



**REPORT**  
**OF THE UNITED NATIONS**  
**HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON**  
**COUNTER-TERRORISM**

**28 & 29 JUNE 2018**

United Nations Headquarters  
New York

**#UNitetoCounterTerrorism**

[www.un.org/counterterrorism/HLC](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/HLC)



*This report was funded from a generous contribution  
of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the  
United Nations Trust Fund on Counter-Terrorism in  
support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center.*



HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON  
**COUNTER-TERRORISM**

New York

28-29 JUNE 2018





# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Foreword** by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov,  
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations  
Office of Counter-Terrorism . . . . . 4

**High-level Session:** Mobilising international  
cooperation to combat the evolving threat  
of terrorism . . . . . 6

**Session I:** Opportunities and challenges  
in strengthening international cooperation  
through the sharing of information, expertise  
and resources . . . . . 9

**Session II:** Combatting the evolving threat  
from Foreign Terrorist Fighters . . . . . 12

**Session III:** Strengthening global action  
to prevent violent extremism, including by  
engaging youth and preventing misuse of new  
technologies and the Internet by terrorists . . . . . 14

**Session IV:** Strengthening the role and  
capacity of the United Nations to support  
Member States to implement the United Nations  
Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy . . . . . 16

**Closing Session** . . . . . 18

**Summary of Side Events** . . . . . 20

**Annex I:** List of Participants . . . . . 31

**Annex II:** Table of Side Events . . . . . 35



United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## FOREWORD

**By Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations  
Office of Counter-Terrorism**

Terrorism remains a persistent and evolving global menace. It undermines international peace and security, destroys societies and destabilizes entire regions. It is an affront to the common values encapsulated in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. No country is immune to this threat. Social media, encrypted communications and the dark web are being used to spread propaganda, radicalize new recruits and plan atrocities. The military defeat of ISIL in Iraq and Syria last year means foreign terrorist fighters are on the move, returning home or relocating to other theatres of conflict.

Terrorism is a transnational threat that cannot be defeated by any single government or organization. It needs a concerted multilateral response at global, regional and national levels. Our response needs to be as agile and multifaceted as the threat and based on multilateral principles. That is why the United Nations Secretary-General convened the first-ever United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States in New York on 28-29 June 2018, under the theme of “Strengthening international cooperation to combat the evolving threat of terrorism”. The High-level Conference followed the sixth biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 26-27 June 2018, creating a United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week. 25 side events were organized during the week by Member States,

United Nations entities and civil society on a range of practical and operational issues.

Over 1,000 participants from 150 Member States, 51 civil society organizations, 31 international and regional organizations and 25 United Nations entities attended the High-level Conference. 100 Member States were represented by delegations from capitals. Approximately half of the Heads of Delegation of Member States were from national counter-terrorism, law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies. 126 statements were delivered in four wide-ranging thematic sessions and can be viewed at <http://www.un.org/en/counterterrorism/hlc/statements.shtml>. I was particularly grateful for the valuable contributions from civil society representatives.

The High-level Conference helped to strengthen international counter-terrorism collaboration, break down silos and build new partnerships. It underlined the need for Member States to share critical information to detect, identify, disrupt and prosecute terrorists in a lawful way consistent with international human rights standards. It highlighted the benefits of adopting an inclusive “all-of-society” and “all-of-government” approach to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Civil society representatives delivered statements during the High-level Conference and in many of the side events on their unique contribution to tackling terrorism



Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, welcomes guests at the reception of the High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

and preventing violent extremism. Many statements from Member States, civil society and international organizations highlighted human rights violations by Member States in the name of countering terrorism and called for the United Nations to prioritize its efforts on promoting and protecting human rights while tackling terrorism.

The High-level Conference, along with the General Assembly resolution on the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, provided the United Nations with a clear roadmap for our work on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. We will now liaise with Member States and other key partners to organize interactive

regional events on specific thematic issues to keep the momentum and support your collective efforts until the next High-level Conference in June 2020.

I hope you will benefit from reading this report of the High-level Conference. I look forward to continuing to work closely with Member States and other key partners to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation.

VLADIMIR VORONKOV  
Under-Secretary-General  
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism



United Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## HIGH-LEVEL SESSION

### Mobilising international cooperation to combat the evolving threat of terrorism

Mr. António Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General, delivered the keynote address to open the High-level Conference. He stressed that terrorism and violent extremism exacerbated conflicts and hampered efforts to promote and protect human rights. He said terrorism was a complex global challenge that had reached unprecedented levels and affected every country. He explained that he decided to convene the High-level Conference to improve international cooperation and information sharing, and to build new partnerships that could find practical solutions. He added that the threat from terrorism continued to evolve and the international community needed to adapt and learn lessons from what worked and what did not. There is a need to strengthen the capacities of counter-terrorism structures and institutions and build the resilience and cohesion of societies at national and regional levels. This means governments adopting a comprehensive and inclusive approach, involving all parts of societies, including women and young people.

He outlined his six goals for the High-level Conference:

- 1. Strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation:** he noted that the international community had come a long way since the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006. There was an international framework to address terrorism defined by the Strategy,



Secretary-General António Guterres (centre) opens the High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism. | UN PHOTO/MARK GARTEN

Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, 19 global conventions and protocols and many regional instruments. However, implementation needed to be prioritized and backed up by strong political will and resources. He called for a new era of information sharing to build on the good work being done by a range of partners in different regions of the world and ensure that information is shared in a lawful, consistent, timely and secure way.

- 2. A renewed and sustained focus on preventing terrorism:** he explained that the international community had mostly





During his opening statement, Secretary-General António Guterres (centre) outlines six goals for the High-level Conference. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

been focused on countering terrorism and responding to attacks in recent years. Principled military and law enforcement measures were indispensable to protect the lives of citizens, but terrorism would never be defeated by military means alone. There is also a need to focus efforts on the underlying conditions that caused some people to be lured by terrorism. Factors such as prolonged unresolved conflicts, lack of the rule of law, human rights abuses, poverty, lack of opportunities and socioeconomic marginalization could all play a part in transforming ideas and grievances into acts of terrorism. Preventing and resolving conflict, protecting the rule of law and promoting economic and social progress were the first lines of defense against terrorism.

- 3. Underlining the importance of fully respecting human rights while tackling terrorism:** he noted that terrorism was fundamentally the denial and destruction of human rights. The actions and beliefs of terrorist groups are an affront to the values of the United Nations and the fight against terrorism needed to uphold those values, or it would never succeed.
- 4. Reinforcing the need to make a strategic investment in young people to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism:** he noted that most new recruits to terrorist

organizations were between 17 and 27 years old. Terrorist groups exploited the tendency of young men and women to look for a sense of purpose that felt unique and distinct from the social norms. There is therefore a need to harness the positive energy of young people by increased investment in education and employment opportunities and ensure that counter-terrorism measures reflected their views and concerns.

- 5. Shining a light on the tragic human cost of terrorism:** he noted that tens of thousands of people had been killed, wounded or traumatized by terrorism. The international community has an obligation to uphold the rights of victims, to seek justice and ensure they had a voice. He welcomed the decision to hold the first annual International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 21 August 2018.
- 6. Strengthening the role of the United Nations to assist Member States in tackling terrorism:** he highlighted the unique international convening role of the United Nations, which included finding multilateral solutions to complex global problems. He mentioned that the United Nations could deliver effective and coordinated counter-terrorism strategies through its capacity-building support to Member States.



Mr. Kai Sauer, Permanent Representative of Finland, and Ms. Sima Bahous, Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations brief as Co-Facilitators of the Sixth Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on the outcome document, adopted by consensus. | UN PHOTO/MARK GARTEN



Mr. Kai Sauer, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations and Co-Facilitator of the Sixth Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, mentioned that the review process had highlighted the crucial role of the United Nations in uniting the international community against the threat of terrorism. He commented that all Member States had worked to reach an agreement on a consensual outcome despite their differences. He assessed that the adopted resolution was more streamlined and user-friendly than previous iterations. He highlighted Finland's emphasis on preventive work to counter terrorism and violent extremism, which stressed the importance of engaging young people, civil society and religious communities. Lastly, he noted that research had shown a correlation between gender equality and a decrease in violent extremism. It was therefore essential to empower women and ensure their full participation in decision-making regarding preventing violent extremism.

