



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

**Remarks by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism**

“Addressing the Evolving Terrorist Threat by Strengthening Cooperation Between the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and Regional Organizations”

22 June 2023, 1.15 - 2.30 p.m.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this side event dedicated to strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and regional organizations. I would like to start by thanking the African Union and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for co-organizing this important event together with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism.

The Charter of the United Nations placed regional collaboration at the heart of the Organization’s mandate.

Our founders were wise to see that in today’s complex and fast-evolving world, there is no single organization that can guarantee peace, stability, and growth on its own.

Now more than ever, the effectiveness of the United Nations rests on a stronger and more robust cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations.

Bolstering cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations and regional organizations should leverage existing strengths to enhance our preventive approach, based on regional early-warning mechanisms.

I am pleased to note that the eight Working Groups of the Counter-Terrorism Compact are successfully integrating these practical steps to enhance regional coordination, especially on utilizing country

recommendations, adding a regional focus to respective agenda items, and strengthening their engagement with Member States, civil society, and the private sector.

And the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Committee approved in December 2021 seven practical steps emphasizing the role of partnerships with Member States and regional and sub-regional organizations. So, we have a very good infrastructure in place to proceed forward in our cooperation with regional organizations.

The work of the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and regional organizations should be complementary.

We are ready to enhance our cooperation in the areas of logistics, capabilities, training, and deployment, as well as innovative financing arrangements through opportunities facilitated by the Compact Platform and its respective workstreams.

In this spirit, UNOCT will co-organize with the Government of Nigeria an African Counter-Terrorism Summit on the theme “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa,” in Abuja, probably in March 2024.

This will serve as an opportunity to explore a wide range of new capacity-building programmatic activities with the support of our regional partners to ensure a successful delivery to African countries most affected by terrorism and violent extremism.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear colleagues,

With the joining of the International Monetary Fund last month, the Compact is now comprised of 46 entities and offers the expertise required to comprehensively address pressing challenges in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism.

As noted by the Secretary-General António Guterres, the Compact has demonstrated a fundamental truth since its launch five years ago; defeating terrorism depends on collaboration.

The General Assembly has adopted today the consensus resolution on the review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. It is an outstanding event of today. And I look forward to working with all of you to reinforce our collective efforts to fight terrorism.

Thank you.