



UNCCT 2022 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



January-December 2022: A report under the UNOCT Strategic Plan and Results Framework 2022-2025

Executive Summary



UN Photo/Kim Haughton

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), as part of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), continues to serve as the **Global Centre of Excellence** in delivering capacity-building support to requesting Member States in their implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS).

In 2022, UNCCT has strengthened its focus on programme results across all areas of its support to Member States. The Centre contributed to and is guided by UNOCT's first-ever **Strategic Plan and Results Framework** (SPRF 2022-2025), which sets high-level strategic goals and outcomes to orient the activities of both UNCCT and the Office of Counter-Terrorism. Furthermore, UNCCT enhanced its efforts to mainstream gender and human rights considerations in its programming, including through close cooperation with UNOCT's new **Human Rights and Gender Section** (HRGS) established in 2022.

In 2022, UNCCT has continued its support to Member States through its multi-year thematic Global Programmes. Through the Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism ('PCVE'), the Centre worked closely with Member States to develop counter-terrorism and PCVE cooperation and capacities in line with international human rights norms and standards. UNCCT's Weapons Programme enhanced the capacities of Member States in countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) terrorism as well as preventing terrorist acquisition and use of small arms and light weapons (SALW), improvised explosive devices (IED) and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), via legislative workshops, trainings and the development and dissemination of technical guidelines on UNSC resolution 2370 (2017).

UNCCT supported Member States in establishing regional and national frameworks for addressing their challenges related to terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The Centre, through its Arab Interior Ministers' Council (AIMC) Programme, helped Arab States develop a comprehensive regional counter-terrorism strategy that is aligned with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This regional strategy will help Arab States comply with their international obligations to address terrorism. UNCCT further supported Central Asian states in developing their own strategies, while also helping to establish partnership and communication networks amongst both policy makers and practitioners in the region.

Member State support to victims and survivors of terrorism and international policy development to support victims' rights and needs were strengthened through the implementation of activities under each of the four workstreams of the Global Victims of Terrorism (VoT) Support Programme. This support included development of the Model Legislative Provisions to Assist the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism launched in February 2022.



UNCCT also presented its global "Memories" campaign, through a short film and a photographic exhibition that showcased the human stories at the heart of each victim's experience. UNCCT further organized the first-ever United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, a landmark event that brought together victims and survivors of terrorism, victim associations, Member States at the ministerial level and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The Global Congress generated practical recommendations on how to effectively strengthen and fulfil the rights and needs of victims.

The Centre continued to help Member States strengthen their capacities to prosecute, rehabilitate and reintegrate individuals suspected of terrorism, including returning foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying family members, under the Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PRR). Capacity-building was delivered in Africa, Central Asia, and Iraq, in cooperation with local authorities, UNODC, CTED, and other relevant agencies. In addition, support to dealing with violent extremist offenders in a custodial setting continued in Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, and Uganda.

UNCCT continued to support Member States in countering the financing of terrorism (CFT). Beneficiary countries were supported in the development of regional risk assessments and with national implementation of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. The year also saw significant progress in the development of the goFinTel software, which will further enhance the ability of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) to undertake critical analysis and investigations.

On border security and management (BSM), the Centre continued to deepen engagement with a broad range of partners including IOM. Support was provided to ensure that relevant counter-terrorism considerations were integrated in BSM strategies. The Centre also continued to compile,



curate and disseminate good practices, including in the African context, and especially in the areas such as the responsible use of biometrics, human rights-compliant and gender-sensitive BSM.

In 2022, the Global Counter-Terrorism Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies launched an initiative with INTERPOL to support 35 Member States in strengthening capacities to counter the use of new technologies for terrorist purposes. Additionally, UNCCT has trained officials in areas related to the use of crypto-currency to finance terrorism, and developed training on unmanned aircraft

systems (UAS) digital forensics. UNCCT has also developed guidance materials that increase understanding of new and emerging terrorist threats and provided potential measures to address them.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the strong political, technical, and financial support of UNCCT's founding partner – the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – and the other 31 partners who have continued to demonstrate trust in UNCCT's capacity to effectively support Member States in the implementation of the GCTS.



Way Forward



In 2023 and 2024, UNOCT and the Centre will be placing more focus on supporting Member States in Africa. A signature event in that regard will be the co-organization of the **African Counter-Terrorism Summit** in Abuja in early 2024 with the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The theme of the Summit is *"Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa"*. African Heads of State and Government, together with key international and regional actors, will review the nature and severity of the threat of terrorism in Africa and agree on concrete priorities and measures pivoted on institutional approaches to address the challenge.

Other priorities for UNOCT were highlighted by Member States during the biennial **Third Counter-Terrorism Week** in June 2023 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This includes the following key areas of activity highlighted



Photo/UNCCT

in the eighth review resolution of the [UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy](#)¹:

- Addressing the conditions conducive to terrorism
- Strengthening measures to prevent and combat terrorism
- Building Member State capacities in counter-terrorism
- Integrating respect for human rights and rule of law

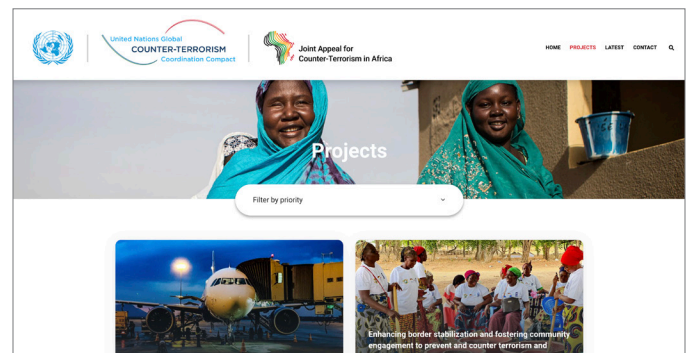


Member States further recognised the importance of Programme Offices away from Headquarters to bring counter-terrorism work closer to beneficiaries, and the opportunities provided for work with local and regional actors, and other agencies of the UN system. UNCCT will continue to work in this regard, supporting Member States in whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, and recognising the interconnections between the goals of UNGCTS and sustainable global and regional development.

Looking forward, the Centre will support Member States in enhancing regional cooperation and institution building in different parts of the world, with a particular focus on Africa in 2023 and 2024. The Centre will further provide support for

the development of innovative approaches to countering the use of new and emerging technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), cryptocurrencies, and UAS for terrorist purposes.

The Centre will seek to increase the number of funding partners to sustain its full-scale programmatic delivery to meet the growing demand for assistance by Member States. Several UNCCT projects have been selected for the [United Nations Joint Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in Africa](#). The Joint Appeal supports a new generation of ten UN inter-agency flagship initiatives to address complex and emerging threats across the continent. The Office will also continue to prioritize the integration of human rights and gender considerations in all its programmes and projects as well as to implement the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy in its support to non-UN security forces. The Office will also continue to deepen and expand its partner base by actively engaging with civil society, the private sector, and academia through consultations and several joint initiatives, while further developing the [UNOCT Connect & Learn](#) platform through the launch of new courses.



¹ [\(A/RES/77/298\)](#) The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: eighth review (22 June 2023)



For more information, please see the full report at:
bit.ly/UNCCT-AR2022