Ms. Sima Bahous, Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations and Co-Facilitator of the Sixth Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy noted that the review had involved more than four weeks of inclusive and transparent consultations with Member States, regional groups and civil society organizations. Despite differences between Member States, she said the review had managed to cover key topics such as addressing the return of foreign terrorist fighters, capacity-building for Member States, countering the terrorist narrative, the financing of terrorism and the mandate of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT). She noted that preventing violent extremism had been one of the most sensitive subjects. She referenced Jordan's active role in taking forward United Nations Security Council resolution 2250 (2015), which formalized an international framework to address the critical role of youth in building and sustaining peace and preventing violent conflict.



United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

## SESSION I

### Opportunities and challenges in strengthening international cooperation through the sharing of information, expertise and resources

The first thematic session, chaired by Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), focused on how to ensure Member States share information to detect, identify, disrupt and prosecute terrorist networks in a timely, consistent and secure manner, building on existing networks and channels of communication. It included statements from 28 Member States, four international and regional organizations and four United Nations entities.

In her opening statement, Ms. Coninsx said that many terrorist activities transcended jurisdictions and borders, including digital ones. Counter-terrorism cooperation need to be swifter, occur across regions and between multiple levels of government, and involve non-traditional actors including the private sector. Timely access to critical information about identified or suspected terrorist activity, such as intelligence, biometric data, Advance Passenger Information (API), Passenger Name Records (PNR) and financial information, was vital to counter-terrorism efforts. She said there were many potential barriers to the sharing of information at global, regional and national levels, but the central issue was trust. Even where trust existed, capacity restraints could undermine the efforts of Member States to receive and collect information. She noted there was a solid international legal framework which

provided an effective legal foundation for the investigation and prosecution of terrorist cases, but ratification and implementation of these core international conventions was crucial. She concluded that CTED was uniquely mandated to assess Member States' responses to the terrorist threat and to conduct ongoing analysis of emerging trends and good practices.

The majority of Member States highlighted the need to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation, including making better use of existing international and regional networks to share information to detect and disrupt terrorists. This cooperation included sharing evidence, including digital evidence, to enable the prosecution of terrorists and their networks. Member States noted the importance of implementing United Nations Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017), especially when combatting the evolving threat from foreign terrorist fighters and facilitating information sharing between law enforcement and security agencies. Some Member States called for more information resilience, including having complete and accurate data when information is exchanged. One Member State recommended that a Global Network of Counter-Terrorism Coordinators be established to share expertise and agree non-binding best practices to process and share critical information and evidence related to terrorism. Many speakers agreed on the



The first thematic session, chaired by Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (centre), focused on how to ensure that Member States share information to detect, identify, disrupt and prosecute terrorist networks. | UN PHOTO/MARK GARTEN

need to overcome the barriers of mistrust that existed between security, law enforcement and intelligence agencies of Member States. Trust could be improved through joint projects, sharing resources and establishing contacts. Other speakers recommended that international counter-terrorism cooperation should include mutual legal assistance and extradition in terrorism-related cases.

Most Member States noted the complex and transnational nature of the financing, recruitment and planning of acts of terrorism. No country was immune to the threat of terrorism. Many speakers reiterated that terrorism should not be associated with any religion or ethnic group. Efforts to counter terrorism should be in accordance with the United Nations Charter and respect human rights, the rule of law and international law. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said that disregarding human rights, such as arbitrary detentions, only

encouraged terrorism and violent extremism: unprincipled measures would never defeat terrorism. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict highlighted that sexual violence was frequently used as a terrorist tactic and the declassification of evidence related to crimes against humanity and genocide was crucial.

Many Member States highlighted the value of INTERPOL databases in identifying terrorists at ports of entry and ensuring these were integrated with other national and international databases. Others commented favorably on the efforts of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) and its Working Groups to bring together experts and practitioners from around the world to develop tools and strategies to counter the evolving terrorist threat. Several speakers noted the importance of regional cooperation to support national counter-terrorism efforts, especially in terms

of sharing expertise and exchanging best practices. One Member State highlighted the benefits of engaging with regional Financial Action Task Force (FATF) bodies, which could provide technical assistance to Member States to ensure compliance with global standards.

A number of speakers mentioned the key role of the United Nations in strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation and expressed support for the Secretary-General's reform of the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture, including the creation of UNOCT. Some Member States welcomed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, involving thirty-eight United Nations entities, plus INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization, to ensure the United Nations adopts a coherent and coordinated approach to support the counter-terrorism efforts of

Member States. Other speakers highlighted the important work of the Security Council Committees pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1988 (2011), which had established good networks to implement measures, including with regional organizations and other partners. Some speakers commented that the 1267 Sanctions List, including its travel bans, arms embargoes and financial asset freezes, was an effective international tool to counter terrorism.

Other issues raised by Member States included the nexus between organized crime and terrorism, the importance of engaging with the private sector, and the need to adopt robust national counter-terrorism strategies. A few Member States said they hoped that civil society organizations would be able to participate in all thematic sessions of similar High-level Conferences in the future.

Over 1,000 participants from 150 Member States, 51 civil society organizations, 31 international and regional organizations and 25 United Nations entities attend the High-level Conference. | UN PHOTO/MARK GARTEN





United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

## SESSION II

### Combatting the evolving threat from Foreign Terrorist Fighters

The second thematic session, chaired by Mr. Jürgen Stock, Secretary-General of INTERPOL, focused on how Member States could work together to address the evolving threat from foreign terrorist fighters, following the military defeat of ISIL in Syria and Iraq last year and the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 2396 (2017). It included statements from 25 Member States, four international and regional organizations and one United Nations entity.

In his opening statement, Mr. Stock highlighted INTERPOL's important role in detecting, identifying and capturing foreign terrorist fighters. This included close cooperation with Member States and international and regional partners to address the threat. He noted that Member States had stepped up the sharing of critical information in recent years, which had enabled INTERPOL to identify and arrest foreign terrorist fighters. However, any gaps or weaknesses in information sharing had been exploited by terrorists. He called for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 2396 (2017), including ensuring information on foreign terrorist fighters reached the appropriate security, intelligence, military or law enforcement agency in a timely manner.

Many speakers reiterated the importance of implementing Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017), especially the need for Member States to strengthen measures to prevent the transit of terrorists, including the

use of API and PNR. The systematic use of API and PNR on lost, stolen or counterfeit travel documents was a powerful tool to establish effective early-warning systems. Other speakers noted that resolution 2396 (2017) called on Member States to notify other countries of the travel, arrival, deportation or detention of individuals whom they have reasonable grounds to believe are terrorists. Member States judged that porous and unsecured borders continued to pose significant challenges in disrupting the flow of foreign terrorist fighters. Speakers highlighted the agility of foreign terrorist fighters in circumventing established security procedures and said the inter-operability between national, regional and global databases was critical.

Member States and regional organizations emphasized the transnational threat from foreign terrorist fighters, especially as many who had acquired battlefield experience in Iraq and Syria were now returning home or relocating to other countries and conflict zones. Speakers welcomed the efforts of a number of international and regional organizations to ensure better law enforcement coordination and information exchange to capture foreign terrorist fighters. Some highlighted the value of mutual legal assistance treaties, while others stressed the need for all Member States to either prosecute or extradite terrorists. Several Member States mentioned that they had revised national laws in order to bring foreign terrorist fighters to justice.



Mr. Jürgen Stock, Secretary-General of INTERPOL (centre), outlines how Member States could work together to address the evolving threat from foreign terrorist fighters. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

Many speakers noted that the evolving shape, structure and rebranding of ISIL in light of the setbacks it had experienced could pose new challenges to counter-terrorism efforts. Some stated that ISIL had been moving from a network structure to establishing autonomous cells and noted that this increasingly decentralized mode of operation created serious challenges to security agencies. The Coordinator of the ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and Taliban Monitoring Team noted that the sanctions regime offered preventive options to freeze the assets of ISIL and Al-Qaida terrorists and stop them from travelling and procuring weapons. He added that the international community should not underestimate the capacity of foreign terrorist fighters to pose new threats. Al-Qaida remains stronger than ISIL in some regions and some ISIL foreign terrorist fighters are joining Al-Qaida affiliates.

