



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

2017

ANNUAL REPORT

SECOND YEAR OF THE
UNCCT 5-YEAR PROGRAMME

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Vladimir Voronkov,
UNCCT Executive Director and
Under-Secretary-General for
Counter-Terrorism

Photo: UN Photo

Foreword by the Executive Director

The United Nations launched a new phase in its counter-terrorism efforts in 2017. Upon the request from the General Assembly in its fifth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/70/291), the Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, proposed the establishment of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism as his first major institutional reform. In June, the General Assembly welcomed this proposal and a new UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) was created incorporating the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office (CTITF Office).

I am honoured to have been selected by the Secretary-General as the first Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and continue to be grateful to Member States for the strong support they are providing. My engagements with the UNCCT Advisory Board, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Ambassador Abdallah Yahya Al-Mouallimi of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, have been particularly insightful and useful. As the new Executive Director of UNCCT, I am also grateful for the efforts of my predecessor, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, who provided strategic direction to the Centre over the past five years, and through the first half of the programme year covered by this report.

The Office of Counter-Terrorism was created with the realization that the United Nations needs to be better placed to address the rapidly evolving threats and challenges from terrorism that we see in today's world. Groups such as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh), Al-Qaida, Al-Shabaab and Boko Haram, while now on the retreat, continue to

inflict a rising toll of death and devastation. Having lost physical territory, Daesh and other groups continue to manipulate young minds by exploiting real and perceived injustices and grievances. Military setbacks and the disruption of funding have pushed them to seek new, creative ways to generate resources and to perpetrate high-impact low-cost attacks.

During the high-level debate in the General Assembly last September, world leaders were united on the need to mobilize a more effective international response to terrorism. Subsequently, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) concerning the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), we have also been able to expand our cooperation with CTED on the identification of priority capacity-building needs of Member States. This new framework of cooperation builds on the excellent working relationship established between Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of CTED, and myself. I see this as a first step in a much stronger framework for coordination and cooperation with all CTITF entities, envisioned by the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to be adopted in 2018.

The UNCCT has an important role to play in building the capacity of Member States to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner. During 2017, the second year of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme, the Centre's work addressed a range of important issues across the four pillars of the Strategy, including on the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, countering terrorist financing, border security and management, and enhancing human rights-sensitive counter-terrorism efforts. The Centre is enhancing its capacity and building on its experience to make a real impact on critical issues such

as deradicalization, youth engagement and employment, and support for victims of terrorism and their families. At the same time, we have strengthened programme and project planning oversight, monitoring and evaluation, including by establishing a robust Programme Review Board. We further expanded our efforts to ensure gender and human rights are mainstreamed throughout our programme of work. This Annual Report reports on progress, outlines challenges and achievements in all of these areas.

The Centre will build on these past achievements as we step up delivery in 2018. The week of counter-terrorism related activities planned for the last week of June 2018 will provide UNOCT/UNCCT with important momentum as we enter the second half of the Centre's 5-Year Programme. I fully expect that the sixth review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary-General's Summit of Heads of Counter-Terrorism will set the path for a new international counter-terrorism partnership with UNOCT/UNCCT enjoying a critical role to ensure coordination, coherence and capacity-building.

We are grateful to our donors for funding and continuous support provided through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism. We are proud to report that our donor base has expanded during the reporting year.

I look forward to working closely with Member States in the coming years to ensure that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre continues to deliver capacity-building assistance that meets their needs and priorities through sustainable programmes and projects that will make a genuine impact in our common fight against the scourge of terrorism.



Vladimir Voronkov

UNCCT Executive Director

Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism

REPORT OVERVIEW

This Annual Report details the activities and results of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) in 2017 — the second year of its 5-Year Programme. In line with its mandate to support Member States in the full implementation of all four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and in accordance with its 5-Year Programme, the Centre implemented a broad range of projects at the global, regional and national levels with a particular focus on priority thematic and geographic areas.

Section I provides details on the new institutional set-up for the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre following the establishment of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism.

Section II, the main part of the report, provides details on the programme and project implementation across the four (4) broad outcomes and 12 specific outputs included in the 5-Year Programme. It also provides information on how the Centre's projects have delivered results in the requesting Member States, and developed good practices, handbooks and training curricula. For each of the 12 outputs the Report provides in-depth details on one or two illustrative projects as well as more general information on all other projects contributing to the output. This Section also provides information on some of the projects the Centre is currently developing for 2018.

In **Section III**, details are provided relating to programme and project management. In 2017, the Centre finalized the development of a comprehensive programme results framework which has strengthened the Centre's ability to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation. The Executive Director also established a Programme Review Board to ensure that the Centre's projects are prioritized and aligned with the strategic objectives of the 5-Year

Programme, that adequate resources are allocated, and that duplication and overlap with other efforts are avoided through effective planning, monitoring and evaluation. This Section provides additional information about these efforts. Important strides were also made to strengthen gender considerations in the work of UNCCT, including to ensure that projects are effectively mainstreaming gender. UNCCT staff and consultants also supported measures to implement the Secretary-General's gender parity policy in UNOCT. The Centre also improved its human rights mainstreaming, including through the systematic review of all project documents by the UNCCT Human Rights Officer. As in previous years the Centre learned important lessons on how to further improve its work. These are also detailed in this Section.

Section IV provides information on the Governance of the Centre, including the important support of the UNCCT Advisory Board and consultations with Member States. The Section also details the outreach work of UNCCT, including through its website and the organization of events.

Section V provides the financial overview for 2017. After seeing consistent growth year over year since its establishment, implementation plateaued in 2017. The Centre could not realistically expand implementation at a time of considerable flux in the period leading up to, and following, the establishment and move to the new Office of Counter-Terrorism, given the change in leadership. However, now that the Office has been established and the leadership team is confirmed, UNCCT anticipates significant growth in 2018. This Section details the success of the Centre in raising funds to ensure co-funding of specific projects, with a view to longer-term sustainability of the Centre.

The final part of the report, **Section VI**, provides an overview of the strategic priorities for 2018.

SECTION I

I. Introduction

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

On 15 June 2017, the General Assembly, through A/RES/71/291 established the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General to “transfer the current Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, together with their existing staff, as well as all associated regular and extrabudgetary resources, out of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, into the Office of Counter-Terrorism.” The General Assembly further recognized “the important work carried out by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and emphasize[d] that the existing contribution agreements and the functions, chairmanship and composition of the Advisory Board of the Centre shall be maintained and that the budget and financial resources of the Centre shall be used only for its programme of work.”

It was also agreed to appoint an Under-Secretary-General to lead the Office and serve as Executive Director of UNCCT, as well as chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). This reform has placed UNCCT at the centre of efforts to deliver the Secretary-General’s vision on counter-terrorism, which he shared during a landmark speech in London on 16 November 2017, where he emphasized that “terrorism is fundamentally the denial and destruction of human rights, and the fight against terrorism will never succeed by perpetuating the same denial and destruction.”

