CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM AND TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THIS REGARD

### *Working Group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation (RMME)*

#### *Mandate, primary objectives and composition*

This working group seeks to facilitate coordinated resource mobilization efforts, in particular through a consolidated Multi-Year Appeal, and to support the development of a common monitoring and evaluation framework and accompanying tools. It also supports and advocates for the use of CTED technical assistance needs and recommendations in programme development, and the use of relevant recommendations aimed at promoting respect for human rights and international law. UNOCT chairs the working group with CTED and UNODC as co-chairs.

It has two sub-groups with open membership: Sub-Group on Evaluation (led by UNODC, UNOCT, UNICRI and UNDP) and a newly established Sub-Group on Multi-Year Appeal (led by UNOCT, UNODC, CTED, OHCHR and UNICRI).

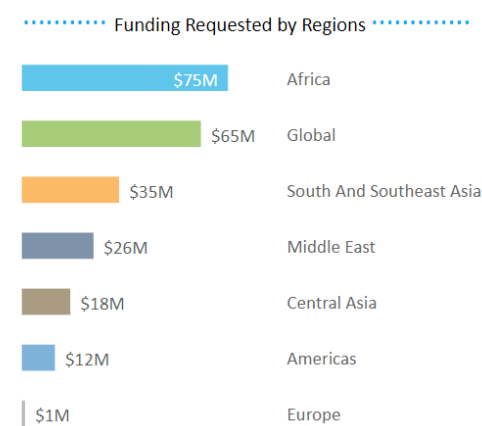
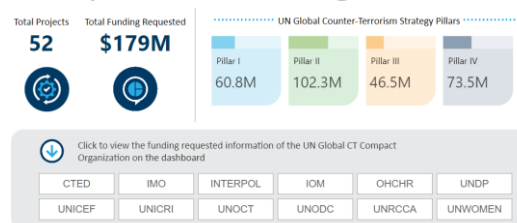
The Sub-Group on Multi-Year Appeal leads the implementation of the donor engagement plan for the Appeal and serves as a forum to share best practices in using the Appeal, plan joint communications and resource mobilization initiatives, keep track of the resources

mobilized through the Appeal, and review new project proposals for consideration to the Appeal in 2022.

The working group's [2021-2022 workplan](#) was updated in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 to reflect the implications of the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations and the 7<sup>th</sup> review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism was launched during the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations in June 2021. Twelve Counter-Terrorism Compact entities<sup>6</sup> participated in the Appeal, with the aim of mobilizing \$179 million for 52 projects and programmes to address key priorities of Member States across all pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

### Request for Funding Overview



2021-2022 United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism

The Appeal included 18 country-level projects, 15 regional projects and 19 global thematic programmes. A tracking tool was launched in 2021 to monitor the effectiveness of the Appeal and allow participating entities to report on the pledges received for 2021-2022 projects.

<sup>6</sup> CTED, IMO, INTERPOL, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNICRI, UNOCT, UNODC, UNRCCA and UN Women.

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### *Coordination and coherence*

During the In 2021, the working group held four quarterly meetings and one special session.

The Sub-Group on Evaluation concluded the first system-wide Meta-Synthesis of evaluation presenting comprehensive, independent information towards the implementation of the GCTS, stemming from 118 evaluation and oversight reports, to be presented in 2022. The working group facilitated two presentations on the scope and initial results of the Meta-Synthesis.

The Sub-Group held over 10 meetings to exchange lessons learned and good practices in evaluation and monitoring, also in the context of COVID-19 and the related impact on M&E. Preliminary discussions for the development of a Community of Practice on M&E were initiated, and dedicated sessions on the connection of evaluation and monitoring with behavioral insights and human rights were held.

The Sub-Group on the Multi-Year Appeal discussed its terms of reference, draft donor engagement plan, and the tracker tool. During the preparation of the Appeal, entities ensured to mainstream human rights and gender on their proposals and to base them on CTC/CTED assessments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Appeal was presented through an innovative interactive and user-friendly online dashboard that allows Member States, potential donors and UN entities and stakeholders to browse project proposals per location (region/country) and entity across all Pillars of the GCTS. Since its launch, the Appeal's dashboard has been visited 1,301 times by 491 users.