Many Member States highlighted the need to focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of returning foreign terrorist fighters to prevent them committing further terrorist acts or recruiting and radicalizing others. This was highlighted in Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) and required an urgent and coordinated international response. Speakers drew attention to the risk of radicalization in prisons and the need for tailored and effective risk assessments for returning foreign terrorist fighters. A number of Member States highlighted that foreign terrorist fighters were often accompanied by family members, including spouses and children, which presented a range of specific challenges. Several speakers noted that the children of foreign terrorist fighters needed counselling and remedial assistance and should not be stigmatized.

Several Member States reiterated that all counter-terrorism measures needed to be conducted with the full respect for the protection afforded to all individuals by international law, including humanitarian law and human rights law, especially for individuals designated as foreign terrorist fighters and their next of kin. It was suggested that independent and impartial monitoring mechanisms should be granted access to such individuals to ensure that international law and standards were respected.

A number of Member States drew attention to the nexus between terrorism and organized crime and highlighted the importance of cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and with the private sector to counter the financing of terrorism. The FATF helped to promote effective international action on money laundering, terrorism financing and proliferation financing.

Other speakers highlighted the wide range of resources available to assist Member States counter the evolving threat from foreign terrorist fighters. These included the GCTF Hague-Marrakech Memorandum on Good Practices for a More Effective Response to the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon<sup>1</sup> and the Madrid Guiding Principles<sup>2</sup>, which was produced by the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.thegctf.org/documents/10162/140201/14Sept19\\_The+Hague-Marrakech+FTF+Memorandum.pdf](https://www.thegctf.org/documents/10162/140201/14Sept19_The+Hague-Marrakech+FTF+Memorandum.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Madrid-Guiding-Principles\\_EN.pdf](https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Madrid-Guiding-Principles_EN.pdf)



United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## SESSION III

### Strengthening global action to prevent violent extremism, including by engaging youth and preventing misuse of new technologies and the Internet by terrorists

The third thematic session, chaired by Mr. Achim Steiner, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), focused on strengthening global action to prevent violent extremism. It included statements from 23 Member States, 12 civil society organizations and 3 United Nations entities.

In his opening statement, Mr. Steiner mentioned the harmful impact of violent extremism on security and development. He quoted recent data which showed the economic cost of violence on the global economy in 2017 was \$14.76 trillion, equivalent to \$1,988 for every person on the planet. He highlighted the critical role that development played in efforts to prevent violent extremism by addressing the governance failures that led to social grievances. He stressed that cooperation between state actors and non-state actors was essential for the success of the counter-terrorism and prevention agendas. He said civil society organizations were important partners, as they were representatives of the people who possessed the access and long-term commitment required for sustainable change. He also noted the importance of evidence-based approaches and underscored the need to integrate women and youth into efforts to prevent violent extremism. He argued that new technologies had enormous potential to help address the root causes and drivers of violent extremism.

Speakers expressed their deep commitment to counter the scourge of terrorism and welcomed the adoption by consensus of the sixth review

of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Many Member States shared their own experiences of countering terrorism and called for comprehensive “whole-of-society” approaches that addressed the root causes of terrorism. A number of Member States noted that they had adopted, or were in the process of adopting, national preventing violent extremism plans.

Several speakers highlighted the role of the United Nations as a platform for collaborative action to counter terrorism and expressed their commitment to international and regional counter-terrorism cooperation, including the development of regional preventing violent extremism plans. In this context, a few Member States highlighted the importance of cooperation between United Nations entities, particularly UNOCT and CTED.

There was general agreement among Member States, echoed by civil society, that young people were key partners in preventing violent extremism. Some Member States stressed that young people should not only be viewed as a threat or a potential risk in the context of preventing violent extremism, but also as leaders and key influencers. They called on all stakeholders to work with young people to help them realize their potential, provide them with education and employment opportunities and enhance their resilience to violent extremism. Some speakers mentioned that youth should be encouraged and empowered to take an active role in counter-terrorism policy-making and outreach programmes.



Member States underlined the importance of preventing the misuse of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) by terrorists. They expressed concern at the widespread exploitation of the Internet by terrorists to spread their ideologies and coordinate activities. Many Member States drew attention to the intersection between youth and ICTs, noting that young people were early adopters of new technologies and were therefore on the frontline of the struggle against terrorism and violent extremism on these platforms. Some Member States mentioned the role of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, in detecting early signs of radicalization. One speaker called for the development of an international instrument to counter terrorism in cyberspace.

Other priorities highlighted by Member States included connecting municipalities, law enforcement and intelligence agencies to better detect early signs of radicalization and disrupt terrorist plots; strengthening community policing; investing in de-radicalization and reintegration programmes for violent extremists; and addressing the link between terrorism and transnational crime.

Many representatives of civil society organizations and a number of Member States stressed the importance of broad engagement between governments and civil society in efforts to prevent violent extremism. They emphasized that civil society organizations were often the first line of defense against terrorism and violent extremism on the ground in local communities and highlighted the value of local expertise. A number of civil society speakers stated that empowering women was essential for efforts to counter-terrorism and prevent violent extremism. They drew attention to the widespread coercion and subjugation of women by violent extremist groups and argued that women played a key role in pioneering and leading preventing violent extremism efforts within their communities.

Several civil society speakers argued that the fourth pillar of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy - protecting human rights and ensuring the rule of law - had been neglected, including in the framework of the recent sixth review. Some speakers noted that negative experiences with security services were a major



Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (centre), notes the harmful impact of violent extremism on security and development as Chair of Session III. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

trigger of radicalization and called on the United Nations to prioritize its efforts on promoting and protecting human rights while tackling terrorism. Many civil society speakers called for greater engagement between civil society and the United Nations on preventing violent extremism and some, including some Member States, criticized the exclusion of civil society from the first day of the High-level Conference.

A number of United Nations entities highlighted their work on preventing violent extremism. The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide noted the link between terrorism, violent extremism, and atrocity crimes. He mentioned the Secretary-General's Action Plan for Religious Leaders on Preventing Incitement to Violence<sup>3</sup>, which promoted outreach to populations vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists and addressed the misuse of the media for recruitment. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) expressed its commitment to empower educators, address misuse of the Internet, advance human rights, and promote youth engagement to prevent violent extremism. The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) emphasized its work on countering hate speech and promoting dialogue within societies, as well as its efforts to facilitate meaningful participation of youth in preventing violent extremism and peacebuilding processes. UNAOC also highlighted the importance of bringing terrorists to justice, in accordance with international law, to advance reconciliation in affected societies.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/Plan%20of%20Action%20Advanced%20Copy.pdf>



United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## SESSION IV

### Strengthening the role and capacity of the United Nations to support Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The fourth thematic session, co-chaired by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, and Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), focused on strengthening the role and capacity of the United Nations to support Member States. It included statements from 11 Member States, 4 international and regional organizations, 3 civil society organizations and 4 United Nations entities.

Mr. Voronkov noted that the establishment of UNOCT was one of the first reforms of the United Nations Secretary-General and reflected his determination to mainstream countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism into the core work of the organization. Mr. Voronkov highlighted some of UNOCT's key achievements in its first year, including the agreement of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, strengthened cooperation with CTED, regional organizations and civil society organizations, the signing of five Memorandums of Understanding with key partners, and the delivery of over 35 capacity-building projects through the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center (UNCCT).

Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka outlined the work of UN Women on the gender aspects of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. She noted that UN Women was implementing

27 projects in these areas and was committed to enhancing its cooperation with other United Nations entities, as well as Member States, civil society and the private sector. She emphasized the importance of including women in decision-making processes related to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, as well as taking into account their unique position as both victims and perpetrators of terrorist acts. She argued that it was necessary to counter harmful stereotypes about women, which were frequently exploited by terrorists.

