



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)



PRESS RELEASE

FIRST JOINT UNITED NATIONS - NATO PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES IN JORDAN

Amman / Brussels / New York, 21 September 2022 – The United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) successfully concluded the first project jointly delivered by their two entities in Jordan. Implemented by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and NATO's Defence Policy and Planning Division, the four-year project focused on enhancing the national capabilities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the areas of preparedness and response to terrorist attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) weapons or materials. The results of the project were presented at a High-Level Meeting held in Amman in cooperation with the Jordanian government.

The High-Level Meeting gathered senior representatives from the national entities that participated in the project since 2018, including Jordan Armed Forces, Ministry of Interior, the National Center for Security and Crisis Management and other competent agencies, as well as representatives from UNOCT/UNCCT and NATO. The meeting was preceded by a series of table-top and field exercises following terrorist attack scenarios involving biological, chemical and nuclear weapons/materials held in Amman, Aqaba and Zarqa respectively. The exercises attended by 2,500 participants from 35 national entities, aimed at testing the National Crisis Plan developed within the framework of the project and drawing lessons learned and recommendations for improvement.

More than 90% of the project participants expressed their satisfaction with the project and noted that Jordan's abilities to respond to, plan and train for CBRN incidents have increased since the beginning of the project in 2018.

In his opening remarks, **Brigadier General Hatim Alzoubi, Vice Chairman of National Center for Security and Crises Management**, highlighted: *"Planning and training are key because they do not only help potentially prevent a crisis from happening, but can also mitigate the effects if it does happen."*

Mr. Ulrik Ahnfeldt-Mollerup, Chief of the Countering Terrorism Section of UNCCT at UNOCT, noted that *"Over the course of this shared journey, we have established a true and solid partnership that has allowed us to enhance the response and preparedness capabilities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan"*.

Mr. Bora Önen, Head of the Defence Capacity Building, Defence Institution and Capacity Building Directorate of NATO, highlighted the importance of joining efforts between the UN and NATO, utilising their respective expertise, to support Jordan in enhancing its national resilience to respond to CBRN incidents.

This first project implemented jointly by UNOCT and NATO forms a solid foundation for similar efforts with other Member States. The project developed a reliable methodology to define the needs for cooperation, identified short-term and long-term gaps in capabilities, applied a sustainable whole-of-government approach across the domains of awareness raising, capacity-building and improving legal frameworks in the field of preventing and responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) / CBRN terrorism.

For more information, visit [this page](#) or contact:

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