

**Tenth United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Compact
Coordination Committee Meeting**

24 January 2024

**Statement of
Assistant Secretary-General Natalia Gherman
Executive Director
Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)**

*Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov,
Excellencies, distinguished colleagues, and participants,*

The concerning evolution of the terrorist threat in Africa, as we have observed in the Sahel, the Gulf of Guinea, the Lake Chad Basin, the Great Lakes, and the Horn of Africa, illustrates the importance of ensuring that United Nations counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism efforts are attuned to national and regional dynamics.

CTED is an active member of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and serves as Chair of its Working Groups on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies as well as Border Management and Law Enforcement relating to Counter-Terrorism.

CTED also serves as Vice-Chair of the Working Groups on Criminal Justice, Legal Responses and Countering the Financing of Terrorism; Adopting a Gender Sensitive Approach to Preventing and Countering Terrorism; and Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation.

In the development of the 2024–2026 Global Compact Joint Programme of Work, CTED continued to emphasize the need for Global Compact entities to use CTED’s analysis and the Counter-Terrorism Committee’s recommendations in the design of technical assistance and capacity-building efforts.

In the last five years, CTED conducted, on behalf of the Committee, visits to Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Sudan, Togo, and Uganda.

With the consent of the Member State, CTED has made the visit reports of Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo, and Uganda available to the Global Compact entities, as well as 16 desk assessments of African States.

The technical assistance needs identified during these visits demonstrate that the vast majority of African countries are “low-

capacity” States in terms of their compliance with requirements of Security Council resolutions.

To this extent, CTED advocates for enhanced engagement with the United Nations country teams to assist with coordination among United Nations agencies present in the Member State, resource mobilization, and the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of projects to address identified technical assistance needs.

In this context, I wish to highlight the pilot project CTED, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), the Resident Coordinator and the United Nations Country Team are conducting with respect to Benin, under which the Government has formally requested the development of a coordinated and prioritized United Nations technical assistance plan in support of the Government’s efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

Moving forward, and drawing on the lessons from this pilot project, CTED and UNOCT will explore possibilities for similar initiatives for other visited Member States.

CTED will also contribute to our common efforts by mobilizing our Global Research Network (GRN) for an enhanced understanding

of the terrorism and violent extremism landscape and its anticipated trajectory in Africa.

CTED's Global Research Network comprises more than 100 research institutions, bringing together a variety of geographical perspectives, including from the field, on emerging terrorist threats, trends, and developments.

In conclusion, CTED endorses the Joint Programme of Work, and is committed to further enhancing the coordination and coherence of United Nations counter-terrorism efforts in Africa.

Thank you.