The Donor Engagement Plan was adopted to promote a coordinated use of the Appeal as an effective outreach and resource mobilization tool at HQs and regional/national levels; to mobilize resources from a broad donor base for the Appeal programmes and projects; and to increase awareness of and support to the Appeal among donors and key partners/stakeholders. Participating entities can outline entity-specific communications and resource mobilization actions in support of the Appeal.

The working group developed an application to facilitate mapping of existing CT/PCVE

activities across the UN system from global to national levels (UNOCT) to strengthen information sharing and data collection for the project mapping exercise - a 'Project Matrix'.

The Project Matrix provides transparency, showcases the extent of the UN system work in the counter-terrorism field and provides visibility to support system-wide fundraising efforts. The application consists of a data management application (for focal points to input information on their entity's projects), and a Power BI report (for users to access that information through interactive visualizations).

The Project Matrix was presented to the working group in 2021 and aims to serve as a master project list for all working groups. So far, the PCVE working group has been briefed on the project matrix and rest will be briefed in 2022.

The working group facilitated OHCHR briefing on the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

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### *Research and analysis*

The presentation of initial results of the first system-wide Meta-Synthesis on evaluation under the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy provides evidence that can inform future projects and programmes and research activities on CT/PCVE. In 2021, the Sub-Group on Evaluation actively engaged with Compact entities on the initial results of the Meta-Synthesis study through dedicated briefings and meetings. These engagements led to identifying areas of common interest including the connection between M&E, behavioral insights and human rights. The Sub-Group will focus on findings, lessons learned and good practices to support the evidence-based approach of projects and programmes planned and implemented by compact entities.

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### *Advocacy and visibility*

The working group held a special session with select donors in March 2021 in preparation of the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal in which Member States were asked to address the main CT/PCVE priority issues for their government, and current areas of work and the areas of United Nations work done in partnership by multiple United Nations entities, and their

added value in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions. A follow-up communication was sent to donors on the exchange of best practices and lessons learned in the area of monitoring and evaluation, particularly as it relates to the impact of COVID-19.

It used the online Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination platform to actively share information, materials, event and news. In 2021, the working group liaised with the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT) to develop the project list within the platform, to collect project proposals for the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism.

The Platform also now hosts the CTED Technical Assistance Needs matrix in a new and improved format allowing for user-friendly navigation. The 705 Technical Assistance Needs and Recommendations currently accessible through this matrix are identified by CTED, on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), based on its country assessments, recommendations, and analysis. CTED updates these recommendations periodically. The new matrix is available under the Project Matrix and Technical Assistance Needs tab found on top of the home page.

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## *Working Group on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies (NARS)*

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### *Mandate, primary objectives and composition*

The working group derives its mandate from the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), the successive biennial review resolutions on the Strategy, as well as the General Assembly resolution 66/282 and Security Council resolutions 1963 (2010), 2129 (2013) and 2395 (2017).

NARS working group aims to promote coordination, complementarity, and coherence in the work of the Compact entities. It supports the efforts of Member States and regional organizations in developing

their respective comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies that reflect all Pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and related Security Council resolution, with respect for human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis, in line with international law, including human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, and ensuring gender equality and youth empowerment.

The working group engages multiple ministries and governmental bodies beyond law enforcement agencies, as well as a wide range of non-governmental agencies, including diverse representatives of civil society, academia, think tanks and the private sector.

UNOCT and CTED co-chair the working group. It remains a “whole of Compact” working group, with all Compact entities as members.

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### *Coordination and coherence*

In 2021, the Working Group met four times and held in-depth discussions on counter-terrorism measures in relevant Member States that requested support from the United Nations for developing a counter-terrorism strategy. It continued to build synergies with other working groups on cross-cutting issues and CT/PCVE priorities, including gender mainstreaming, supporting victims of terrorism, including trafficked persons and sexual slaves, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, countering the financing of terrorism, protecting and promoting human rights and the rule of law, youth and civil society engagement.

The working group supported inter-agency resource mobilization efforts to contribute to coordinated efforts to mobilize resources in support of National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies efforts, especially joint or multi-agency programmes, projects and activities, to meet increasing demand for support from Member States.

NARS working group also briefed on the progress of the UNOCT-CTED seed-funding project on *Enhancing Regional Counter-Terrorism Cooperation*, highlighting the work undertaken in comparing and analysing different national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, including gender analysis, and circulating the report of the project.