As outlined in the Secretary-General’s report on the establishment of the UNOCT, the main functions of the Office are to:

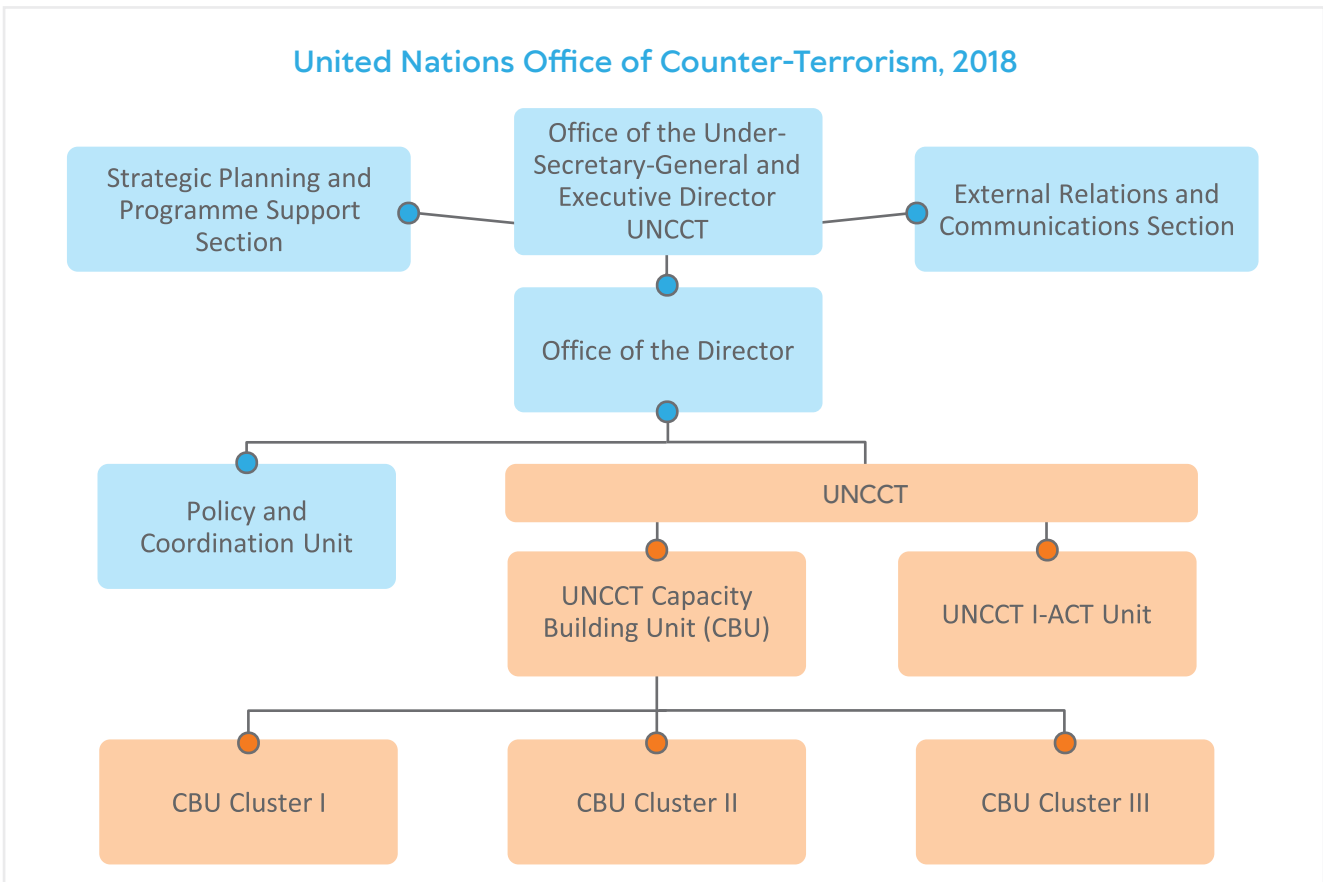
- (a) provide leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the United Nations system;
- (b) enhance coordination and coherence across the 38 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
- (c) strengthen the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States;
- (d) improve visibility, advocacy and

resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts; and

- (e) ensure that due priority is given to counterterrorism across the United Nations system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy.

UNCCT, placed within the new Office, is the main implementing arm of the third responsibility, while other responsibilities are carried out by the Policy and Coordination Unit and the sections within the Office of the Under-Secretary-General.

Following the assumption of duties by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov as Under-Secretary-General, and in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, it was decided to organize the Office of Counter-Terrorism as follows:



The UNCCT consists primarily of the Capacity Building Unit and the I-ACT Unit. To ensure effective leadership and management, and to leverage internal resources and expertise, the Centre also benefits from the support of the Executive Office of Department of Political Affairs. The Office of the Under-Secretary-General, including the Strategic Planning and Programme Support and External Relations and Communications sections, supports the Executive Director of the UNCCT with regard to strategic planning, programme oversight, monitoring and evaluation, advocacy, strategic communications and donor relations management. The Policy and Coordination Unit is primarily responsible for the coordination and coherent work of UNOCT, and also administers projects including a project related to national and regional PVE Plans, given the expertise contained in this Unit.

The move of UNCCT from DPA to UNOCT did not directly impact its 5-Year Programme, which remains the guiding document for the capacity-building work of the Centre. It will be recalled that the 5-Year Programme was developed based on extensive and deliberate consultations with Member States, including valuable guidance from the UNCCT Advisory Board. The 5-Year Programme is based on the Vision Statement on the Future Role of UNCCT, presented by then-Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, to the Advisory Board upon receipt of the \$100 million contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Subsequently, the Executive Director in 2015 presented a more detailed Plan of Action for the implementation of this Vision. Taking into account the valuable advice of the Advisory Board, the 5-Year Programme was launched in 2016, and will guide the Centre's work through the end of 2020.

SECTION II

II. Programme Implementation

UNCCT Results Framework

The UNCCT 5-Year Programme (2016-2020) sets out four broad outcomes, each associated with the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as twelve associated outputs. These outputs are thematic areas where the Centre provides particular expertise in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism. As detailed in Section III, these outcomes and outputs form the cornerstone of the Programme Results Framework developed to measure progress in the implementation of the 5-Year Programme.

Project Overview

In 2017, UNCCT implemented 42 projects, 12 of which were completed. As of 31 December 2017, the Centre had 22 ongoing projects, and there were eight (8) projects in the initiation phase. Of the 30 ongoing/initiated projects, 18 are at global level (**see pages 7-10**), eight (8) at regional level (**see pages 11-12**), and four (4) are at national level (**see pages 13-14**). The reporting period saw an increase in new projects compared to 2016, during which 20 projects were implemented.

UNCCT Results Framework

OUTCOME 1: PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (PILLAR I)



Output 1.1: Preventing Violent Extremism



Output 1.2: Foreign Terrorist Fighters

OUTCOME 2: COMBATTING TERRORISM (PILLAR II)



Output 2.1: Counter-Terrorism Strategies



Output 2.2: Countering the Financing of Terrorism



Output 2.3: Border Security and Management



Output 2.4: Cyber Security

OUTCOME 3: HUMAN RIGHTS AND VICTIMS (PILLAR IV)



Output 3.1 Human Rights



Output 3.2: Victims of Terrorism

OUTCOME 4: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (PILLAR III)



Output 4.1: Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT)



Output 4.2: Supporting CTITF



Output 4.3: Network Related to Counter-Terrorism



Output 4.4: South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Project Overview

The following tables demonstrate the status of all the Centre’s projects at the global, regional and national level, as well as the output that each project is contributing under the Centre’s 5-Year Programme.

