

TITLE: UN Women Remarks: UNOCT Third 2022 Quarterly Briefing to the Member States

Date/Time: Monday, 19 December from 10.00 am to 12.30 p.m EST

Delivered by: Sarah Hendriks, Director-Programme, Policy & Intergovernmental Division

Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr Raffi Gregorian, Excellencies, distinguished panelists, dear colleagues and friends, all protocols observed.

- The continued threat of terrorism must strengthen our commitment to multilateralism and inter-agency collaboration.
- The operations of UN-listed terrorist organizations in the Sahel, Horn of Africa and other areas worldwide continue to be enabled by porous borders, organised crime, trafficking in persons and small arms and light weapons, and the exploitation of the cyber sphere, all of which exacerbate and are exacerbated by high levels of gender inequality.
- The Global Index report for 2022 revealed that sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 48% of global terrorism, while in the West, politically motivated attacks were five times more than religious attacks. As such, the challenge remains global and multi-dimensional.
- In our efforts to address the threat of terrorism, we must harness our ability to ensure a truly comprehensive, multi-faceted, and multi-sectoral approach.
- Furthermore, we must guard the advances and progress made towards our common strategic objectives of development, addressing inequality, including gender inequality, and protecting civic and political rights, including the rights of girls and women. For that, we need nuanced, people-centred and principled approaches to countering terrorism and to preventing violent extremism.
- The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy's four pillars must be implemented in their entirety.
- It is time that we come together to address challenges that have systematically limited the implementation of Pillars 1 and pillar 4 of the Strategy. Our swift and urgent response to address funding challenges is critical, especially in supporting gender-sensitive approaches to Countering Terrorism.

- UN Women, in its role as the chair of the gender working group continues its close collaboration with UNOCT, CTED, OHCHR and UNODC among others to ensure joint delivery of the working group's annual plan.
- I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the role of CTED and to thank them for their active participation as vice chair of the working group.
- Last month, the gender working group organized a workshop in Uzbekistan on gender-sensitive approaches to the social reintegration of individuals associated with UN-listed terrorism organizations. The workshop was successful thanks to the political commitment of the Government of Uzbekistan and UN partners in seeing it through.
- The workshop participants included line ministries and service providers and civil society organizations. It has been a successful experience of knowledge exchange and reflection on the work done in the past two years. Input from regional experts from Kazakhstan and Tajikistan has also added to the substance of the discussion.
- Such initiatives in-country underlines the added value of the Gender working group in supporting Member States in their efforts to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- The gender working group also continued to invest in providing briefings to the Compact working groups on gender-based approaches. These briefings also serve to identify entry points for joint work and delivery. We are looking forward to joint activities with the PCVE and the NARS working group under the leadership of OCT and CTED.
- In 2023, UN Women in partnership with OCT and CTED, will continue our collaboration and we look forward to addressing funding challenges. I would like to take this opportunity to request that Member States increase their support and engagement with the Gender working group and its mandate.
- On the other hand, UN Women continues to bring its strategic partnerships at all levels to reinforce the efforts of the Compact in support of implementing the UNGCTS.
- For example, this year, UN Women strengthened its partnership with national counter-terrorism commissions or equivalent entities in several countries to collaborate on strengthening gender-based approaches in the context of CT and PVE, including in Pakistan, Jordan and Kenya, to name a few.

- UN Women's partnership with OCT will also be strengthened by implementing the newly agreed action plan to operationalize our MOU signed last year.
- Within the context of next year and the 8th review of the UNGCTS, UN Women, in collaboration with OCT, would like to extend its support to Member States including the co-facilitators Canada and Tunisia in providing relevant analysis informed by our engagement in-country and our consultations with civil society.
- Thank you. Chair.