



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM**  
**UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)**

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

**“National Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of  
Tajikistan on Countering Terrorism and Extremism for  
2021 – 2025”**

**22 April 2022, 10 a.m.,  
Conference Room 4 (In person)**

His Excellency Rahmon Yusuf Ahmadzod, Prosecutor General of the  
Republic of Tajikistan,

His Excellency Ambassador Jonibek Hikmat, Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations,

His Excellency Ambassador Olaf Skoog, Head of Delegation of the  
European Union to the United Nations,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear colleagues,

I would like to welcome you all to this High-Level Briefing on the National Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of Tajikistan on Countering Terrorism and Extremism for 2021 – 2025, jointly organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. In this context, I thank the European Union and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their support, both politically and financially.

Over the past year, despite COVID-19, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and its Counter-Terrorism Centre have continued to deliver on our policy leadership, coordination, and capacity-building mandates, as well as on our visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization, to support Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter terrorism.

This is especially true in Central Asia, where we have been able to conduct a large number of programme activities, including those related to the Joint Plan of Action for Central Asia, the tenth anniversary of which we commemorated at the high-level conference in Tashkent in March.

Our work has included support to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in designing and adopting its National Strategy and Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Extremism, which is being showcased today.

The Strategy and its Action Plan, which is the result of intense work by Tajik agencies and close consultations with partners, including United Nations system entities and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), was supported by the UNOCT-UNCCT project on ‘Strengthening Resilience against Violent Extremism in Asia’, which we implement together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA).

I would like to thank the European Union for its support on STRIVE Asia.

Over its past three years of implementation, STRIVE Asia has championed initiatives across Central Asia to support vulnerable communities, multi-stakeholder engagements, capacity-building of security organizations, as well as outreach to civil society and private sector entities. These initiatives result in guidance documents, such as

national and regional action plans, that help authorities take effective steps to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

The plans developed in partnership with STRIVE Asia, such as the one that we are discussing today, are essential to the security frameworks of Member States of the Central Asian region. These plans are designed in line with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

I am particularly pleased to note that the National Strategy and Action Plan of Tajikistan addresses such important issues as education, inter-communal tolerance, good governance, outreach to non-governmental actors and human rights, while paying special attention to the needs of traditionally underrepresented voices, such as youth, women, and cultural minorities.

I commend the Government of Tajikistan for this comprehensive and balanced security approach.

Ladies and gentlemen,

My Office is ready to continue supporting Tajikistan in the implementation of its National Action Plan, including by coordinating international support and offering technical and capacity-building assistance.

I invite all Member States to contribute to this important effort, especially through the provision of expertise, technical assistance, and financial support. Given the volatile regional situation and potential for spillover, such support would be both timely and impactful.

I look forward to an engaging discussion on the key elements of the Action Plan and the way forward on its implementation.

And I thank you for your attention.