▶ GLOBAL PROJECTS

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2012-9	Basic Human Rights Reference Guides	Support Member States in their efforts to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of countering terrorism by developing six practical guidance tools	Completed	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2013-26	Ensuring Effective Inter-Agency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical or Biological Attacks — Phase II	Improve the ability of the UN system to respond to possible chemical or biological attacks — implemented with OPCW and IAEA	Completed	4.2
▶ UNCCT-2014-29	International Good Practices on Addressing and Preventing Kidnapping for Ransom (KFR)	Support Member States to curb the ability of terrorist organizations to raise funds through KFR	Completed	2.2
▶ UNCCT-2014-32	Enhancing Understanding of the ‘Foreign Terrorist Fighters’ Phenomenon	Enhance understanding on the motivations of individuals to leave their homes to join transnational terrorist organizations and to return, and the level of risk they pose upon return	Completed	1.2
▶ UNCCT-2014-33	UNCCT Border Security Initiative	Enhance knowledge of practitioners on good practices in border security, as well as understanding of border management capacity needs in key regions and ways to address them	Completed	2.3
▶ UNCCT-2015-37	Raising Awareness of Priority States Regarding Requirements of Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014) on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Determining their Related Technical Assistance Needs	Raise awareness of requesting Member States regarding Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) and its Advance Passenger Information requirements and determine their related technical assistance needs	Completed	2.3

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2015-41	Amplifying Voices, Building Campaigns: Training and Capacity Building of the Media in Establishing a Communication Strategy	Ensure that victims' voices can be heard through the development of key messages and long-term sustainable communications strategy to counter the narratives of violent extremists	Completed	3.2
▶ UNCCT-2012-12	Terrorist Designations and Freezing of Assets — Phase II	Enhance the understanding, skills and experience of financial regulatory officials, ministries and private sector entities on international standards related to terrorist designations and asset freezing regimes	Ongoing	2.2
▶ UNCCT-2013-14-REV	Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards in Screening and Controlling Persons at Borders in the Counter-Terrorism Context	Provide guidance to Member States on how to comply with international human rights standards in the process of screening and controlling persons at border crossings through the development of a handbook and pocketbook for border officials	Ongoing	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2013-24	Fostering International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Promoting Collaboration between National, Regional and International Counter-Terrorism Centres and Initiatives — Network Against Terrorism (NAT) Phase II	Strengthen collaboration between national, regional and international counter-terrorism centres and initiatives, and promote a global network against terrorism, including through the creation and maintenance of a web directory and international conferences	Ongoing	4.3
▶ UNCCT-2014-31	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism through Community-Oriented Policing, Rule of Law and Security Institutions	Start the process of building lasting trust-based partnerships between police officers and the communities they serve in order to enhance the CVE effort within those communities including by providing local police officers with an introduction to global best practices on PVE and community policing	Ongoing	3.1

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2015-38	Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communications — Phase III	Enhance the understanding and awareness of strategic communications for PVE; support interagency coordination and planning platforms for strategic communications; improve technical strategic communication skills	Ongoing	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2015-40	Training and Capacity-Building of Law Enforcement Officials on Human Rights, the Rule of Law and the Prevention of Terrorism	Enhance the understanding, skills and experience of law enforcement and security officials on international human rights standards and counter-terrorism	Ongoing	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2015-44	Victims of Terrorism Support Portal	Maintain a single global practical mechanism to provide information and resources on and for victims of terrorism	Ongoing	3.2
▶ UNCCT-2017-54	Victims of Terrorism Documentary	Produce documentary series focusing on the human impact of terrorist attacks and provide a voice to victims	Ongoing	3.2
▶ UNCCT-2017-56	Good Practices Handbook to Empower and Strengthen Victims of Terrorism Associations to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism	Establish good practices on victims' role in preventing violent extremism; financial and non-financial assistance to victims; resiliency; and collaboration with Member States, that will better assist and protect the rights of victims, to be published in a handbook	Ongoing	3.2
▶ UNCCT-2017-58	Enhancing the Capacity of States to Prevent Cyber Attacks Perpetrated by Terrorist Actors and Mitigate Their Impact	Raise awareness of cyber threats posed by terrorists and enhance knowledge on potential solutions to increase the IT security and resilience of critical national infrastructure	Ongoing	2.4
▶ UNCCT-2017-71	Gender Mainstreaming in the Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)	Mainstream gender in the substantive work and operation of UNOCT	Ongoing	cross-cutting
▶ UNCCT-2017-72	Facilitate Coordinated "One-UN" Support to Member States on PVE Policy-Making and Developing National and Regional PVE Action Plans	Provide coordinated UN PVE policy support to requesting Member States and regional organizations by helping them develop, harmonize, and implement executive or legislative frameworks through their national/ regional PVE Plans of Action	Ongoing	1.1

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2017-64	Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Child Returnees	Assist Member States to develop comprehensive policies to support child returnees through a human rights based and gender-sensitive approach including through the development of a handbook on good practices	Ongoing	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-65	Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism (under the BSM programme)	Enhance awareness of border authorities on international human rights standards applicable to border security and management, including on screening, referral, interviewing, detention and removal	Initiated	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-66	Enhancing information Sharing on Foreign Terrorist Fighters among Member States (UNCCT-INTERPOL)	Enhance cooperation among Member States and increase the quality and quantity of available information to stem the flow of FTFs	Initiated	1.2
▶ UNCCT-2017-67	Enhancing Member State Capacities to Exploit Social Media in relation to Foreign Terrorist Fighters (UNCCT-INTERPOL)	Support Member States to expand their networks, enhance their understanding of the FTF phenomenon, and increase their investigative capacities in relation to the exploitation of social media and other internet-based investigations on FTFs	Initiated	1.2
▶ UNCCT-2017-68	Strengthening Member State Capacities in the Area of Border Security and Management to Counter Terrorism and Stem the Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (BSM programme)	Enhance Member State capacities in border security and management, including through support for API implementation, cross-border cooperation, strategies and action plans, training and equipment	Initiated	2.3
▶ UNCCT-2017-70	Promoting South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism	Enhance cooperation and facilitate the transfer of knowledge and good practices between Member States of the global South on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism	Initiated	4.4

▶ REGIONAL PROJECTS

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2013-16	Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia — Phase II	Assist Central Asian countries in countering terrorism and violent extremism by developing counter-radicalization narratives through a strengthened media, civil society and government institutions, and enhancing state capacities in areas of border controls and financial investigations	Completed	2.1
▶ UNCCT-2016-77	Building Capacity for States in Africa to Prevent the Acquisition of Arms and Ammunition by Non-State Actors (UNODA)	Strengthen capacities of African States to prevent acquisition of arms and ammunition by non-State actors	Completed	1.2
▶ UNCCT-2016-50	Facilitating the Development of a Regional Strategy for East Africa and the Horn of Africa to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism	Support the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy for countries of the Horn of Africa and Tanzania to prevent violent extremism in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	Ongoing	2.1
▶ UNCCT-2016-51	Facilitating the Implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa	Support the Secretariat of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) in the implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Plan of Action for Southern Africa	Ongoing	2.1
▶ UNCCT-2016-75	Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia (UNCCT-UNESCO)	Support selected Member States in North Africa and the Middle East to empower young men and women to become key actors in PVE, including by mainstreaming PVE through non-formal and informal education and strengthening cooperation with online youth communities and the media to combat hate speech and violent extremism	Ongoing	1.1