Mr. Fedotov noted the important role of UNODC in providing technical assistance to Member States to reinforce the universal legal framework against terrorism. He highlighted a lack of criminal justice capacity in several countries and regions as a major challenge to global counter-terrorism action. Outdated counter-terrorism legislation, policies, institutional frameworks and cooperation agreements, as well as shortfalls in skills and expertise, caused difficulties, as did the increasing number and cross-border nature of counter-terrorism investigations. He said the United Nations needed to do more to support Member States undertake rule of law-based investigations and prosecutions and ensure that national counter-terrorism measures were in line with international human rights norms and standards. More research and analysis to identify trends and dynamics were needed, including into the nexus of terrorism and transnational organized crime.

Member States welcomed the convening of the High-level Conference and shared their own experiences of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. A number of speakers reiterated the importance of a “whole-of-society” approach and a few reiterated concerns voiced in previous sessions regarding the lack of participation of civil society organizations on the first day of the High-level Conference. They called on UNOCT to present a concrete plan for systematic engagement with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, in all of its efforts. Several speakers, including those from civil society organizations, called for greater attention and resources to be allocated for work to promote human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Professor Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, United Nations Special Rapporteur for the protection and promotion of human rights while countering terrorism, highlighted the mutually reinforcing relationship between security and human rights, and implored all stakeholders to ensure compliance with human rights in counter-terrorism efforts.

Member States stressed the importance of strengthening international and regional cooperation to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. They highlighted the need for counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance upon the request and based on the particular needs of each Member State. Many welcomed UNOCT’s capacity-building work through UNCCT and recognized the contribution of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) in ensuring an “all-of-UN” approach. Others mentioned the important work of CTED expert assessments and visits, which helped to identify areas for technical assistance. One speaker suggested there was a need to reform the governance structure of UNCCT.

Member States highlighted a number of specific capacity-building priorities, including support for efforts to prevent violent extremism, combat money laundering and terrorism financing, address the misuse of new technologies and the Internet by terrorists and violent extremists; and support victims of terrorism. The International Atomic



Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka (centre), one of the Co-Chairs of Session IV, outlines the work of UN Women on the gender aspects of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

Energy Agency drew attention to the importance of capacity-building aimed at preventing terrorists from obtaining nuclear material and highlighted its own role in this context.

Mr. Alexandre Zouev, Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, delivered a statement on behalf of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). He said that United Nations peacekeeping was not a tool for military counter-terrorism, but peace operations were increasingly deployed to contexts where groups using terrorist tactics pursued goals inconsistent with the United Nations Charter. He described the ways in which DPKO was adapting its policies, modalities and understanding to remain effective in such complex operating environments and stressed the comparative advantage of United Nations peace operations to build national capacities and support Member States to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism. Mr. Michael Keating, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Somalia, observed that terrorism has impacted all aspects of life in Somalia. He underscored that fighting terrorism required comprehensive approaches that addressed all aspects of the problem. He also recalled that the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia was the only mission explicitly mandated to work on preventing violent extremism. Mr. Ján Kubiš, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq, said it was necessary to address the root causes of terrorism and focus on prevention. He expressed appreciation for the recent joint CTED/UNOCT mission to Iraq and the resulting work to identify capacity-building opportunities.

## CLOSING SESSION



Secretary-General António Guterres (centre) concludes that the High-level Conference helps to strengthen multilateral collaboration, break down silos and build new partnerships. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

Mr. António Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General, delivered his Chair's Summary to close the High-level Conference, based on the discussions during the four thematic sessions.

He concluded that the High-level Conference had helped to strengthen multilateral collaboration, break down silos and build new partnerships. He commented that over 1,000 participants from around the world had attended the High-level Conference and that 25 side events organized by Member

States, United Nations entities and civil society throughout the first-ever United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week had demonstrated the benefits of adopting an inclusive approach.

He mentioned the need for an “all-of-government”, “all-of-society” and “all-of-UN” approach to preventing and countering terrorism, involving a broad range of partners at national, regional and global levels. This needed to include women and young people, who could help counter the manipulative messages of terrorists and reintegrate the

radicalized. There was also a need to uphold the rights of victims and ensure they had a voice. He praised the valuable work of civil society organizations and announced that the United Nations was considering establishing a new unit in UNOCT to ensure that the views of civil society were fully reflected in counter-terrorism policies and programmes.

He noted that there were many examples of Member States lawfully sharing critical information consistent with human rights standards. However, he suggested that better use needed to be made of existing networks and these needed to be expanded to include more Member States. He highlighted the need to improve the sharing of information on the identities of returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters as part of efforts to implement Security Council resolution 2396 (2017). He announced that the United Nations was considering establishing a Global Network of Counter-Terrorism Coordinators to share expertise and best practices between Member States.

He said more needed to be done to address the conditions that were conducive to terrorism and violent extremism, which included a lack of opportunity, exclusion, inequality, discrimination and serious violations of human rights. He also called for the international community to work more closely together to anticipate and prevent the terrorist threats of tomorrow. He added that this would require close cooperation with the private sector and academia to share knowledge, expertise and resources. He accepted that there was more that the United Nations could do to ensure its capacity-building activities delivered impact on the ground. He reiterated that the international



Secretary-General António Guterres (left) leaves the General Assembly Hall after the closing of the High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism. At the right is Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

community needed to fight terrorism together, with methods that did not compromise the rule of law and human rights.

Lastly, he concluded that the High-level Conference, and the adoption of a consensus resolution following the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, had provided the United Nations with a clear roadmap for its work on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. He announced that the United Nations would now liaise with Member States to organize interactive regional events on key thematic issues before the next High-level Conference in June 2020.



United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

## SUMMARY OF SIDE EVENTS



The side event on Preventing Incitement to Violence and Violent Extremism on 26 June addresses the important role of faith leaders in preventing violent extremism. | UN PHOTO/HUBERTUS JUERGENLIEMK

**26 JUNE 2018**

### **Preventing Incitement to Violence and Violent Extremism: Implementing the Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes**

This side event was hosted by the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect and the Permanent Mission of Morocco to underscore the importance of the role of faith leaders in preventing violent extremism. Morocco outlined the work being done by its Government, including the Mohammed VI Training Institute for Imams and the Marrakesh Declaration on the rights of

religious minorities<sup>4</sup>. The United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention emphasized that engaging religious leaders was a core part of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. UNOCT stressed the importance of investing in political and operational leadership for the promotion of peace, dialogue, tolerance, and inclusiveness. Panelists from Women in Islam, the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding, and the Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign presented the activities of their respective organizations. The engagement and empowerment of women and youth was repeatedly mentioned, as was the need for evidence-based approaches.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.marrakeshdeclaration.org/marrakesh-declaration.html>



The side event on Countering the Financing of Terrorism highlights the international consensus on suppressing terrorist financing. | UN PHOTO/HUBERTUS JUERGENLIEMK

### **Countering the Financing of Terrorism: Challenges in Identifying, Monitoring and Countering the Financing of Terrorist Groups and Individuals**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Missions of France, Nigeria and Peru and UNODC. The Permanent Representatives of France and Peru recalled the important conferences in Algiers and Paris that were convened in the months leading up to the High-level Conference that highlighted the international consensus on suppressing terrorist financing. They drew attention to the growing risks stemming from new technologies and their use in terrorist financing, and the lack of capacity of many Member States to understand and combat the threat in its newest manifestations. They stressed the importance of building capacities and strengthening the role of the FATF and FATF-style regional bodies.

The UNODC Executive Director stressed the importance of increasing cooperation between FIUs, law enforcement entities and intelligence services. UNODC also presented its new Guidance Manual on Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment, while CTED mentioned capacity-building projects in Tunisia and Iraq, which were developed on the basis of needs identified by CTED. FIU officials from Nigeria and Belgium mentioned that many FIUs were not sufficiently empowered to receive intelligence briefings from law enforcement authorities. They mentioned that sensitization campaigns were needed to ensure that banks and other financial institutions provided the correct information. UNOCT briefed on its Countering the Financing of Terrorism project and underscored the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement and new techniques, such as financial intelligence sharing and public-private partnerships, to enhance the impact of assistance.

