



**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM**

**Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General,
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)**

Side Event - Multilateral Counter-Terrorism Cooperation: the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact – Global Counterterrorism Forum Partnership [pre-recorded]

**30 June 2021
8 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this side event dedicated to building stronger counter-terrorism partnerships.

I am encouraged that despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been able to continue strengthening our already deep partnership and practical collaboration.

At the opening of the 75th Session of the General Assembly, the United Nations Secretary-General highlighted that “21st century multilateralism must be networked — linking global institutions across sectors and geographies, from development banks to regional organizations and trade alliances.”

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy review resolution provides a clear and solid road map for our common counter-terrorism efforts for the coming years.

I am grateful for the support of the members of the Global Counterterrorism Forum to help bring this review to a successful completion.

As the Global Counterterrorism Forum marks its tenth anniversary in September and reflects on its ‘Strategic Vision for the Next Decade’, it is encouraging to see that supporting the United Nations counter-terrorism framework will remain a strategic priority.

I look forward to hearing from the GCTF Co-Chairs, my good friends Ambassador David Drake from Canada, and Mr. Ismail Chekkori from Morocco, on their assessment of our partnership.

I am pleased that we are also joined by my dear colleague Ms. Michele Coninx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, who plays an invaluable role in guiding the United Nations entities’ coordination and capacity-building efforts.

The Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact is at the forefront of the United Nations system-wide efforts to ensure coherence and coordination of counter-terrorism policies and programmes that support Member States at national, regional and global levels.

This unique coordination framework successfully leverages the expertise of its 43 member and observer entities to support legislative, policy and capacity-building measures to counter and prevent violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism.

I am grateful for the strong support of Member States and other external partners to the Counter-Terrorism Compact and its work.

One of the core priorities of the Counter-Terrorism Compact framework is to enhance the United Nations' partnership with the Global Counterterrorism Forum. We have engaged in regular information exchanges, held coordination meetings, participated in each other's expert events, and carried out joint efforts on common initiatives.

In fact, the Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and the Global Counterterrorism Forum are currently working on several initiatives, including the development of a toolkit and resource tools under the GCTF Watchlisting Guidance Manual Initiative with the United States, a set of good practices on Ensuring Effective Countering Terrorist Financing Measures While Safeguarding Civic Space with Morocco and the Netherlands, a variety of other joint capacity-building activities in the field, and collaboration with GCTF inspired institutions.

I hope that this side event will be an opportunity to create further synergies in our joint efforts to strengthen our support to Member States' counter-terrorism priorities.

Together, we must do everything we can to ensure a coherent, comprehensive, field-oriented, and human rights-based response to terrorism and violent extremism challenges magnified by the pandemic.

Thank you.