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2017-55	Security Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women’s Rights in the Sahel Region (UNCCT-UN Women)	Strengthen capacity of the security sector across the G5 Sahel countries to protect and promote women’s rights while preventing and countering violent extremism under the I-ACT Framework for the G5 Sahel	Ongoing	3.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-69	Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia — Phase III	Provide coordinated UN system support to Central Asian countries to enhance capacity to fight terrorism and prevent violent extremism in a strategic manner, including through development of national and regional CT/PVE strategies upon their request, providing capacity-building assistance in the priority areas of concern, exchanging best practices, and cooperating and coordinating with regional and international organizations in their CT/PVE efforts in the region	Ongoing	2.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-74	Supporting Regional Efforts of the G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism (I-ACT)	Support the G5 Sahel countries in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the regional level through an “All-of-UN” approach, in close collaboration with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat	Ongoing	4.1
▶ UNCCT-2016-76	Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through Media to Counter Narratives Associated with Terrorism in the Arab Region (UNCCT-UNESCO-LAS)	Dismantle conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism by creating a climate for enhanced dialogue, respect and mutual understanding through building the capacity of stakeholders, particularly youth and media professionals and leveraging the role of media	Initiated	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-63	Aviation Security	Enhance the capacity of participating countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East to prevent and counter threats to civil aviation through provision of training and quality assurance in accordance with international aviation security standards	Initiated	2.3

▶ NATIONAL PROJECTS

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2014-34	Aviation Security Training in Nigeria	Support the establishment of an aviation security training school in two locations in Nigeria (Abuja and Lagos) to deliver and sustain a high-quality security screening force for all Nigerian airports; and the enhancement of relevant regulatory frameworks in order to ensure that standards are in place for the training and conduct of security screening of passengers and cargo at all commercial airports in Nigeria	Completed	2.3
▶ UNCCT-2016-45	Capacity-Building of Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in Pakistan	Provide knowledge tools, best practices and capabilities to principals and managers of technical and vocational training institutes to enable their students to acquire decent employment and skills and thereby stay safe from radicalization by terrorists and violent extremists	Completed	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-53	Promoting Dialogue and Understanding and Strengthening Community Engagement in Implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) (CTED)	Support the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) and other UN initiatives, by promoting dialogue between local communities, youth, women and other civil society groups	Completed	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2014-36	Enhancing the capacity of Mali's Security and Justice Sectors to Counter Terrorism (I-ACT)	Contribute to (1) enhancing the delivery of effective and efficient security and justice services in the field of counter-terrorism; (2) strengthening the capacities of law enforcement, prosecutors and judges to effectively detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism-related offences with due respect for human rights and the rule of law; (3) fostering interagency counter-terrorism cooperation; and (4) developing and implementing a national counter-terrorism strategy	Ongoing	4.1

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	OUTPUT
▶ UNCCT-2016-47	Rehabilitation of Juveniles in Prisons in Pakistan	Contribute to juveniles in prison in Pakistan charged under terrorism-related offences to gain improved access to sustainable livelihood, job acquisition and job retention skills and thereby gain resilience against terrorist propaganda and terrorist recruitment	Ongoing	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2017-59	Youth Employability in Bangladesh	Help Bangladesh's youth gain improved access to job acquisition, job retention and entrepreneurial skills and thereby gain resilience against violent extremist propaganda and/or terrorist recruitment through better livelihood protection and enhanced self-esteem	Ongoing	1.1
▶ UNCCT-2015-43	Supporting the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization in Prisons	Support participating countries in Asia, North Africa and the Middle East to implement prison-based disengagement programmes to dissuade extremists from violence, and to assist former violent extremist prisoners to reintegrate back into society	Initiated	1.1

Project Activities and Results

OUTCOME 1: PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (PILLAR I)

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States prevent and counter violent extremism and address the Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon (Pillar I)



Output 1.1: Preventing Violent Extremism

OUTPUT 1.1: THROUGH UNCCT SUPPORT, REQUESTING MEMBER STATES AND THE UNITED NATIONS HAVE AN INCREASED CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COUNTER THE APPEAL OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND ITS UNDERLYING CAUSES

Violent extremism undermines our collective efforts in maintaining peace and security, fostering sustainable development, promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law, and providing humanitarian assistance. Member States agree that military and security measures alone will not have a sustainable impact

without long-term preventive measures that address the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism and terrorism. The UN Secretary-General has repeatedly pointed out that strengthening good governance, the rule of law and human rights; the creation of open, inclusive and pluralist societies; empowering youth and women; and fostering education, skills development and employment facilitation will help eliminate the conditions conducive to violent extremism. In helping build the capacities of Member States to prevent violent extremism, UNCCT has focused its programming in areas where it can add most value such as the development of national and regional strategies to prevent violent extremism, engagement of youth and women, strategic communications, managing violent extremist prisoners and preventing radicalization in prison settings.

UNCCT-2016-45: Capacity-Building of Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in Pakistan

Status: Completed, Quarter 2/2017

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism emphasize the importance of youth employment as a critical component in building peaceful societies that are resilient and able to withstand the threat of terrorism and violent extremism. During 2017, UNCCT engaged countries of South

Asia — starting with Pakistan and now including Bangladesh — to develop capacity-building activities aimed at supporting vulnerable young adults acquire skills to find and retain decent employment. The growing number of activities are part of UNCCT’s Initiative on Youth Engagement, Skills Development and Employment Facilitation which was launched in Islamabad in May 2015 emerging from a needs assessment conference that was aimed at engaging national partners in South Asian countries to identify national priorities and develop pilot projects building the capacity and skills of youth of the region.

During the period of January to June 2017, the UNCCT project for the capacity-building of Technical and Vocational Training (TVET) Institutes in Pakistan implemented four (4) five-day trainings at the provincial level and trained more than 220 principals of TVET institutes on institute management, liaison with industries and

entrepreneurship. These trainings were designed to strengthen the ability of such institutes to produce competent and civic-minded young adults who are skilled in their craft, capable of finding and retaining decent jobs, and starting their own businesses, with the overall goal to instil a sense of personal fulfilment and civic duty in themselves and help them secure a livelihood to support their families. The project’s design integrated sessions on identifying and addressing grievances amongst youth, thereby helping principals of TVET institutes understand the role their schools play in helping young people acquire marketable skills and remain safe from terrorist radicalization. Through sessions devoted to understanding the linkage between youth engagement and skills development and PVE, this project was designed to help young people build resilience. Through the strong link between PVE and youth skills development, UNCCT was able to add value to ILO technical modules, which has been appreciated by ILO. In order to ensure



PHOTO: UNCCT

national ownership, sustainability and technical expertise, UNCCT partnered with the Pakistan Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Country Office. In all trainings delivered under the project, PMYP helped identify suitable TVET institute principals from vulnerable localities to benefit from the trainings, and ILO assisted with resource persons and course modules to ensure that participants benefited from recognized best practices on institute management, job placement and entrepreneurship.

