



**Statement of Mr. Zeeshan Amin**  
**Joint Special Meeting on “Terrorist-financing threats and trends and the  
implementation of Security Council resolution 2462 (2019)”**  
**Session: “Coordination of CFT-related technical assistance delivery to  
Member States”**

**18 November 2021**

Your Excellency Ambassador Tarek Ladeb, Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee,  
Your Excellency Ambassador Trine Heimerback, Chair of the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da’esh) and  
Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee,  
Excellencies,  
Eminent Panelists,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an honour to address this Joint Special Meeting on “Terrorist-financing threats and trends and the implementation of Security Council resolution 2462 (2019).” I would like to thank the Chairpersons of both Committees for inviting UNOCT to speak at this event.

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and its UN Counter-Terrorism Centre, enjoy a close relationship with the two Committees and their expert bodies on a broad range of counter-terrorism topics.

As we have already heard, countering the financing of terrorism remains a high priority for the United Nations and its Member States. Security Council resolution 2462 (2019) stands as a testament to this resolve. The recent resolution of the General Assembly adopted by consensus at the 7<sup>th</sup> Biennial Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy also underscores the critical and strategic importance of suppressing terrorists’ abilities to raise, move and use financial resources.

Security Council resolution 2462 (2019) places a strong emphasis on strengthening Member States’ capacities to effectively prevent and counter terrorism financing. Paragraphs 30 and 33 of the resolution are particularly important: they “encourage Member States to help to build the capacity of other Member States, upon their request, to address the threat posed by the financing of terrorism;” and it “requests United Nations entities, particularly the UN

Office on Counter Terrorism (OCT) and UNODC to continue to provide, upon their request as well as on the basis of gaps in implementation and capacity identified by the CTED reports, technical assistance and capacity-building to help them to fully implement their respective international obligations to prevent and combat the financing of terrorism.”

UNOCT takes the mandate and responsibility given to us by the Security Council very seriously. In response to Security Council resolution 2462, UNOCT, acting through its main capacity-building arm UNCCT, has developed and is implementing the Global Coordinated Capacity-Building Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism. I would like to thank the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, India and France for their financial contributions to the CFT Programme.

This programme emphasizes the importance of coordinated capacity-building support to Member States.

First, the Programme is based on five pillars of activities, each of which relies on the lead role that a mandated United Nations entity plays in the counter-terrorism-related discussions with Member States.

Second, the Programme envisages strategic partnerships with major capacity-building actors and centres of excellence on CFT, including those outside the United Nations system. And finally, one of the main criteria for the Programme’s monitoring and evaluation component and effectiveness is the platform it provides to all relevant UN entities on counter-terrorism discussions, including on topics such as respect for human rights, operational space for civil society organizations, as well as enhancing understanding and raising awareness on emerging typologies that terrorists use or could use to raise funds.

Coordination is not easy, but can be achieved through meaningful collaboration, with each partner playing its part and working toward achieving goals jointly. We have tailored our Programme to the requirements of Security Council resolution 2462, by focusing on five main areas: comprehensive assessments of priority States; awareness-raising on key topics; legislative framework improvements; enhancing operational capacity in countering terrorist financing; and developing technological tools to increase efficiencies in the work of financial regulatory bodies.

The Programme includes CTED, UNODC, INTERPOL and the Office of Information and Communication Technology (OICT) as implementing partners on topics relating to needs assessments, legislative support, operational assistance to law enforcement and investigative agencies, and the development of technological tools, respectively.

I would like to focus for a minute on our work with CTED. UNOCT works in close collaboration with CTED, and benefits from CTED's efforts to identify Member States's CFT needs through comprehensive national consultations that allow us to develop targeted technical assistance where it is needed the most. CTED's assessment reports also play an important role in needs identification for UNCCT's capacity-building work. In addition, we also continue to consult Analytical and Sanctions Monitoring Team to ensure that the strategic perspectives on countering terrorist financing are fully integrated into the Programme's deliverables.

Over the last two years, the Programme has also sought to strike strategic partnerships with key CFT capacity building actors around the world. Through these partnerships, we have been able to expand capacity-building activities and awareness raising outreach to many more beneficiaries and practitioners. For example, through our partnership with Italy's Guardia di Finanza and Saudi Arabia's Naif Arab University on Security Sciences, we have been able to work on providing practical guidance and trainings, which have been broadly appreciated by our beneficiaries. More than 30 Member States have so far benefited from the Programme's deliverables.

Finally, the success of the Programme ultimately lies in the platform it provides to entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and its Working Groups for strategic discussions on emerging priorities and coordination on CFT themes and regional activities. In this regard, UNOCT is co-chair of the Global Compact Working Group on Criminal Justice and Countering the Financing of Terrorism and takes active part in the regular coordination calls that UNODC, as Chair, organizes for information sharing discussions.

We also intend to reach out to the IMF and the World Bank, both of which have historically been key contributors to the work of the United Nations on CFT. In addition, as part of our contribution to the GCTF initiative on ensuring CFT compliance while safeguarding civic and humanitarian space, we wish to work more closely with UN partners on practical steps that need to be integrated at the national and local levels to protect human rights and humanitarian space.

The Programme seeks to further strengthen partnerships with FATF style regional bodies. Already, UNCCT works closely with the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) and the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG). With ESAAMLG, we have worked together in developing a roadmap to help implement ESAAMLG's Operational Plan on CFT, and we are working with MENAFATF to identify key capacity-building needs of its member jurisdictions. With the Asia-Pacific Group, the Programme worked on a Member State that was included on the FATF Grey List, and

helped contribute to that country's eventual exit from the List through coordinated and consistent capacity-building support.

We are seeking to further expand on this with similar initiatives to be taken with the Financial Action Task Force for Latin America and the Eurasian Group on Money Laundering. These partnerships extend to Member States, too, on key emerging topics, such as cryptocurrencies and virtual assets.

Madame Chair,

Let me conclude by once again thanking the two Committees' chairpersons for convening this Joint Meeting that helps our discussions on key achievements and common challenges and for identifying new synergies on policy, institutional and operational support. Only through active collaboration and targeted efforts will we be able to achieve concrete results in our fight against terrorism and terrorist financing. This event constitutes a clear example of such commitment. I would like to once again thank you all.