The working group provided inputs to the draft Counter-Terrorism Strategy of Tajikistan; and followed up with Qatar and Iraq on the comments provided earlier on their respective counter-terrorism strategies. The working group also discussed measures to enhance collaboration to support capacity building efforts undertaken by the UNOCT-led Sudan Project.

CTED briefed on integrating gender aspects into Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee assessments and recommendations in line with Resolution 2242 (2015), that called for greater integration by Member States and the United Nations of their Women, Peace and Security agenda on CT/CVE.

UN Women briefed on a regional paper on the Middle-East and North Africa produced following the Global Digital Consultation with civil society organizations led by the gender working group, and highlighted that women are systematically excluded from SPRR programs because they are seen as victims and not perpetrators due to a lack of gender lens.

UNCCT briefed on the context and developments of the revised new version of the Central Asia Strategy known as Joint Plan of Action (JPoA) developed following the structure of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted in 2011, and supported by UNCCT and UNRCCA. The working group had provided inputs on the review of the JPoA. UNOCT briefed the working group on the main outcomes and insights of the seventh review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and OHCHR briefed on the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP).

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### *Technical assistance and capacity-building*

The working group continued efforts to promote coordination and facilitate consultations on the implementation of existing national and regional counter-terrorism strategies to encourage mutually reinforcing and where possible joint programming leveraging the respective mandates and maximizing the comparative advantages of Compact entities.

CTED briefed on the CTC follow-up visit to Qatar in February 2020 by CTED, IMO, WCO and INTERPOL, and updated on the work of the comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy including Qatar's adoptions of new counter-

terrorism act and, anti-money laundering and financing of terrorism act and a huge investment in infrastructure for 2022 FIFA World Cup. Additionally, CTED briefed on the UK counter-terrorism strategy following the CTC/CTED assessment and on the development of Iraq's counter-terrorism strategy. CTED also briefed on the new matrix with CTC technical assistance needs and recommendations, which includes 705 recommendations and is available on the Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Platform. CTED also promoted the usage of the Platform as a working space and to share information, events, and relevant materials.

The Working Group continued its coordinated support to the development and implementation of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies based on Member States requests, needs and priorities to promote integrated and comprehensive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society efforts for counter-terrorism, in line with international obligations, relevant United Nations documents, and based on human rights and the rule of law.

With the support of working group members, a number of Member States (Qatar, Iraq, UK), as well as regional organizations, were advised/assisted in a coherent and coordinated manner by the United Nations in the development or implementation of counter-terrorism strategies.

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### *Advocacy and Visibility*

The working group organized a briefing to the Permanent Mission of Iraq on the active role played by Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and will continue to invite Member States to brief them on the support provided to national governments and regional organizations on national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. The working group also plans to strengthen its engagement with the GCTF; contributed to sharing of materials and documents on the Coordination platform; and continued the development of a communications plan to contribute to increase the visibility of United Nations efforts to counter terrorism through the activities undertaken by the working group.

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### *Concluding Observations and Way forward*

The working group will continue to prioritize engagement with Member States and regional organizations based on adopted priority recommendations of the Counter-Terrorism Committee assessment visits to Member States and based on the requests of Member States in developing national integrated and comprehensive counter-terrorism strategies. Prioritizing engagement with regions is based primarily on a risk assessment approach.

# Pillar IV

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## MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND THE RULE OF LAW AS THE FUNDAMENTAL BASIS OF THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

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### *Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism and Supporting the Victims of Terrorism (HR-VoT)*

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#### **Mandate, primary objectives and composition**

The primary objectives of the working group are to (i) support Member States in their efforts to ensure to respect human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism, and to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism; (ii) provide guidance to Member States to ensure that the counter-terrorism measures are compatible with international humanitarian law obligations; and (iii) support Member States and Compact working groups in addressing gaps through mainstreaming human rights expertise, and prioritizing prevention and ensuring a human-rights based approach to victims of terrorism. OHCHR chairs the working group with UNOCT as the vice-chair.