The four training workshops were well received by participants and national interlocutors alike, especially for their comprehensive coverage of a variety of managerial aspects that TVET principals should take into account for effective institute management, as well as on reaching locally-

conceived and practical solutions to common problems that do not necessarily require policy or legislative action. The training sessions emphasized ways through which principals could improve the quality of teaching-learning processes, strengthen contact with industries to place trainees in jobs, pursue targeted impact of training, as well as acquire fresh understanding of global policy changes and national economic dynamics to adjust institutional priorities to meet evolving needs. The workshops helped underscore that an effective national TVET system is one that is based on a country's social, cultural and political background, financial and economic conditions and level of industrial development, and which is demand-driven and capable to cater to the current and foreseeable future needs of the labour market with active participation of stakeholders.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2016-45)

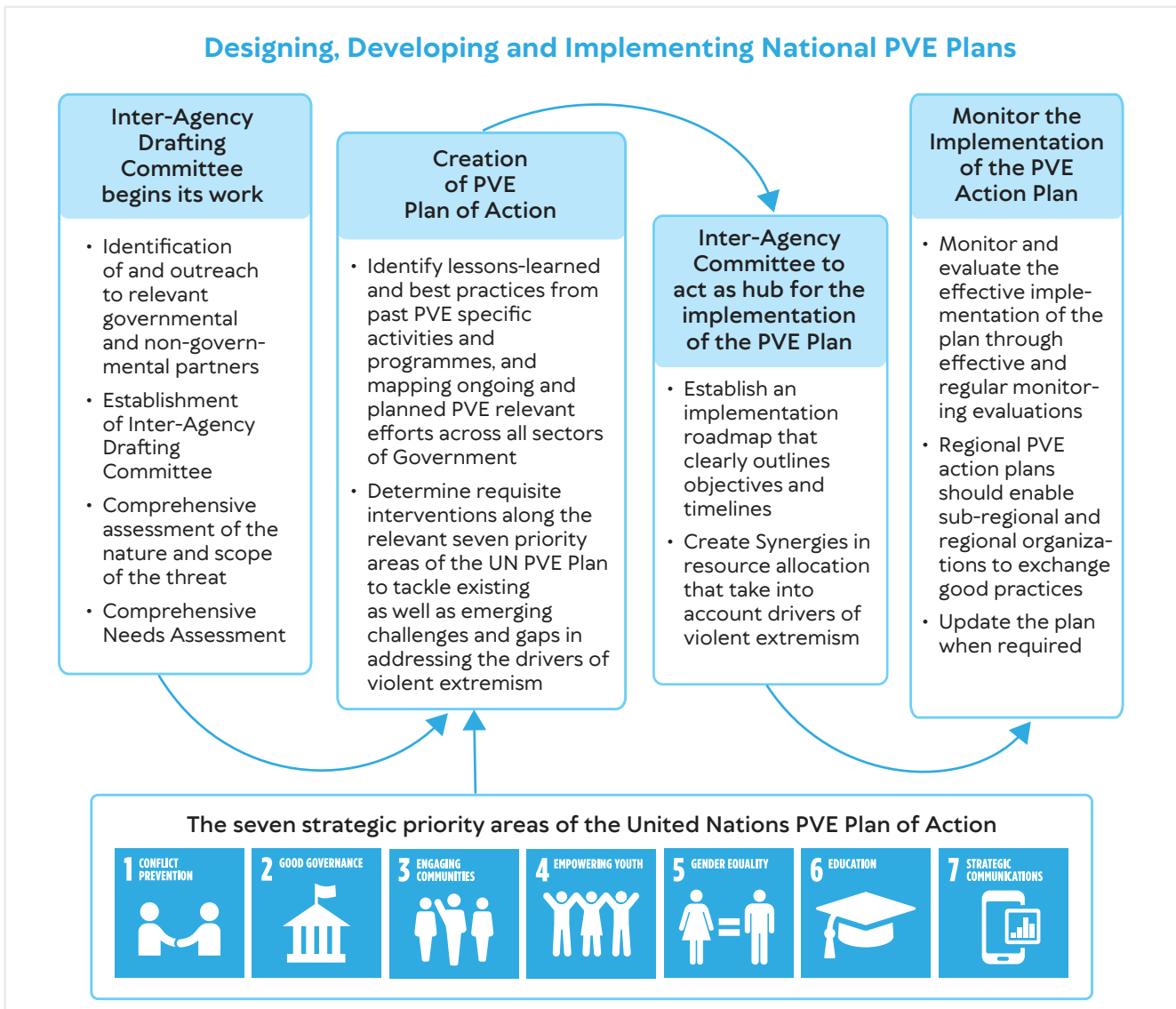
UNCCT successfully completed the project on TVET capacity-building trainings in Pakistan. According to feedback forms collected from participants in all training workshops conducted in Pakistan's four provinces, participants registered a highly encouraging 97% satisfaction rate on UNCCT's deliverables. At the conclusion of each training, participating principals developed model institute management plans which were intended to guide their future work at their respective institutes. The Centre will initiate an evaluation of the project's impact in early 2018 as per indicators established under the Centre's Results-Based Framework. The project illustrates the benefit of UNCCT leveraging the synergies of a specialized agency like the ILO, which implements important programming on youth employment and skills development, and complementing such programming by providing educators with a greater awareness about the prevention of violent extremism. In 2017, UNCCT was also approached by the Government of Bangladesh for a similar project, and the Centre has initiated consultations with additional Governments in South Asia and South-East Asia.

UNCCT-2017-72:
Facilitating Coordinated “One-UN” Support to Member States on PVE Policy-making and Developing National and Regional PVE Plans

Status: Ongoing

During the last quarter of 2017, UNCCT launched a new project to facilitate coordinated “One-UN” support to requesting Member States on PVE policy-making and developing national

and regional PVE plans. Through a strategic partnership with UNDP, the PVE programme seeks to provide coordinated support to requesting Member States and regional organizations in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/291 and the UN PVE Plan of Action. During the two-year timeframe of the project, UNCCT will provide support for up to ten (10) Member States and two (2) regional organizations by helping them design, develop, harmonize, and implement executive or legislative frameworks through their national and regional PVE Plans of Action to comprehensively address the drivers



of violent extremism. One of the first activities of this programme was the joint organization of a regional workshop with UNDP, UNODC, UN Women and UN Volunteers on 27–29 November 2017 in Bangkok to share international and regional expertise among senior officials from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand on National PVE Plans.

In this context, with inputs from UNESCO, OHCHR and UNDP, the Centre finalized a Reference Guide on the Development of National and Regional PVE Plans of Action. Based on good practices from around the world, the Reference Guide presents overarching, procedural and substantive principles, and provides implementation illustrations that can serve as guidelines for Governments and regional organizations to develop their own effective PVE Plans of Action. Recognizing that there is no one-

size-fits-all model, these guidelines place emphasis on inclusive and comprehensive action plans that address the context-specific drivers of violent extremism based on evidence-based policies. As such, the document provides information about possible methods to identify relevant drivers and guidance on principles such as “do-no-harm” and national ownership in the development of PVE Plans of Action. The Guide is expected to be published in the spring of 2018, following the completion of editing, translation and printing.

Activities in 2018 will include up to six (6) PVE policy-making assistance missions to requesting Member States, the completion of a joint UNDP-UNOCT study on the challenges in the implementation of National PVE Plans of Action as well as a global study with UNDP, CTED and possibly UNESCO on online processes of radicalization to violent extremism and terrorism.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2017-72)

Through UNCCT’s support to facilitating the exchange of good practices during the regional multi-agency facilitated workshop in Bangkok and developing a Reference Guide on the Development of National and Regional PVE Plans of Action, the project has contributed to increasing the knowledge base of Member States and the United Nations in preventing violent extremism and its underlying causes in accordance with the UNCCT 5-Year Programme.

