



Statement by Mr. Rafi Shah, Chief of the Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination Branch (PKMCB), UNOCT

Presentation of the UN Counter-Terrorism Compact Joint Programme of Work (JPoW) to the Compact Committee

24 January 2024, 11.50 – 11.55 am (EST)

Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Committee, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov,

Distinguished guests, and dear colleagues,

Good morning and good afternoon.

In my capacity as Head of the Global Compact Secretariat, I am pleased to provide you with a brief overview on the Joint Programme of Work of the Compact for the next three years (2024-2026), for your consideration before its adoption.

UNOCT Compact Secretariat has developed this Joint Programme of Work in close consultation with the chairs and vice-chairs of the eight Compact Working Groups.

For the first time, we also consulted Member States, regional organizations, civil society, and academia on the overarching priorities of the Joint Programme of Work. Many of them responded positively, including United States, Russian Federation, China, Belgium, Canada, Ecuador, Italy, Malawi, Mexico, Norway, Qatar, Slovenia, and European Union.

The Joint Programme provides strategic guidance to the Compact in supporting the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, under the leadership of the Secretary-General, and Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, in accordance with the mandate of each entity.

As we know, the General Assembly in June last year, unanimously adopted the eighth review resolution of the Strategy, and decided to undertake its next review after three years in 2026, this is why the new Joint Programme of Work is spread over a period of 3 years.

The 8th review resolution recognized the important role of the Counter-Terrorism Compact in advancing the implementation of the Strategy. It provided a strong mandate to UNOCT to sustain the UN system's counter-terrorism coordination and coherence efforts. The full scale of

the General Assembly support is reflected in the 27 references to the Counter-Terrorism Compact throughout the 8th review resolution.

Excellencies, dear Colleagues,

I would now like to highlight the five overarching priorities of the Joint Programme of Work and some key actions that the Compact Secretariat and working groups will undertake during this three-year period:

In line with the Compact's mandate given by the General Assembly, the first overarching Compact priority is to *enhance coordination and coherence of UN counter-terrorism efforts* in supporting Member States, through a strengthened common-action approach. This priority highlights inter-agency efforts, field engagements, maximizing synergies, avoiding duplication, and undertaking a comprehensive impact assessment.

Again, as highlighted in the eighth review of the Counter-Terrorism Strategy, our second priority is to strengthen engagement with Member States, aligned with the four pillars of the UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the national priorities of Member States. This will require UN support in addressing Member States' counter-terrorism capacity gaps in collaboration with relevant entities, providing best practices, including on new technologies, combating financing of terrorism, vulnerable targets, as well as implementing Counter-Terrorism Committee and CTED assessments and recommendations.

Number three, considering the eight-review resolution, we will aim to *advance partnerships between the Counter-Terrorism Compact, international, regional, and sub-regional organizations as well as civil society*, including through field engagements, capacity-building, coordination, partnerships and supporting victims of terrorism.

Under the fourth priority, we will focus on *consolidating joint planning and resource mobilization for UN counter-terrorism efforts*, including through sustainable capacity-building assistance, and sharing of knowledge and best practices.

And finally, we will *ensure mainstreaming of gender, human rights, and rule of law in countering-terrorism and preventing violent extremism*, including through gender analysis, engaging with Member States on their gender integration, and integrating relevant stakeholders in human rights and rule of law-based initiatives.

I would now very briefly highlight few concrete deliverables over the next three years, under the framework of this Joint Programme of Work:

1. As requested by the General Assembly in its eighth review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the Compact will support the Secretary-General to assess the impact, based on a results framework, of all activities carried out by the entities subordinate to the Assembly, in line with their mandates, by February 2026, ahead of the next review of the Strategy.

2. We will jointly implement a new generation of 10 UN interagency flagship initiatives under the Joint Appeal in Africa, in addition to four projects under UNOCT's catalytic funding, ranging from hate speech and the prevention of violent extremism to data protection and artificial intelligence.
3. We will collaborate with partners to commemorate the International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism on the 12th of February, as well as support the development and implementation of PCVE Action Plans.
4. We will prepare human rights and gender benchmarks, while also promoting the CTC's Abu Dhabi guiding principles on unmanned aircraft systems.
5. The Compact Secretariat and working groups will organize annual coordination and brainstorming retreats, on issues of critical importance for the Compact.
6. And finally, to commemorate its tenth anniversary, we plan to organize a review event this year to update the 2013 Bogota Principles on national and regional strategies.

Excellencies, dear Colleagues,

This Joint Programme of Work serves as a practical and results-based framework for the Coordination Committee to provide oversight and strategic guidance to the Working Groups for the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Currently, the eight Compact Working Groups are developing their respective Work Plans for 2024-2026 period, which will be aligned to the Joint Programme of Work.

I would like to thank all entities, especially the Working Group Chairs and Vice-chairs for their valuable contributions and advice on drafting this Joint Programme of Work.

I now present the final draft of the third Counter-Terrorism Compact Joint Programme of Work for the period 2024-2026 for endorsement by the Coordination Committee.

Thank you for your attention.