## Protection of Critical Infrastructures against Terrorist Attacks in the Context of Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2341 (2017)

This side event was organized by the Permanent Mission of Ukraine and included presentations from the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Security Service. The briefers focused on multifaceted attacks and newly emerging threats to critical infrastructure in Ukraine. Participants recognized the importance of developing a consolidated approach to protecting critical infrastructure from subversion and terrorist attacks; improving the resilience of national security systems; and developing preventive measures and response capabilities to attacks against important life-supporting facilities, including in cyberspace. Participants also welcomed the adoption by consensus of the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. They highlighted the importance of regional and international cooperation for preventing and mitigating attacks against critical infrastructure and providing capacity-building support to Member States. A Working Paper titled “Implementation of UNSC resolution 2341 (2017): experience of Ukraine” was distributed during the event. Among other topics, the paper addressed methods for assessing vulnerabilities, interdependencies, capabilities, and the cascading effects of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure. It invited Member States to build on Ukraine’s experience in the area of preventive measures in developing national strategies and policies in this field.

Victims of terrorism and side event organizers stand in solidarity, following the screening of a documentary about three victims of terrorism from Mali. | UN PHOTO/LAURENCE GERARD



The hashtag for the side event is shown during a minute of silence. | UN PHOTO/HUBERTUS JUERGENLIEMK

## Standing in Solidarity for the Rights of Victims of Terrorism

This side event was organized by UNOCT in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Mali and the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI). A documentary focusing on three victims of terrorism under the rule of the former Police Chief in Mali, Aliou Mahamar Toure, was screened during the event. The Handbook of Good Practices to Support Victims’ Associations in Africa and the Middle East was launched with a roundtable discussion moderated by UNOCT, and featured experts and victims’ representatives, including the Association Malienne des Droits de l’Homme, the Association Francaise des Victimes du Terrorisme, Tuesday’s Children, and the Iraqi Al-Amal Association. The discussion highlighted the importance of the Handbook as a tool for collaboration as it incorporated many issues relevant to victims, such as psychosocial support, and addressed specific circumstances related to women and children. The Permanent Representative of Mali expressed gratitude to participants for showing their solidarity with victims of terrorism in Mali and focused on the themes of justice and reconciliation in supporting victims going forward.

**27 JUNE 2018**

## Engaged and Empowered? Database of Counter-Terrorism

This side event was hosted by UN Women and the Permanent Missions of Finland and



the United Kingdom to highlight the launch of new research analyzing the role of women as victims, perpetrators and preventers of violent extremism. Speakers from UN Women, the International Institute for Strategic Studies and the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs spoke about the importance of developing evidence-based policy practices regarding women and violent extremism, and the need to continue conducting in-depth research to enhance the understanding of the roles women play in violent extremism.

### **Lawful Access to Digital Data Across Borders and Database of Counter-Terrorism Competent National Authorities**

This side event was organized by CTED, UNODC, the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP), and the Permanent Mission of the United States. The event focused on the challenges that Member States face in relation to requesting, obtaining, and using digital evidence for terrorism cases. These challenges include delays in the submission of requests for digital data, lack of jurisdictional clarity, information sharing without violating human rights and privacy laws, and time-consuming and often unsuccessful search for essential criminal evidence. To address these challenges, CTED, UNODC and the IAP are jointly implementing the “Lawful Access to Digital Data Across Borders” project, which is supported by the United States, Japan and France. The project is being implemented to strengthen the capacity of central authorities, prosecutors and investigators in preserving and obtaining electronic counter-terrorism evidence. Specific outcomes of the project include creating a practical guide to request electronic information, regional workshops to enhance the capacity of central authorities, an e-learning training platform, a manual for mutual legal assistance, and a centralized database for central authorities. UNODC also presented its Directory of Competent National Authorities for terrorism-related cases, which was created in line with Security Council resolution 2322 (2016).

### **International Cooperation to Combat the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes: Opportunities and Challenges**

This side event was organized by UNODC, UNOCT and the Permanent Missions of Bahrain, Belarus, Egypt, Estonia, Kenya, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Republic of Korea, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates. During the first session on international cooperation and information sharing to combat the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, Member States underscored the need for prevention involving community engagement and youth education as a more effective way to address radicalization than removing Internet content; the importance of public-private partnerships; and the need for social media companies to operate in multiple languages and share information with national authorities. In the second session on countering extremist messages and promoting tolerance on social media platforms, the Counter-Extremism Project mentioned the importance of pressuring technology companies to remove extremist content and disrupt extremist networks online to create space for alternative messages. In the final session on the role of the private sector in combating the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, representatives from Facebook and Twitter highlighted progress in removing and blocking extremist content online. Terrorists often exploited smaller online provider platforms, so there was a need to support smaller technology companies that lack the resources to prevent terrorist use of the Internet.

Speakers underline the opportunities and challenges of International Cooperation to Combat the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes during the side event. | UN PHOTO/HUBERTUS JUERGENLIEMK



## Lettres à Nour

The performance of this epistolary play was organized by the Permanent Mission of France and the Interministerial Committee on Crime and Radicalization Prevention, with the support of the Delegation of the European Union, la Francophonie, UNESCO and the Permanent Missions of Belgium, Morocco and Tunisia. *Lettres à Nour* told the story of the exchange between a father, a practicing Muslim intellectual - living his religion as a message of peace and love - and his daughter, who went to Iraq to join the man she married in secret and who was a lieutenant of ISIL. The play was followed by an exchange between the audience and the author Rachid Benzine, Islamologist and Franco-Moroccan researcher, who is part of the new generation of intellectuals who advocate critical and open work on the Koran.

**28 JUNE 2018**

## Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and Violent Extremist Offenders

This side event was organized by Carefronting-Nigeria, the International Center for Counterterrorism (ICCT), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the Permanent Missions of Jordan and the United States. UNICRI briefed on the different pathways that informed its rehabilitation and reintegration programming, while Thailand underscored the important role of religion and family in rehabilitating foreign terrorist fighters. Jordan explained the religious, psychological, vocational and educational strands of its rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, delivered through Correctional Rehabilitation Centres, and highlighted key challenges including overcrowding, lack of cooperation from inmates and high costs. ICCT stressed the importance of youth and the role of ideology and engagement with actors that provide evidence, while the Global Center on Cooperative Security recommended the development of strategic and legal frameworks to enable civil society organizations to deliver

rehabilitation and reintegration work without facing resource and security constraints. Carefronting-Nigeria emphasized the need to ensure inclusive security in rehabilitation and reintegration efforts where community structures were empowered as security providers.

## Back to Basics: Human Rights and Civil Society Engagement as Foundations for Effectively Preventing Violent Extremism and Countering Terrorism

This event was organized by the Global Center on Cooperative Security, the Prevention Project, and the Permanent Missions of Norway and Sweden. The event followed an expert-level workshop which was held at the Permanent Mission of Norway the previous day. The workshop and side event focused on developing a series of concrete policy recommendations for promoting and protecting human rights and safeguarding and expanding civil society spaces while countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Speakers included civil society representatives from Afghanistan, Kenya, Pakistan, Tunisia, and Uganda. Participants acknowledged that while respect for human rights and the rule of law were foundational elements of countering terrorism, they continued to receive insufficient attention and resources. They noted that heavy-handed counter-terrorism tactics were on the rise, with increasing violations of human rights. Although occasionally effective in the short-term, participants stressed that the negative

The discussion of the side event focuses on developing a series of concrete policy recommendations for promoting and protecting human rights and safeguarding and expanding civil society spaces while countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. | UN PHOTO/HUBERTUS JUERGENLIEMK



implications of overly-securitized responses on terrorist recruitment and radicalization were significant. The event considered practical ways to generate and sustain attention on the human rights dimensions of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, as well as the need for a “whole-of-society” approach to the threat of violent extremism that includes human rights and other civil society actors as key partners. Participants expressed hope that the United Nations counter-terrorism reforms, and particularly the establishment of UNOCT, would help address the issues considered during the event.