UNCCT-2017-53: Promoting Dialogue and Understanding and Strengthening Community Engagement in the Implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014)

Status: Completed, Quarter 3/2017

In 2017, the project on *Promoting Dialogue and Understanding and Strengthening Community Engagement in the Implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014)*, developed in the framework of the CTITF FTF Capacity Building Implementation Plan, delivered two workshops in Tunis, Tunisia. These workshops served as fora for

dialogue and information-sharing between the government, the private sector and civil society for the effective implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014). The two workshops, which were held on 7-9 March 2017 and 19-20 July 2017, respectively, were facilitated by CTED, and organized in cooperation with the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism — The Hague and the Human Security Collective, with the support of the Government of Tunisia and funding from UNCCT. Participants included representatives from Tunisian Ministries, Tunisia's National Commission on Counter-Terrorism, civil-society, private sector, UN entities, regional

organizations, as well as international experts, including from other North African States. Discussions focused on engagement with local communities, particularly youth, in countering radicalization that leads to terrorism, the challenges presented by foreign terrorist fighter returnees and strategies for their rehabilitation and reintegration, and the role of women in countering violent extremism programming and policy. Both workshops provided an opportunity to explore ways in which government bodies, civil society and the private sector can better cooperate in implementing strategies to counter incitement and violent extremism.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2017-53)

The workshops were positively received by the Government of Tunisia, in particular by officials of the Tunisian National Commission on Counter-Terrorism, as well as by representatives of Tunisian civil society. They served to raise awareness of challenges in strengthening community engagement and ways to overcome them, including through considering experiences of experts from other States. As a result of the workshops, dialogue between Governmental and non-Governmental actors was enhanced, and participants made progress toward a shared vision of how best to work together to counter and prevent violent extremism. Possible models for a permanent consultative platform were discussed in-depth, although the way forward is still under consideration by the relevant Tunisian authorities.

UNCCT-2016-47: Rehabilitation of Juveniles in Prisons in Pakistan

Status: Ongoing

The project on the Rehabilitation of Juveniles in Prisons in Pakistan aims to provide vocational training to juveniles apprehended on violent offences in order to provide them with

opportunities to develop skills to be able to acquire a livelihood and to resist radicalization in prison settings. The project works in close collaboration with the Pakistan Prime Minister's Youth Programme, and the provincial Technical Education and Vocational Training Authorities (TEVTAs). After assessing market demand and consultations with juvenile inmates and TEVTAs to ascertain their preferences on the specific



PHOTO: UNCCT

trades in which they would like to be trained, the project initiated its first three-month skills training initiative for 32 juveniles in two trades — tailoring and basic electrician — at Central Prison in Haripur (Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province) in October 2017. The second training for 40 juveniles in the trades of motor cycle mechanics and tailoring was held in December 2017 at Quetta Jail (Baluchistan province). A third training to be delivered in another prison is at an advanced stage of planning and expected to take place in 2018.

Regular interactions led by the project consultant with the trainees and TEVTAs have demonstrated that the trainees are taking great interest in their work and learning the trades rapidly. UNCCT and UNDP Pakistan are exploring the possibility of placing those trainees that would be released in the next six months with employers within their home districts, or to involve them in UNDP's ongoing community engagement programming in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

Provincial governments are considering initiating additional activities on training of young inmates in prisons settings based on the successful implementation of this project.

UNCCT-2017-59: Youth Employability in Bangladesh

Status: Ongoing

In 2017, UNCCT launched the project on capacity-building of Technical and Vocational Training (TVET) Institutes in Bangladesh under the Centre's Initiative on Youth Engagement, Skills Development and Employment Facilitation in South Asia. On 4-7 December, UNOCT partnered with the Bangladesh Ministry of Education's Technical and Madrasa Education Department and the International Labour Organization to convene the first workshop of the project in Dhaka. The workshop was attended by 51

principals from Dhaka and Mymensingh Divisions of whom 22% were female. The event, which was opened by senior-level Government officials, the ILO Country Director and UNOCT, helped to underscore the strong connection between youth unemployment, hopelessness and other socioeconomic ‘push’ factors that make young people vulnerable to violent extremist narratives. The four-day training included presentations from 14 national and international TVET experts, career counsellors, employers, industry representatives and policymakers, as well as practical group exercises, to help principals identify current issues and challenges faced by TVET institutes to offer demand-driven skills development and to facilitate job creation for young people, and to propose solutions for their respective institutes. The Centre will organize the next two workshops in the first quarter of 2018 that will involve principals

from various parts of Bangladesh. The project, fully funded by the Government of Japan, marks the commencement of UNOCT’s engagement with the Government of Bangladesh on youth engagement and skills development issues, and expands UNCCT’s collaboration with Bangladesh beyond countering the financing of terrorism and strategic communications.

**UNCCT-2015-38:
Preventing Violent
Extremism through Strategic
Communications**

Status: Ongoing

Anchored in the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent

UNCCT Services for Member State Capacity Building in PVE/StratCom

StratCom 101 Training

- Introductory training on StratCom for PVE delivered
- Government StratCom needs identified
- Next steps for strategic planning and implementation outlined

**Strategic Design and
Planning Support (Ongoing)**

- Inter-agency coordination platform established
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration
- Communications strategy developed
- Personnel and resources identified and allocated

Technical Advisory Services

- Targeted training in areas of target audience analysis, strategic planning and implementation, M&E, and/or media information literacy

Violent Extremism, UNCCT initiated a project in 2016 aimed at developing a methodology for Member States to support their efforts to minimize threats posed by violent extremism through strategic communications and to prevent the appeal of terrorism and violent extremism at the global, regional and national levels. With a financial contribution from the United Kingdom, Phases I and II of this project were completed during the reporting year, and a third phase was initiated in December 2017 to provide specific and tailored capacity-building support to requesting Member States and UN entities for preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism through strategic communications.

The first two phases of the project resulted in the development of *the United Nations' Strategic Approach to Preventing Violent Extremism* in line with Pillar I of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the PVE Plan of Action, as well as a methodology for UNCCT to support Member States in building their capacity in strategic communications for PVE. The UN's Strategic Approach to PVE outlines guiding principles on how strategic communications can be used across the UN to prevent violent extremism, and recommends that the Organization enhances its strategic communications capacity and that of Member States. The methodology frames the type of capacity-building support and related services that UNCCT will deliver to Member States and UN entities, upon their request.

Phase III seeks to support Member States in this area through: (i) 'StratCom 101' awareness-raising and basic training on PVE strategic communications; (ii) advice to develop an inter-ministerial institutional framework to support PVE strategic communications in a coordinated manner; and (iii) technical support to potential

beneficiaries on how best to implement a communication framework around PVE through specialized training on target audience analysis, among other topics. The Centre anticipates that the assistance will increase the Member States' capacity to develop and implement an effective strategic communications framework for PVE, and support the UN system on strategic communications, including the UN Country Teams, Special Political Missions and Peacekeeping Operations.

