



UNOCT and the State of Qatar Hold Third High-Level Strategic Dialogue

PRESS RELEASE

New York, 9 December 2020 – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Government of the State of Qatar held their third Strategic Dialogue on 9 December 2020. Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, co-chaired the meeting with Major General Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al-Ansari, Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Chairman of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Ministry of Interior. H.E. Sheikha Alya Ahmed S. Al-Thani, the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Yousef Sultan Larem, Director of the International Organizations Department of the Ministry of Interior, and Dr. Majed Al-Ansari, President of Qatar International Academy for Security Studies (QIASS) also participated in the meeting.

The Strategic Dialogue reviewed the progress made in the counter-terrorism cooperation between UNOCT and the State of Qatar since the last Strategic Dialogue held on 15 December 2019. It also assessed the status of ongoing programmes, projects and activities funded by the financial contribution of the State of Qatar, as the second leading donor to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism. The two sides reaffirmed their strong partnership on counter-terrorism, exchanged views on strategic priorities for the coming year, and discussed opportunities to further deepen and expand cooperation going forward.

Major General Al-Ansari thanked UNOCT “for its continued efforts in providing leadership on the counter-terrorism mandates entrusted by the General Assembly, facilitating coordination and coherence of the United Nations’ counter-terrorism efforts through the [United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact](#), and delivering capacity-building assistance to Member States across the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.” Mr. Voronkov “thanked the State of Qatar for its strong political and financial support, which has contributed extensively to the Office’s ability to execute its core functions in an effective and sustainable manner.”

Through the participation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact partners, the Strategic Dialogue provided an opportunity to discuss the broader cooperation between the State of Qatar and the United Nations system in the ‘all-of-UN’ delivery of technical and capacity-building assistance to Member States and other beneficiaries to prevent and counter terrorism within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Compact and its Working Groups.

Both sides expressed commitment to continued cooperation in the implementation of flagship programmes, including countering terrorist travel, support to the victims of terrorism, security of sports and promotion of its values as a tool to prevent violent



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extremism, protection of vulnerable targets, national inter-agency fusion centres, and the integrated programme on preventing and countering violent extremism.

They also highlighted the successful launch of the International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism on 7 December 2020 and the establishment of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement as key milestones in the global efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism.

Also in attendance, as Members of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, were Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), Ms. Michèle Coninx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and Ms. Asako Okai, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator and Director of the Crisis Bureau of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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