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#### **Coordination and coherence**

In 2021, the working group convened four meetings that discussed, amongst others, engaging civil society in technical assistance; the Secretary-General's report on terrorism and human rights; the reports of the Special

Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and human rights on the impact of counter-terrorism and CVE policies on the rights of women, girls, and the family (A/HRC/46/36) and on technical assistance and capacity building on counter-terrorism (A/76/261); seventh review of Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a few activities were postponed or delayed. OHCHR, on behalf of the working group, briefed all working groups on the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, including civil society in two working group meetings.

In a joint initiative with the Working Group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation, OHCHR initiated a matrix development of counter-terrorism relevant recommendations from United Nations human rights mechanisms for their usage by Compact entities in formulating technical assistance and capacity building programmes in line with the Terms of Reference of all working groups and the 7th review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The working group continued to strengthen and advocate for victims and victims' associations facilitating their participation in forums and experience sharing, amidst their increased isolation and trauma exacerbated by the pandemic.

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#### **Research and analysis**

The working group made significant progress on the development of the model legal provisions for victims of terrorism including through organization of thematic expert consultations and a high-level side event (the model legal provisions were launched in February 2022). The working group drafted guidance on the human rights aspects of the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in counter-terrorism, which will be launched in 2022; and published the '*Basic Human Rights Reference Guide: Proscriptions of Organizations in the Context of Countering Terrorism*'.

Together with the working group on criminal justice, legal responses and countering the financing of terrorism, the working group continued to develop guidance on terrorism financing and human rights for Member States in line with Security Council resolution 2462; and contributed to UNCCT handbook '*Guidelines and Principles to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism Associations in Asia Pacific*'. For developing a United

Nations common approach on addressing trauma in victims of terrorism, the working group and WHO established a Sub-Group to draft a response on United Nations' support to victims and to the efforts of Member States and held two meetings.

UNODC developed a new module of Counter-Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum on 'Counter-Terrorism in the International Law Context' and completed a 'Research Study on the Strengthening the Capacity of Women Professionals Working in the Counter-Terrorism Sector in Iraq'.

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*Research Study: Effective and Gender - sensitive response*



[Image source](#)

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**Technical assistance and capacity-building**

The working group continued its efforts to strengthen the knowledge of human rights principles and law enforcement techniques as applied to counter-terrorism efforts and to provide tools to authorities of the selected countries to apply them to the specific challenges. It formalized a cohort of trainers for law enforcement on counter-terrorism and human rights in Cameroon and related workshops in Iraq.

Under its [Global Programme to End Violence against Children](#), UNODC continued to support Central Asian countries for rehabilitation and reintegration of children returned from Syria and Iraq through capacity building initiatives and e-learning tools.

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*Research Study: Effective and Gender - sensitive response*



[Image source](#)

In Iraq, it continued to ensure the treatment of children and youth deprived of liberty for alleged association with Da'esh, which is conducive to their effective rehabilitation and reintegration, including through capacity building initiatives, setting up local advocacy teams in Mosul. Also, it contributed to the development of national workplans in Indonesia, Iraq and Nigeria. In Burkina Faso, it launched a program to establish accountability and bring terrorists to justice in conformity with human rights and rule of law standards. UNODC, CTED and UNOCT supported national efforts to adopt SPRR mechanisms. UNODC continued to support the development of guidance materials to support respect for human rights in criminal justice responses to terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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*Project 'STRIVE Juvenile*



<https://youtu.be/qpvY7FAHFHk>

To strengthen gender dimensions in the criminal justice response to terrorism, UNODC, in support of the working group, provided technical assistance to Bangladesh, Cameroon, Chad, Iraq, Nigeria, Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, Saudi Arabia, and the Member States of the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs' Cooperation Organization; and launched training modules for Bangladesh and Maldives.

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**Advocacy and visibility**

UNOCT, jointly with the working group and the Group of Friends on Victims of Terrorism, commemorated the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism (21 August 2021) featuring a high-level event attended by the Secretary General and launch of UNOCT film 'Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections'. UNOCT, on behalf of the United Nations, held a special tribute ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial in New York, commemorating the 20 year of the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, attended by over 90 Member States including six Heads of State and 30 Ministers.

UNODC organised a Special Event on Gender Dimensions of Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism during the 14<sup>th</sup> United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Kyoto and a side event on Addressing Gender in Preventing Violent Extremism and Terrorism in Africa: Integrating Women's Diverse Roles and Voices during the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna.