### **Implementation of Global Aviation Security Plan in light of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2309 (2016)**

This side event was organized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and supported by the Permanent Missions of France, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom, to discuss the implementation of the Global Aviation Security Plan following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2309 (2016). Dedicated to pressing forward cooperation between ICAO, CTED and UNOCT, the event was attended by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, Ms. Michèle Coninx, Executive Director of CTED, and featured a number of other speakers from ICAO, INTERPOL, and Member States including Canada, the Netherlands, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom. Speakers noted the importance of aviation security and its evolving nature as a threat, and welcomed the strengthening of cooperation between ICAO, CTED and UNOCT, including a Memorandum of Understanding between CTED and ICAO signed on 27 May 2018. The side event also provided an opportunity for ICAO to familiarize Member States and heads of counter-terrorism agencies with its work, as the specialized United Nations agency responsible for aviation security and facilitation, in support of Security Council resolution 2309. Related activities include ICAO’s Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy. The side event also provided an important opportunity to promote the implementation of the ICAO Global Aviation



Speakers during the side event on the implementation of the Global Aviation Security Plan welcome the strengthening of cooperation between ICAO, CTED and UNOCT. | UN PHOTO/MARK GARTEN

Security Plan (GASeP), which addresses the needs of Member States and industry in guiding all aviation security enhancement efforts through a set of internationally agreed priority actions, tasks and targets. The five key priorities of the GASeP are enhancing risk awareness and response, developing security culture and human capability, improving technological resources and fostering innovation, improving oversight and quality assurance, and increasing cooperation and support.

### **Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism through Communications and Empowerment Strategies Involving Youth**

This side event was organized by CTED and UNAOC, on behalf of the CTITF Working Group on Communications, and the Permanent Missions of Finland and Jordan. The event focused on sharing examples of good practices in communicating and empowering youth for preventing violent extremism. Finland stated that it will update its national Preventing Violent Extremism Plan of Action to include a larger youth component, while Jordan stressed the need for stronger media and information literacy for youth and government officials. UNAOC noted the need to make strategic investments in youth, while CTED mentioned the value of using powerful icons and influencers to appeal to young audiences. UNOCT highlighted UNCCT projects on communications and youth and emphasized the importance of using context

specific approaches and alternative narratives for preventing violent extremism. Panelists from Finland, Jordan, the Institute of Strategic Dialogue, and UNOAC shared details of their respective projects on youth engagement for preventing violent extremism, including evidence-based approaches and the creative use of online video dramas and music to appeal to young people.

### **The United Nations Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Mission of Japan and CTED to launch the Compendium, which had been prepared by CTED with the financial support of UNCCCT and within the framework of the CTITF Working Group on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure including Vulnerable Targets, Internet and Tourism Security, chaired by OIPC-INTERPOL. CTED introduced the Compendium and announced phase II of the project, funded by Japan, which would support Member States in South-East Asia to develop national strategies to protect critical infrastructure.

### **Youth as Protagonists in Preventing Violent Extremism**

This side event was organized by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) and the Permanent Mission of Qatar. UNOCT noted that youth constitute the global future and highlighted projects that the UNCCCT was implementing in the MENA region and South and South-East Asia on education and vocational skills training. UNDP highlighted the need to engage youth not as perpetrators of violent extremism but as key actors to help promote tolerant and inclusive societies. Qatar stressed the importance of youth resilience as well as equal opportunities and access for youth. UN Women noted the gender dimensions and dynamics of violent extremism as crucial factors to be addressed in prevention efforts. Silatech highlighted its work to create employment opportunities in vulnerable contexts and communities.

### **Leveraging Partnerships and Strengthening Cooperation with Women to Counter and Prevent Violent Extremism and Terrorism in Africa**

This side event was organized by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), UN Women, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and the Permanent Missions of Germany and Japan. The event was in response to the Dakar Call for Action<sup>5</sup>, which is focused on the Sahel region, that resulted from the workshop organized by UNOWAS in Dakar on 10-11 April 2018.

OSAA reflected on what needed to be done to empower women in the fight against terrorism and noted that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week was a good opportunity to reaffirm the importance of the women, peace and security agenda. Kenya called on African Member States to engage women in counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism efforts and highlighted the effects of human trafficking which targeted women and contributed to sexual violence. UNOCT referred to the Dakar Call for Action as a pragmatic tool that had attracted the interest of other regions, including the Middle East. UN Women concluded the event by stressing that terrorists exploit gender inequalities to advance their agendas, and that the international community needed to address gender inequalities. It hoped that the Dakar Call for Action model could be replicated in other regions.

### **Human Rights-Compliant Responses to the Threat Posed by Foreign Fighters**

This side event was organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Permanent Missions of Belgium and Switzerland. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism emphasized the need for specificity in terms of how counter-terrorism measures complied

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/events/2018/20180601/DAKAR\\_CALL\\_EN\\_Final\\_Version.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/events/2018/20180601/DAKAR_CALL_EN_Final_Version.pdf)

with human rights and expressed concern about the global standardization of counter-terrorism offenses imposed by the United Nations Security Council. Switzerland expressed concern about the increasingly common view that successful counter-terrorism measures and respect for human rights were mutually exclusive. The event launched the guidance to Member States on human rights-compliant responses to the threat posed by foreign fighters. The document aims to provide concrete guidance to Member States on how to implement Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017) in compliance with human rights, as intended by the Security Council. CTED noted that the document would be of great practical use, and that it would use it in its work on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in conducting its assessments of Member States. CTED further noted that many issues raised at the side event will be included in the review of the Madrid Guiding Principles, which will take place this year.

### **Countering the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon: Combined Efforts of Police and Justice**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Missions of Spain and Iraq, the European Union, UNODC and INTERPOL. Iraq stressed its determination to undertake its obligations under Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017). It called on Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund established by the United Nations Secretary-General to enable the Investigative Team established under Security Council resolution 2379 (2017) to implement its mandate of collecting, preserving and storing evidence of crimes committed by ISIL in Iraq. Spain and UNODC highlighted the need for greater information sharing, coordination and collaboration among Member States' criminal justice and law enforcement authorities. INTERPOL noted the key role of biometrics in fighting terrorism and sought support for the further development of its e-extradition and e-Mutual Legal Assistance initiatives. The European Union outlined challenges related to detection, criminalization, collection of

evidence, risk assessments, and rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters. EUROPOL mentioned its focus on prevention through cooperation with industry and social media providers, while CTED noted the difficulties regarding the collection and admissibility of evidence.

### **Disrupting Terrorist Travel: Implementation of PNR/API Requirements of Security Council Resolution 2396 (2017)**

This side event was organized by CTED and the Permanent Missions of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. It discussed Member States' obligations under Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) to collect and use API/PNR data to prevent the cross-border travel of terrorists. Argentina, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States shared their experiences in developing and implementing API/PNR systems. Participants emphasized the significant resources required in this regard, including investments in advanced technology and legislative reform. They highlighted the need to engage with air carriers to facilitate the collection and screening of data against behavioral patterns of known terrorists. CTED mentioned the 'all-of-UN' approach envisioned by the new UNCCT API/PNR project, which will benefit from the transfer of the Dutch Travel Information Portal (TRIP) system. ICAO emphasized the interoperability of Member States to facilitate the sharing of API/PNR data in accordance with international law. The ISIL (Da'esh) & Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee called on Member States to use API/PNR data to prevent the travel of targeted individuals who use broken travel patterns, forged documents and fraudulent identities.

### **Comedy for Equality: Harnessing the Power of Laughter for Empowerment and Peace**

This side event was organized by UN Women and brought together local comedians to discuss ways in which humor can help promote agendas on women's rights, and how this effort could help improve the lives of women around

the world. UN Women highlighted the role played by comedy in promoting gender equality and challenging narratives disseminated by violent extremist groups. The event presented a standup set with a comedian and exhibited two short videos developed by Mythos Labs, a company that partners with humorists to create videos that counter extremist narratives and gender stereotypes. The videos showcased work in countering violent extremist recruitment narratives in Asia. Following the presentations, panelists discussed the type of audiences that were associated with their work, social norms and exchanged views on how male and female comedians were scrutinized.

