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2021 United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week: Side Event

Multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation: the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact – Global Counterterrorism Forum partnership

GCTF cooperation with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Compact

GCTF Co-Chair Morocco - Talking Points

- Please allow me to join David in thanking the Under-Secretary General and the Deputy Under-Secretary General for their reaffirming words, and for joining us,
- As well our fellow GCTF Members, Counter-Terrorism Compact colleagues, colleagues from GCERF, *Hedayah*, and the IJ, and everyone else online with us today.
- It is wonderful to see the plethora of side events organized during the 2021 Counter-Terrorism Week.
- All of which focus on important issues!
- The Seventh Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy underlines the continued need to work together to counter terrorism and the violent extremist ideologies that underpin it.
- As the GCTF is preparing to celebrate its tenth anniversary, we have had the opportunity to conduct a wide-range of consultations with Members and partners to inform the Forum's *Strategic Vision for the Next Decade*.
- An overarching theme of these consultations was the centrality of the UN CT framework, including the implementation of the GCTS, to the work of the Forum.
- As the GCTF approaches its next decade, enhancing the partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Compact will remain a focus.
- I have had the privilege of Co-Chairing the GCTF over the past five years, and witnessed the collaboration with the UN formalize since the establishment of Counter-Terrorism Compact in 2019.
- This has allowed for periodic open and frank dialogue between the GCTF and Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Groups on emerging threats, shared priorities,
- As well as the gaps and needs of the multilateral CT architecture more broadly.
- In addition to the shared thematic priorities, highlighted by David, working together with close partners, including the Counter-Terrorism Compact and the GCTF Inspired Institution, on a regional level is of great importance to the work of the Forum.
- Africa is a priority for the GCTF and for the GCTF Co-Chairs.
- Through the Capacity-Building in the East and West Africa region Working Groups, the GCTF is able to stay connected to the realities on the ground, and focus on engaging African leadership and participation to promote sustainable CT and P/CVE strategies that address regional and national needs.
- Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and the GCTF Inspired Institutions have been key contributors to the GCTF efforts in East and West Africa.
- Our colleagues from Germany and UNODC will expand on some of these joint efforts shortly.



- In addition to synergies on a regional level, and as established in the Joint UN-GCTF Ministerial Statement, the GCTF is committed to supporting the UN in strengthening and enhancing the engagement of civil society organizations in efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism.
- The ongoing GCTF Initiative on Ensuring Implementation of Countering the Financing of Terrorism Measures While Safeguarding Civic Space, co-led by Morocco, the Netherlands, and UNOCT is a testimony to this commitment.
- The objective of the Initiative is to strengthen dialogue and coordination among government representatives, regulatory agencies, civil society organizations, humanitarian actors, and other relevant stakeholders on this topic.
- And to provide a platform for experts to share best practices and lessons learned.
- We are developing concrete guidance on ways to achieve effective implementation of Security Council Resolution 2462 (2019) and FATF Recommendation 8 without compromising the critical work done by civil society organizations and humanitarian actors.
- As the GCTF's partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Compact progresses, we look forward to working together with the Compact to promote the practical use of GCTF outputs, including good practices and tools,
- as well UN Security Council resolutions and the wider UN CT framework.
- Terrorism is a global threat that no state can address alone.
- Our strength lies in cooperation and coordination on international, regional and sub-regional levels.
- As the GCTF approaches its second decade, and the partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Compact grows,
- We continue to be motivated by the memories of the victims and the suffering of the survivors of terrorist acts, their families, and friends, who remain foremost in our thoughts.
- And we will continue to join efforts keep the fight against terrorism on top of international and national agendas.
- COVID-19 has shifted our societies to the digital sphere, and terrorist threats have adapted and evolved throughout the pandemic.
- We must remain alert and attentive to new and emerging threats across the ideological spectrum.
- As our partnership grows, we hope to identify new opportunities to join efforts, and enhance our cooperation.
- We hope to be able to meet in-person soon again to continue our fruitful dialogue,
- And we thank the Counter-Terrorism Compact for the continued partnership.
- Thank you!