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### **Efforts to enhance regional coordination**

To enhance and model increased CSOs engagement in the Counter-Terrorism Compact, the working group facilitated briefings by a civil society representative on engaging civil society in security assistance programmes; and by the National Human Rights Commission of the Philippines on the impact of counter-terrorism measures on civil society and civic space in the Philippines.

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### **Concluding Observations and Way forward**

The pandemic exacerbated the working group's efforts of mainstreaming human rights and the rule of law, coupled by a lack of technical and financial resources which required a greater inclusion in situational analysis, strategy and operationalization.

However, the 7<sup>th</sup> review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy presented a positive development with strengthened language on civic space, children's rights, women's rights, and gender equality, and victims, thus underscoring the relevance of United Nations human rights mechanisms and human rights and gender integration to United Nations counter-terrorism programming.

There is a need to further harness the Counter-Terrorism Compact to ensure (with adequate technical and financial resources) that all programs and support to Member States are implemented with integration of human rights goals and considerations.

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<sup>7</sup> Available at: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy>

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## **Working Group on Adopting a Gender Sensitive Approach to Preventing and Countering Terrorism (GENDER)**

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### **Mandate, primary objectives and composition**

The working group derives its mandate from the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), and its successive biennial review resolutions, including the 7<sup>th</sup> review<sup>7</sup>. It operates under the mandate following the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact working groups terms of reference and Counter-Terrorism Compact's joint programme.

The primary objectives of the working group are to promote and integrate gender mainstreaming, gender equality, and women, peace and security (WPS) agenda commitments within the Compact's framework through specific policy and operational outcomes that feed into the work of the Compact's Coordination Committee and the United Nations system more broadly. It further aims to support Member States in mainstreaming gender and integrating WPS agenda commitments into their PCVE efforts, in line with international law, including human rights, humanitarian and refugee law.

UN Women chairs the working group with CTED as Vice-Chair. 19 UN entities are members, with IOM, IPU and UNHCR serving as observers.

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### **Coordination and coherence**

The In 2021, the working group met three times, and carried out the following initiatives, amongst others:

- Ensured participation and contribution of CSOs during the inter-governmental process of the 7<sup>th</sup> review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy; facilitated thematic gender briefings to

other working groups for focused, in-depth discussions on priorities and gender integration<sup>8</sup>; facilitated presentation by the Special Rapporteur on human rights while countering terrorism on the adverse impact on women's human rights of not using the definition of gender equality advanced by CEDAW Committee and adopted by UN Women in the context of counter-terrorism; facilitated UN Women briefing on the use of terminology and its impact on women rights and the work of CSOs at country levels, and OHCHR briefing on the application of the HRDDP.

- Strengthened engagement with other Compact working groups through strategized participation and gender briefings. Conducted gender briefings to BMLE, NARS, PCVE, and HRRoL-VoT working groups featuring the outcomes and recommendations of the Global Digital Consultation including gender/PCVE analysis and highlights of regional papers by civil society from Latin America, Asia Pacific and Arab States. The outcomes of the regional papers on West Africa and Asia and Pacific of the Global Digital Consultation were presented to civil society and national partners in Dakar and Bangkok through UN Women.

The NARS and HRRoL-VoT working groups expressed interest to further implement recommendations of the Global Digital Consultation in 2021<sup>9</sup>.

In 2022, the working group plans to work with the NARS working group to facilitate the incorporation of gender-related considerations in the Arab Interior Ministers Council regional strategy and to ensure participation of women-led CSOs. CSOs participation during the inter-governmental process of the 7<sup>th</sup> review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy informed the co-facilitators and Member States on the meaningful participation of women/CSOs, counter-terrorism and P/CVE-related terminologies, accountability, protection and gender/WPS agenda.

<sup>8</sup> The thematic briefings cover specifically (i) engagement with women's CSOs; (ii) gender dimensions of screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals associated with UN listed terrorist groups

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### **Research and analysis**

The working group activity on 'conducting a study on the impact of overly broad counterterrorism laws on women civil society and women human rights defenders' was not implemented in the reporting period due to lack of funding.