**29 JUNE 2018**

---

### **Preventing Violent Extremism National Action Plans: Supporting Whole-of-Society Responses to Violent Extremism**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Missions of Canada and Indonesia. It provided an opportunity to highlight the experiences of Member States in designing national action plans (NAPs) to prevent violent extremism. Panelists included the Canadian Government's Centre for Community Engagement and Prevention of Violence, that described its consultative approach to the development of their national strategy through discussion forums across municipal and provincial levels and online surveys. The Indonesian Government's Regional and Multilateral Cooperation, National Agency for Combating Terrorism discussed the formulation of the Indonesian NAP and its four pillars: prevention, de-radicalization, law enforcement, and international cooperation. The Organization for the Prevention of Violence in Canada described its bottom-up approach to preventing violent extremism through embedding community social workers to provide support to those most vulnerable and at risk. The Global Center for Cooperative Security summarized lessons learned in supporting Member States on their NAPs, underscoring the importance of good governance and addressing systemic issues. Think Peace Mali spoke of the need to build

trust, as communities often mistrusted national and local authorities. The importance of good governance, accountability, and inclusivity in the design and implementation of NAPs were repeatedly highlighted during the discussions.

### **Harnessing the Power of Quality Education to Prevent Violent Extremism**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Missions of Belgium and Qatar, the Hamad bin Khalifa University and the Education Above All Foundation. During the high-level panel, Belgium stressed the need to build resilience and social inclusion to prevent violent extremism. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict noted that children were victims of violent extremism and called on Member States to protect educational institutions and prioritize community-based education and accelerated learning programs in the contexts of armed conflict. CTED confirmed that international humanitarian law, youth and women were an integral part of CTED's assessments of Member States, UNESCO discussed the need to equip children and youth with tools to understand the realities they face. During the expert roundtable discussion, speakers mentioned the need to address exclusion, injustices and inequalities, to ensure economic opportunities for young people after they had completed their education, and the challenges of children in conflict, returning from conflict zones or growing up with parents that are violent extremists or support such ideologies.

### **Foreign Terrorist Fighters Returnees: Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration**

This side event was organized by UNOCT and the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia. UNOCT highlighted the aims and objectives of the United Nations Foreign Terrorist Fighter Capacity Building Implementation Plan and briefed on UNCCT rehabilitation and reintegration projects. The European Union shared its perspectives on the risks posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters and highlighted key



Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, highlights the aims and objectives of the United Nations Foreign Terrorist Fighter Capacity Building Implementation Plan. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS

challenges in responding to the phenomenon, such as discrepancies in collecting, accessing and analyzing battlefield evidence, and the lack of harmonized criminal justice responses. UNCCT presented the findings of its report on the motivations of foreign terrorist fighters to travel to conflict zones and highlighted the importance of holistic rehabilitation and

reintegration programmes, particularly in prison settings, to prevent radicalization to violence. The Mohammed bin Naif Counseling and Care Center emphasized the intellectual, spiritual and humanitarian aspects of its rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, noting the importance of engaging with all parts of society, especially families.

### The United Nations Compendium of Good and Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in Identifying Terrorists

This side event was organized by the Permanent Mission of Australia, CTED, UNOCT and with the participation of the Biometrics Institute. CTED welcomed the joint effort to produce the Compendium and its expansion to the private sector and expressed hope that the cooperation with the Biometric Institute would continue to raise awareness on the use of biometrics. Australia stressed the importance of protecting borders using new technologies, and shared its experience with foreign terrorist fighters, noting the importance of sharing data at national and international levels. The Biometric Institute, who

Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, commends the results by the joint efforts to produce the Compendium of Good and Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in identifying Terrorists. | UN PHOTO/RICK BAJORNAS



worked with CTED to draft the Compendium, delivered a presentation on its work to promote the responsible use of biometrics. It outlined the Compendium's technical elements and the criteria on which the document is based and briefed on the potential of a predictive analysis of biometrics to prevent terrorist acts. UNOCT welcomed the commitment to deliver the second phase of this project, which would focus on raising awareness and establishing international standards on data sharing. It commended the results achieved by INTERPOL, with 50,000 biometric data registered on potential terrorists, and highlighted the need to further expand this database.

### **Addressing the Challenge of Foreign Terrorist Fighters at a Global and National Level**

This side event was organized by the Permanent Mission of Spain. CTED briefed on the various instruments to address the threat of foreign terrorist fighters, such as Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014), 2322 (2016) and 2396 (2017) and the Madrid Guiding Principles. It noted that subsequent United Nations documents related to foreign terrorist fighters, including the recent United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy review resolution, drew upon the language of the Principles. It briefed on the most recent CTED report on foreign terrorist fighters, which identified challenges faced by Member States' criminal justice systems, including with regard to women and children returnees. CTED highlighted that foreign terrorist fighter relocators to Afghanistan, Central Asia, South-East Asia and Libya might reinforce home-grown terrorism in these regions and countries, and that detection at borders using API/PNR and biometrics would be crucial to deter them. Spain's Ministry of the Interior Intelligence Center for Counter-Terrorism and Organized Crime and Elcano

Institute presented two in-depth studies on the demographics of Spanish foreign terrorist fighters. UNOCT briefed on the revised United Nations Foreign Terrorist Fighter Capacity Building Implementation Plan.

### **A Human Security and Youth Leadership Approach to Preventing Violent Extremism: Examples from Jordan, Libya, Mali, Morocco, the Netherlands and Tunisia**

This side event was jointly organized by UNESCO, the Human Security Collective, the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), and the Permanent Missions of Canada and the Netherlands. It brought together young practitioners from Jordan, Libya, Mali, Morocco, the Netherlands and Tunisia to discuss the issues they have encountered in their efforts to prevent violent extremism. In a panel moderated by UNOY, they shared concrete examples of the work they are doing in their communities, including good practices and lessons learned. The representative from Morocco discussed his work in leading an experimental theatre through a mobile truck to generate dialogue and promote diversity. The representative from the Netherlands gave an example of coaching young people on football, swimming and other activities in his neighborhood in the city of Gouda. The representative from Tunisia shared a story about building trust between mentors and teenagers through activities such as performance and painting in a neighborhood of Tunis. The representative from Mali had created an online platform to allow young people to share their grievances and acquire new skills. The representative from Libya used debate as a tool to stimulate dialogue between marginalized young people and government. The representative from Jordan had employed a community-based approach to empower youth and children in disenfranchised communities.





United  
Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## ANNEX I

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### Member States

- Afghanistan
- Albania, Republic of
- Algeria
- Angola, Republic of
- Argentina
- Armenia, Republic of
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan, Republic of
- Bahrain, Kingdom of
- Bangladesh, People's Republic of
- Barbados
- Belarus, Republic of
- Belgium
- Belize
- Bhutan, Kingdom of
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Brunei Darussalam
- Bulgaria, Republic of
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi, Republic of
- Cabo Verde, Republic of
- Cambodia, Kingdom of
- Cameroon, Republic of
- Canada
- Central African Republic
- Chile
- China, People's Republic of
- Colombia
- Comoros, Union of the
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia, Republic of
- Cuba
- Cyprus, Republic of
- Czech Republic
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Djibouti, Republic of
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt, Arab Republic of
- Equatorial Guinea
- Estonia, Republic of
- Eswatini, Kingdom of
- Fiji, Republic of
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Guinea, Republic of
- Honduras
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia, Republic of
- Iran, Islamic Republic of
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan, Hashemite Kingdom of
- Kazakhstan, Republic of
- Kenya, Republic of
- Kuwait, State of
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Latvia, Republic of
- Libya, State of
- Liechtenstein, Principality of
- Lithuania, Republic of
- Luxembourg
- Madagascar, Republic of