UNCCT-2016-75: **Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment**

Status: Initiated

Given the extensive experience of both UNESCO and UNCCT in working with and for young women and men at the national, regional and international levels, a joint project has been developed to prevent and counter violent extremism among youth in selected countries in North Africa and the Middle East. The project, co-funded by the Government of Canada, aims to empower young women and men with the values, knowledge, capacities and skills to hold exchanges, communicate online/offline and cooperate across social and cultural boundaries. Through this support, the project seeks to enable youth to become responsible citizens, resilient to any form of abuse or manipulation, including violent extremism, and to mobilize critical thinking among youth to counter radicalization and recruitment. The project will work together with youth organizations and other relevant professional and civil society organizations dedicated to addressing hate speech and violent extremism.

**UNCCT-2016-76:
Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance
and Openness through Media to
Counter Narratives Associated
with Terrorism in the Arab Region**

Status: Initiated

In 2017, UNCCT continued to work with UNESCO and the League of Arab States (LAS) to further develop the project on *Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through Media to Counter Narratives associated with Terrorism in the Arab Region*. The project supports Pillar I of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, the Secretary General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, and the Security Council Presidential Statement of 11 May 2016 (S/PRST/2016/6). It further contributes to the implementation of Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security, as well as UNESCO’s New Integrated Framework of Action Empowering Youth to Build Peace. The project aims to: (i) improve journalistic

standards as well as knowledge and awareness among media professionals on the role of the media in preventing violent extremism through a series of workshops and seminars; (ii) foster media and information literacy among youth; and (iii) develop a network and campaigns to promote media and information literacy. Through a more critical analysis of media information and increased tolerance, the project seeks to increase resilience of youth communities against radicalization and hate speech. It also anticipates the empowerment of young women and men to become key actors in preventing violent extremism and countering terrorism. Three countries will be selected for the first phase of the project, to be launched in 2018, subject to the availability of co-funding, with an understanding that the campaign material developed will be accessible to the wider Arab region.



**UNCCT-2015-43:
Supporting the Management
of Violent Extremist Prisoners
and the Prevention of
Radicalization in Prisons**

Status: Initiated

During the reporting period, UNCCT and UNODC, in collaboration with CTED, finalized the development of a four-year project on the management of violent extremist prisoners (VEPs) and de-radicalization in prisons. In addition to strengthening prison safety and security capacities and mechanisms, the project foresees support towards enhancing the capacity of prison administrations to systematically assess the risks and needs of VEPs, as well as deliver inter-disciplinary disengagement interventions. It also aims to improve the social reintegration prospects of former VEPs through the provision

of post-release services. The project will focus on three beneficiary countries in Asia, Middle East and North Africa, the selection of which will be finalized by March 2018. The project which is budgeted at USD 9,12 million will be co-funded by the European Union (EU), UNCCT and the Netherlands.

The project was developed as an initiative under the CTITF FTF Capacity Building Implementation Plan, and will contribute to the implementation of Pillar I of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2396 (2017), which calls upon Member States to *inter alia* address radicalization to violence and terrorist recruitment in prisons in accordance with international law.



Output 1.2: Foreign Terrorist Fighters

OUTPUT 1.2: VIA UNCCT SUPPORT, REQUESTING MEMBER STATES HAVE AN INCREASED ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND ADDRESS THE FOREIGN TERRORIST FIGHTERS PHENOMENON

Foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) increase the intensity and duration of conflicts, and pose serious risks upon return from conflict zones to

the States they transit through and eventually to their countries of residence or nationality, or to third countries. The Security Council has responded to this threat by adopting resolution 2178 (2014) which called upon Member States to establish serious criminal offenses regarding the travel, recruitment, and financing of FTFs, and “to improve international, regional, and sub-regional cooperation, to prevent the travel of FTFs from or through their territories, including through increased sharing of information for the purpose of identifying foreign terrorist fighters”. Resolution 2396 (2017) on measures to address returning and relocating FTFs requires Member States to use and share advance passenger information (API), passenger name record (PNR) and biometric data to identify FTFs, and calls upon States to improve cooperation and information sharing on FTFs, as well as to ensure their prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration. It further encourages relevant UN entities including UNOCT to further enhance the provision and delivery of technical assistance to States to better support efforts to implement the resolution. In countering the FTF phenomenon, UNCCT addresses the priorities set out in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) FTF Capacity-Building Implementation Plan, developed as per the Security Council Presidential Statement 2015/11, which includes support to increase understanding of FTF motivations and the use of social media in recruiting FTFs, and to enhance information sharing among Member States. Responding to the FTF phenomenon is a cross-cutting issue that is also addressed through UNCCT projects relating to border security and management, human rights, and cyber.

**UNCCT-2014-32:
Enhancing the Understanding
of the ‘Foreign Terrorist
Fighters’ Phenomenon in Syria**

Status: Completed, Quarter 3/2017

The project *Enhancing the Understanding of the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon in Syria* was announced by the Secretary-General at the Security Council meeting adopting resolution 2178 (2014) in September 2014, when the numbers of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) leaving for Syria was ever increasing. The project was developed with three objectives in mind: (1) to enhance the understanding of the reasons why people decide to join terrorist groups in Syria; (2) to understand the nature of the groups they join and what association with them might mean; and (3) to enhance understanding of the level of risk returning individuals may pose to themselves, their families, and their societies after returning to their country of nationality or residence. The project was partially funded by the Government of Norway.

The project was the first to be implemented as part of the “All-of-UN” FTF Capacity Building Implementation Plan mandated by the Security Council in its Presidential Statement 2015/11. Despite the challenges associated with the sensitivity of the project, the project was successfully implemented, with the support of two UNCCT senior experts, Professor Hamed el-Said and Mr.

Richard Barrett. Over the course of the project, a number of Member States granted access to individuals representing 12 nationalities from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, Central Asia, and the Caribbean, who were interviewed by the experts between August and November 2016. Of the 43 individuals interviewed, 26 of the interviews took place in prisons, while 17 were held in other official or public places.

The Centre took a very careful approach to protect the human rights of the interviewees and respected established ethical research standards. Only individuals who voluntarily participated

