



Secretary-General António Guterres opens the 8th United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee on the importance of international and regional cooperation to address the increasing terrorist threat in Africa

New York, 8 June 2022 – The [United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact](#) (Counter-Terrorism Compact) held its 8th Coordination Committee meeting chaired by Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. The strategic discussion focused on the need to strengthen international and regional cooperation to address the increasing terrorist threat in Africa.

The event was opened by Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, who stressed the need for international cooperation to address the scourge of terrorism. “Since its launch, the Compact has demonstrated a fundamental truth. Countering and defeating terrorism depends on collaboration,” he said.

The Secretary-General expressed concern over the increasing terrorist threat in parts of Africa and stressed that terrorism cannot be effectively addressed without tackling the conditions conducive to its spread. Despite current challenges, he noted that progress is possible. The Secretary-General called on the Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to continue supporting Member States in their counter-terrorism efforts, from technical assistance and capacity-building to helping build institutions that are people-centered and grounded in human rights and the rule of law. “Upholding human rights is critical to tackling some of the world’s most complex problems, and must be at the centre of our counter-terror efforts. This is our duty, our legal obligation, and our strategic imperative,” he stated.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov stressed that the transnational nature of terrorism requires closer international cooperation with regional organizations and partners on the ground, including the African Union, which goes hand in hand with UNOCT’s recently launched Programme Offices in Kenya and Morocco.

He also welcomed the two newest members of the Compact family: the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh (UNITAD) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which brings the largest coordination framework within the United Nations system to 45 UN and non-UN entities.

The meeting brought together over 150 representatives from 20 of the [45 entities](#) of the Counter-Terrorism Compact and served as an opportunity for Heads of Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to update on thematic priorities to further boost multilateral collaboration.

The event also featured the endorsement of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Joint Programme of Work for 2022-2023, which provides strategic guidance to the eight inter-agency Compact Working Groups on the implementation of the 7th review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy and lays out the overarching future strategic priorities of the Compact.

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