



PRESS RELEASE

**UNOCT AND LUXEMBOURG SIGN AGREEMENTS TO STRENGTHEN CO-OPERATION IN
PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORIST TRAVEL AND SERIOUS CRIMES**

NEW YORK / LUXEMBOURG, 24 July 2023 – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) today to formalize their partnership in preventing and countering the travel of known and suspected terrorists and perpetrators of other serious crimes through deployment of the United Nations goTravel software.

Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Deputy Under-Secretary-General and Director of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and H.E. Mr. Henri Kox, Minister for Internal Security of the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, signed the agreements in a virtual event.

Mr. Gregorian thanked the Government of Luxembourg for its ongoing cooperation with UNOCT and stressed that *“Both the MoA and MoU are strong symbols of the joint commitment of Luxembourg and the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism to fight terrorism by implementing Security Council resolutions 2178, 2396, 2482, international standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and by upholding human rights principles.”*

“Working closely with international counterparts, sharing information and building strong and international systems, are the only way to face growing threats from terrorism,” Minister Kox said.

The MoU and MoA will accelerate the delivery of comprehensive technical assistance to Luxembourg under the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel (CT Travel) Programme, which helps requesting Member States comply with relevant UN Security Council resolutions and International Civil Aviation Organization standard and recommended practices. The MoU will allow the United Nations to continue supporting the country in enhancing its capabilities to detect and intercept terrorists and other criminals by using travel information and cross-checking the data against INTERPOL and other international and national databases of known and suspected terrorists and criminals. The MoA will enable UNOCT to provide technical assistance and license the United Nations “goTravel” software solution to Luxembourg to support the collection and analysis of advance passenger information (API) and passenger name record (PNR) data. With the signing, Luxembourg becomes the fifth country with an active agreement for the licensing and deployment of the goTravel software.

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, international standards and best practices and human rights principles.

Promoting and protecting human rights is a crucial component of effective counter-terrorism efforts. In line with the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, UNOCT ensures that human rights compliance and appropriate data privacy safeguards are reinforced throughout the programme cycle, from the initial engagement with a beneficiary Member State throughout the phased implementation process.

A flagship global initiative of 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 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.

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Laurence Gerard, at gerardl@un.org, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)
CT Travel Programme, at cttravel@un.org, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)