- Malawi, Republic of
- Malaysia
- Maldives, Republic of
- Mali, Republic of
- Malta, Republic of
- Mauritania, Islamic Republic of
- Mauritius, Republic of
- Mexico
- Monaco, Principality of
- Morocco, Kingdom of
- Mozambique, Republic of
- Myanmar, Republic of the Union of
- Namibia, Republic of
- Nauru, Republic of
- Nepal, Federal Democratic Republic of
- Netherlands, Kingdom of the
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Oman, Sultanate of
- Pakistan
- Palau, Republic of
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines, Republic of the
- Poland, Republic of
- Portugal
- Qatar, State of
- Republic of Korea
- Republic of Moldova
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Saint Lucia
- Samoa, Independent State of
- San Marino, Republic of
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Saudi Arabia
- Serbia, Republic of
- Singapore, Republic of
- Slovakia
- Slovenia, Republic of
- South Africa, Republic of
- Spain
- Sri Lanka, Democratic Socialist Republic of
- Sudan, Republic of
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Tajikistan, Republic of
- Thailand
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Togo
- Trinidad and Tobago, Republic of
- Tunisia

- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Uganda, Republic of
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United Republic of Tanzania
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan, Republic of
- Viet Nam, Socialist Republic of
- Yemen, Republic of
- Zimbabwe, Republic of

**Non-Member States having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and maintaining permanent offices at Headquarters**

- Holy See

**Intergovernmental organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly**

- African Union
- Collective Security Treaty Organization
- Commonwealth of Independent States
- Community of Portuguese Language Countries
- Council of Europe
- East African Community
- Economic Community of West African States
- European Union
- Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism
- Indian Ocean Commission
- International Organization of the Francophonie
- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
- League of Arab States
- Organization of American States
- Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
- Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

**Other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly**

- Inter-Parliamentary Union
- International Committee of the Red Cross

## Specialized agencies and related organizations

- International Atomic Energy Agency
- International Civil Aviation Organization
- International Maritime Organization
- International Organization for Migration
- The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- World Health Organization

## Other international and regional organizations

- Arab Interior Ministers Council
- Arab Maghreb Union
- Financial Action Task Force
- G5 Sahel Secretariat
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- World Customs Organization

## Civil society and non-governmental organizations

- Action Aid Nigeria
- Alskeenah Campaign for Dialogue
- Amnesty International
- Care International Secretariat
- Carefronting-Nigeria
- Center for Civilians in Conflict
- Centre d'Analyse du Terrorisme
- Center for Democracy and Development
- Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa
- Defending Freedom of Expression and Information - Article 19
- Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era
- G5 Sahel Women's Platform
- Global Center on Cooperative Security
- Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
- Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict
- Haki Africa
- Harvard Law School
- Hedayah
- Human Rights watch
- Human Security Collective
- Institute for Economics and Peace
- Institute of Governance and Social Research
- International Center for Religion and Diplomacy
- International Civil Society Action Network
- International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
- International Institute for Counter-Terrorism
- International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law

- John Hopkins University
- Kaspersky Lab
- Kenyan Community Support Centre
- Libyan Women's Forum
- Local Youth Corner Cameroon
- Mercy Corps
- Montreal Center for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence
- Muslim Center for Justice and Law
- NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security
- Open Society Foundation
- Oxfam International
- Plan International
- Reseau Ouest Africain des Jeunes Femmes Leaders
- Reseau Paix et Securite pour les Femmes de l'Espace CEDEAO
- Rights Watch (UK)
- Senior Legal Advisor to the UN Special Rapporteur on Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights
- Strong Cities Network
- The Global Center for Combatting Extremist Ideology
- The Soufan Group
- Utopia Foundation
- University of Minnesota Law School Human Rights Center
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel
- World Leadership Alliance Club de Madrid

## United Nations Secretariat or United Nations agencies, funds and programmes

- Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions 1526 (2204) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities
- Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
- Department of Public Information
- Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- Department of Political Affairs
- Executive Office of the Secretary-General
- Group of Experts, Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
- Office for Disarmament Affairs
- Office of the President of the United Nations General Assembly
- Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

- Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia
- United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
- United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel



United Nations

# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

## ANNEX II

### TABLE OF SIDE EVENTS

TITLE	ORGANIZERS
<b>26 June</b>	
Preventing Incitement to Violence and Violent Extremism: Implementing the Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that could lead to Atrocity Crimes	UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, Permanent Mission of Morocco to the UN
Countering the Financing of Terrorism: Challenges in Identifying, Monitoring and Countering the Financing of Terrorist Groups and Individuals	Permanent Missions of France, Peru and Nigeria to the UN, UNODC
Protection of Critical Infrastructures Against Terrorist Attacks in the Context of Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2341 (2017)	Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the UN
Standing in Solidarity for the Rights of Victims of Terrorism	UNOCT, Working Group on Victims of Terrorism, Permanent Mission of Mali to the UN
<b>27 June</b>	
Engaged and Empowered? Database of CT	UN Women, UK Mission to the UN, Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN
Lawful Access to Digital Data Across Borders and Database of Counter-Terrorism Competent National Authorities	CTED, UNODC, IAP, U.S. Mission to the UN
International Cooperation to Combat the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes: Opportunities and Challenges	Permanent Missions of Bahrain, Belarus, Egypt, Estonia, Kenya, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates to the UN, UNOCT, UNODC, CTED
Lettres à Nour	Permanent Missions of France, Belgium, Morocco, and Tunisia to the UN, Delegation of the European Union to the UN, la Francophonie, UNESCO
<b>28 June</b>	
Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Foreign Terrorists Fighters and Violent Extremist Offenders	Carefronting-Nigeria, ICCT-The Hague, the U.S. Mission to the UN, the Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the UN, UNICRI

TITLE	ORGANIZERS
Back to Basics: Human Rights and Civil Society Engagement as Foundations for Effectively Preventing Violent Extremism and Countering Terrorism	Global Center on Cooperative Security, The Prevention Project, Permanent Missions of Sweden and Norway to the UN
Implementation of Global Aviation Security Plan in light of the UNSCR 2309 (2016)	ICAO, UK Mission to the UN, Permanent Missions of France and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UN
Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism through Communications and Empowerment Strategies involving Youth	UN Alliance of Civilizations, on behalf of the CTITF Working Group on Communications chaired by the UN Department of Public Information, Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN
The United Nations Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructures against terrorist attacks	CTED, UNOCT, INTERPOL, Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN
Youth as Protagonists in Preventing Violent Extremism	Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), Permanent Mission of Qatar to the UN
Leveraging Partnerships and Strengthening Cooperation with Women to Counter and Prevent Violent Extremism and Terrorism in Africa	Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, UNOWAS, UN Women
Human Rights-Compliant Responses to the Threat Posed by Foreign Fighters	OHCHR (Chair of the Working Group on Human Rights and Rule of Law), Permanent Missions of Switzerland and Belgium to the UN
Countering the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon: Combined Efforts of Police and Justice	UNODC, INTERPOL, Delegation of the European Union to the UN, Permanent Missions of Iraq and Spain to the UN
Disrupting Terrorist Travel: Implementation of Passenger Name Record (PNR) Advance Passenger Information (API) Requirements of UNSCR 2396	U.S. Mission to the UN, UK Mission to the UN, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN, CTED
Comedy for Equality: Harnessing the Power of Laughter for Empowerment and Peace	UN Women
<b>29 June</b>	
Preventing Violent Extremism National Action Plans: Supporting Whole-of-Society Responses to Violent Extremism	Permanent Missions of Republic of Indonesia and Canada to the UN
Harnessing the Power of Quality Education to Prevent Violent Extremism	Education above All Foundation, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Permanent Missions of Belgium and Qatar to the UN
Foreign Terrorist Fighters returnees: Prosecution, Rehabilitation, And Reintegration	UNCCT, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UN
The United Nations Compendium of Good and Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in Identifying Terrorists	CTED, Permanent Mission of Australia to the UN, the Biometrics Institute
Addressing the Challenge of Foreign Terrorist Fighters at a Global and National Level	Permanent Mission of Spain to the UN
A Human Security and Youth Leadership Approach to Preventing Violent Extremism: Examples from Jordan, Libya, Mali, Morocco, The Netherlands and Tunisia	UNESCO, Human Security Collective, UNOY, Permanent Missions of Canada and of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN





**UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM**