

HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
**Regional Cooperation among Central Asian States within the  
Framework of the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA) for the  
Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-  
Terrorism Strategy**

3-4 March 2022

**PRESS RELEASE**

**International Conference on regional cooperation of Central Asian  
States on counter-terrorism concluded in Tashkent**

**Tashkent/New York/Vienna, March 4, 2022** - The high-level international conference on “Regional cooperation among Central Asian countries within the framework of the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy” concluded with the endorsement of the updated Joint Plan of Action (JPoA), and the adoption Tashkent Declaration.

Coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the JPoA, this landmark international event is co-organized by the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ISRS), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

At the opening ceremony, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, in his virtual address stressed that efforts to prevent and combat terrorism will be productive only if they are effectively coordinated at the regional and global levels. “Therefore, the deliberations of this Conference, and the adoption of the Tashkent Declaration and the updated Joint Action Plan to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia, are of utmost importance,” he said.

In a video message the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres, commended Member States in Central Asia for having adopted the first regional counter-terrorism strategy, JPoA, ten years ago. “This conference on Central Asian cooperation reminds us of the importance of uniting to counter terrorism — and realizing shared values like peace, human rights and social progress for all”.

The opening session was also attended by United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Asia and Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), Ms. Natalia Gherman; Secretary General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Mr. Zhang Ming (virtually), Coordinator of Activities to Address Transnational Threats, OSCE, Ms. Alena Kupchyna, Chair of the United Nations Security Council Committee established pursuant to UNSCR 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism Mr. T.S. Tirumurti (virtually), as well as the heads of the delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

Held in a hybrid format, the Tashkent Conference gathered senior officials from Central Asia, South Asia, and the EU, as well as representatives of other international and regional organizations and civil society organizations, and leading experts from national and foreign think tanks. Over 250 participants attended the meeting in-person.

This conference provided an opportunity to learn more about the implementation of the UN GCTS in Central Asia. The two outcome documents of the conference included the Tashkent Declaration and endorsement of the updated JPOA, in which the countries of Central Asia reaffirmed their commitment to the joint fight against terrorism.

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**For more information:**

- visit the conference website: <https://gcts-ca.uz/en>;
- contact the public relations coordinators: [shokhimardonova.n@isrs.uz](mailto:shokhimardonova.n@isrs.uz); [anvarjon.meliboev@un.org](mailto:anvarjon.meliboev@un.org); [Dildorakhon.Israilova@osce.org](mailto:Dildorakhon.Israilova@osce.org); [gerardl@un.org](mailto:gerardl@un.org);
- review background materials such as the concept note, draft program and information for attendees posted on the conference website.