



PRESS RELEASE

Head of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office concludes visit to the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, 17 May 2024 – Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), concluded an official visit to the Kyrgyz Republic upon the invitation of the Government.

During his visit, Mr. Voronkov met with H.E. Mr. Sadyr Japarov, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Under-Secretary-General thanked the President for the active collaboration of the Kyrgyz Republic with UNOCT and applauded the progress made in the implementation of the recently adopted National Programme and Plan of Action to Countering Extremism and Terrorism. President Japarov expressed appreciation to UNOCT for its support in highlighting the importance of regional cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.

Another highlight of the visit was the signing of a Roadmap between UNOCT and the State Committee for National Security of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2024-2027, and of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on preventing and countering terrorism and serious crime using Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR). The Roadmap is aligned with the Joint Plan of Action for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia and includes areas of cooperation such as prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals returning from conflict zones as well as protection of vulnerable targets, among others. Mr. Voronkov welcomed the signing of the Roadmap and the MOU, which he said, "will provide clear and actionable steps for fruitful collaboration."

Mr. Voronkov and Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs, discussed national security-related priorities and the regional terrorism landscape. Minister Kulubaev reaffirmed the intention of the Kyrgyz Republic to further develop the partnership with the United Nations system including UNOCT.

Mr. Voronkov also met with Mr. Askat Egemberdiev, Chair of the State Penitentiary Service under the Ministry of Justice, to discuss national initiatives and experiences in rehabilitation of prisoners prosecuted for terrorist-related crimes.

Mr. Voronkov also held meetings with civil society organizations and UN country team officials in Bishkek.

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