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### **Technical assistance and capacity-building**

The 'capacity building on gender dimensions in SPRR' project/activity will be implemented in 2022 due to delayed fund release (in November 2021). The working group held a preparatory meeting with Compact entities in October 2020 to integrate the latest efforts of the Counter-Terrorism Compact on SPRR in the workshop.

The working group could not receive seed funding in 2021, which impacted the implementation of some activities, and lead to a revision of the work plan.

Some of the planned activities were carried out with the in-kind support of working group members. UN Women offered to provide technical advice through the NARS working group, notably in support of implementing the recommendations of the Global Digital Consultation. This support will be continued by UN Women into 2022.

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### **Advocacy and visibility**

UN Women updated the WPS Community of Practice on issues raised by civil society during the Global Digital Consultation and presented their recommendations. In addition, UN Women organized briefings for its regional centers and civil society partners on the 7th review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

(PRR); and (iii) gender equality in the context of counter terrorism.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/11/gendered-dimensions-of-violent-extremism-and-counterterrorism-responses>



of the chair and vice-chair support to meet the recommendations for the UN when engaging in CT/PVE support and so as not to risk instrumentalization of CSOs engagement.

The working group observes that the approval of the work plan should be timely for their effective implementation, including timely release of funds. The division of labor between the Chair and Vice-Chair in leading thematic discussions/ briefings to different working groups based on the relevance of mandate, cooperation in policy development and partnerships is an excellent example that could inform different working groups in the interest of leveraging respective mandates in delivering their work plans.

### ***Concluding Observations and Way forward***

Gender mainstreaming has increased throughout the Counter-Terrorism Compact. However, it remains contingent on the leadership of the working group to seek technical assistance in advancing gender mainstreaming in their respective work.

The Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat and UNOCT Gender Unit can provide added support to ensure effective gender mainstreaming. In 2021, the working group was not able to implement the Annual Work Plan in its entirety due to lack of funds, thus requiring Compact's concerted efforts on securing seed funding annually to ensure continuation of the working group and contribution, and mobilizing resources, including through the resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation working group.

The working group recommends the Counter-Terrorism Compact to allocate increased resources for gender equality and women's human rights including to implement the recommendations of the Global Digital Consultation. The working group developed an implementation table for the Global Digital Consultation recommendations and has effectively included some of these tasks as part of its annual work plan. This effort is part

# Conclusion

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The Counter-Terrorism Compact made steady progress throughout 2021 in enhancing coherence and coordination to support Member States' efforts in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in line with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. The working groups also made good progress in implementing their corresponding work plans.

Collaboration between entities grew stronger, despite the constraints stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support provided by UNOCT, through the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat, as well as the operationalization and continuous enhancement of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform, was key to ensure and strengthen smooth and solid online collaboration. Continued commitment and shared ownership among Counter-Terrorism Compact entities, as well as the leadership of working group chairs were instrumental in advancing the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Compact.

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Building on the important priorities outlined during the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations, the seventh review resolution of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the recommendations formulated by Counter-Terrorism Compact entities during the meetings of the Coordination Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat will prepare the Coordination Committee's Joint Programme of Work for 2022-2023, which will guide the work of the Counter-Terrorism Compact during the next biennium.

Going forward, the Counter-Terrorism Compact will focus its efforts on strengthening its engagement with Member States and Counter-Terrorism Compact entities in the field, including better integrating regional and country offices of participating entities and Resident Coordinators, without duplicating existing geographic coordination mechanisms, and allowing for greater coherence in the United Nations delivery of assistance to Member States.

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The Counter-Terrorism Compact will also continue to foster joint planning and ensure a coherent and effective approach to resource mobilization, including through the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal; and place particular emphasis on strengthening the mainstreaming of human rights and gender equality, as well as the inclusion of civil society, academia and the private sector as cross-cutting priorities, both at a strategic and practical level.

To this end, the Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat will continue to re-tool the Platform to allow for a greater effectiveness of joint efforts, as well as increase transparency and visibility of the United Nations counter-terrorism support to Member States.

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Member States, as beneficiaries of, and donors to United Nations efforts, play a central role in determining the priorities for the Counter-Terrorism Compact and incentivizing progress in coherence and coordination. The Counter-Terrorism Compact will further align its work with the outcomes of the seventh review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as the needs and expectations of Member States to further strengthen a coordinated and coherent response to the evolving terrorism landscape.