



PRESS RELEASE

UNOCT AND DJIBOUTI SIGN AN AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN CO-OPERATION IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORIST TRAVEL AND SERIOUS CRIMES

New York, 23 June 2023 – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)' [Countering Terrorist Travel \('CT Travel'\) Programme](#) and the Government of the Republic of Djibouti signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today to formalize their partnership in preventing and countering terrorist travel and serious crimes under the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Ambassador Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations exchanged signatures during a bilateral meeting on the margins of Counter-Terrorism Week in New York.

Mr. Voronkov thanked the Government of Djibouti for its ongoing cooperation with UNOCT and highlighted that the MoU *“is a symbol of the solid partnership and mutual commitment between the Republic of Djibouti and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism in the implementation of the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme to assist Djibouti in enhancing its detection capabilities using passenger data.”*

“Today's ceremony also formalizes the first stage of the support that UNOCT and the member agencies and organizations of the compact will be able to provide to my country in the implementation of the CT Travel Programme. The fight against terrorism and violent extremism depends first and foremost on coordination of information exchange mechanisms. More than ever, prevention must be at the heart of our policies and actions. Africa as a whole, and the Horn of Africa to which my country belongs, were the first to suffer from this scourge, and there is a fundamental need for capacity-building in this area”, Ambassador Mohamed Siad Doualeh said.

The MoU recognizes a common interest in strengthening global co-operation in preventing and countering terrorism and the need for a holistic approach that addresses a myriad of threats collectively and simultaneously, based on the principles of prevention, coordination, and strategic cooperation. The strategic partnership between UNOCT, under the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme, and the Government of Djibouti establishes a framework to cooperate, leverage respective expertise, and share best practices, challenges, lessons learned and recommendations with regard to API and PNR implementation to counter terrorism and other serious crimes.

The [UN Countering Terrorist Travel \('CT Travel'\) Programme](#) was launched in 2019 to support Member States respond to the growing threat posed by the movement of foreign terrorist fighters. The Programme is a global initiative that aims to build Member States capacities to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes, including their related travel, by collecting and analyzing passenger data, both API and PNR, in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions, [2178](#) (2014), [2396](#) (2017), and [2482](#) (2019), international standards and best practices and human rights principles.

A flagship global initiative led by the [United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism \(UNOCT\)](#), the Programme follows an "All-of-UN" approach to provide comprehensive, yet tailored assistance to 66 beneficiary Member States, with the support and expertise of six implementing partners: [United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate \(CTED\)](#), the [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#), the [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#), the [United Nations Office of Information and Communication Technology \(OICT\)](#), the [International Criminal Police Organization \(INTERPOL\)](#), and the [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#).



The UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme is co-funded by strategic investments and continued support from the European Union, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the State of Qatar, Germany, Australia, the United States of America, the Republic of India, Japan, and Hungary.

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