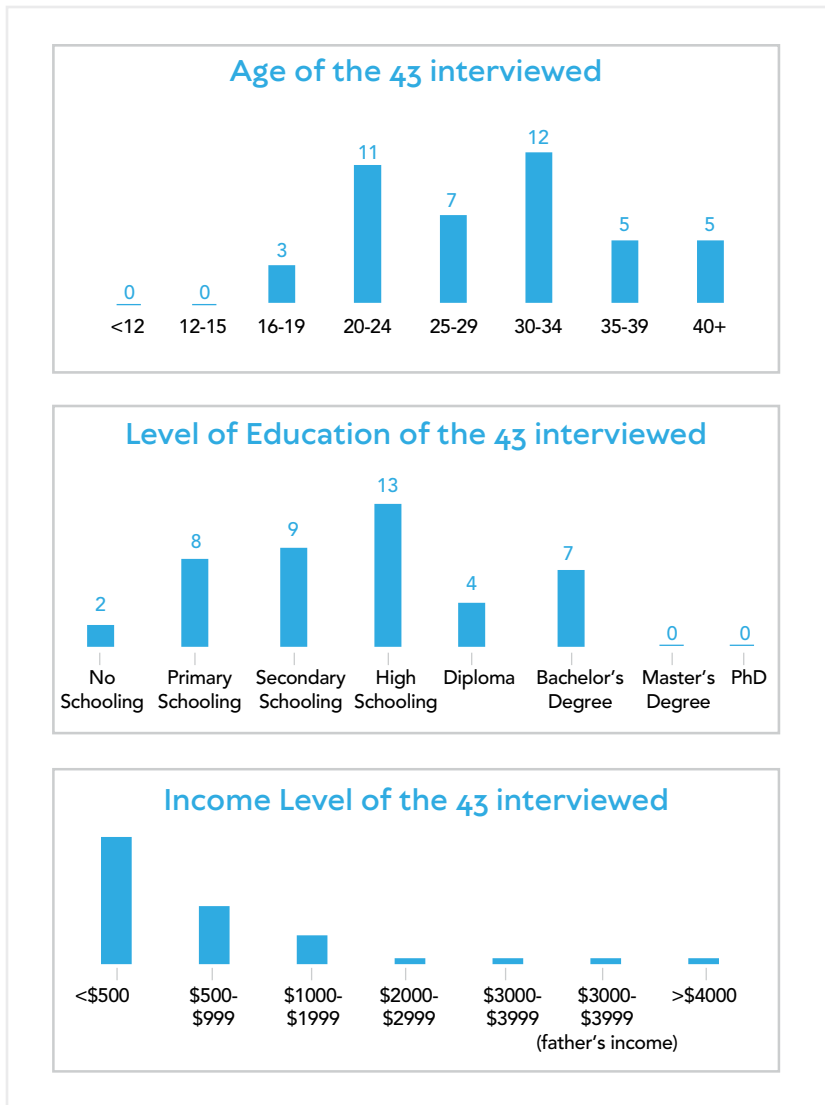




PHOTO: UNOCT

in the project were interviewed. The experts explained that the exclusive objective of the interview is to better understand the motivations of FTFs and that individual participation would be treated confidentially. Participating Member States also reassured UNCCT in writing that the

treatment of those that were imprisoned was in accordance with the Member State's obligations under applicable rules of international law and that the interviewees would not be subject to sanctions, reprisals or punishment for what they say or decline to say during the interview.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2014-32)

The project delivered a report on the insights gained following a thorough analysis of the outcomes of the interviews. The report was published on 27 July 2017, and was presented to Member States and Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force entities. The report was also made publicly available on the UNOCT website (www.un.org/en/counterterrorism).

According to the findings of the report, the FTFs interviewed “lack opportunity, are disadvantaged economically, lack education and have poor labour prospects”. The report’s conclusions suggested “economic factors have become more important [as a reason for FTFs to travel to Syria] than was the case in earlier waves of FTFs”. Other motivating factors were “unresolved conflicts that include inter-communal violence” and “desire to help co-religionists who are perceived as victimized and

mistreated by other groups". The report recommended that "in dealing with returnees, it may be important to differentiate between them based on what they actually did in Syria, their initial intention before going and their reasons for return". For the individuals in this sample, "it seems that not all FTFs go to Syria with the objective of becoming fighters there, even less of committing atrocities". The report highlighted the "need to design and implement programmes to help returning FTFs to reintegrate into society". A literature review was included in the final report to embed the findings in the context of the studies of other researchers.

The report was received with great interest, with 37 Member States attending the briefing on the presentation of the report. The Spokesperson of the Secretary-General at the daily press briefing on 3 August 2017 briefed the media on the publication of the report, presented the key findings of the study, and made the publication available to the attending media representatives. An initial press review found that the report was covered in 20 countries by more than 50 media organizations in North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa. It was also mentioned on Twitter in seven tweets and by the UN News Center.

The project contributed to achieving Output 1.2 of the UNCCT 5-Year programme, by supporting Member States in gaining a better understanding of FTF motivations as well as insights to address the FTF phenomenon. The report's findings provide an important resource to design policy and programmes for preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism.

UNCCT-2017-66:
Enhancing Information Sharing on Foreign Terrorist Fighters among Member States (UNCCT-INTERPOL)

Status: Initiated

In its landmark resolution 2178 (2014) on Foreign Terrorist Fighters, the Security Council urged "Member States, in accordance with domestic and international law, to intensify and accelerate the exchange of operational information

regarding actions or movements of terrorists or terrorist networks, including foreign terrorist fighters". Responding to this need and in line with General Assembly resolution 71/19 (2016) calling for the strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Centre collaborated with INTERPOL to develop a project to enhance information sharing among Member States on foreign terrorist fighters. The Centre expects to launch this project in the second quarter of 2018. The project is partially funded by Belgium.

UNCCT-2017-67:
Enhancing Member State Capacities to Exploit Social Media in relation to FTFs (UNCCT-INTERPOL)

Status: Initiated

The Security Council in its resolution 2178 (2014) expressed concern “over the increased use by terrorists and their supporters of communications technologies for the purpose

of radicalizing to terrorism, recruiting and inciting others to commit terrorist acts, including through the Internet.” UNCCT developed a joint project with INTERPOL to support requesting Member States in their endeavours to further build their investigative capacities to exploit social media and conduct other internet-based investigations in relation to foreign terrorist fighters. The project will be launched in 2018. The project will be partially funded by the Government of Japan, which has made a generous contribution to INTERPOL.



Meeting between Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General; Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and Jürgen Stock, Secretary General of INTERPOL

PHOTO: UN Photo

OUTCOME 2: **COMBATTING TERRORISM (PILLAR II)**

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States and regions counter terrorism in a strategic manner, combat the financing of terrorism, and prevent the travel of terrorists and cyber terrorism



Output 2.1: Counter-Terrorism Strategies

**OUTPUT 2.1:
VIA UNCCT SUPPORT,
REQUESTING MEMBER STATES
AND REGIONS HAVE IN PLACE
HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATED
COUNTER-TERRORISM
STRATEGIES BASED ON
THE UN GLOBAL COUNTER-
TERRORISM STRATEGY**

The transnational threat posed by terrorism requires a unified and coordinated response from Member States. UNCCT is committed to supporting the development of regional counter-terrorism strategies that adapt the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to local contexts, and operationalize the Global Strategy in line with the Bogota Guiding Principles for Counter-Terrorism Strategies which provide overarching, substantive and procedural guidelines to assist Member States to

develop, implement and review integrated and comprehensive national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. Leveraging the synergies available within the UN, including through the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies Working Group, UNCCT works with national and regional partners in the development of holistic and integrated counter-terrorism strategies, as well as in the identification and delivery of capacity-building projects to implement adopted strategies as they relate to the thematic priorities of the Centre’s 5-Year Programme.

**UNCCT-2013-16:
Towards a Comprehensive
Implementation of the United
Nations Global Counter-Terrorism
Strategy in Central Asia (Phase II)**

Status: Completed, Quarter 2/2017

This project, which was jointly implemented with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia (UNRCCA) and with the financial support of the European Union (EU) and the Government of Norway, aimed to support the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA) for the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia adopted by Central Asian States in November 2011. This was done through a series of regional capacity-building workshops on the different thematic pillars of the JPoA, which were held in the respective capitals of Central Asian States. These workshops brought together policy makers, practitioners and other relevant actors from across the region, and provided a

timely opportunity to exchange best practices and lessons learned, particularly as many Central Asian States were exploring the development of national strategies on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism. Throughout the implementation phase, representatives from Central Asian States demonstrated ownership of the JPoA by actively participating in and leading substantive discussions with regional and international experts from various entities. The project also promoted a common understanding of terrorism and violent extremism among policymakers and practitioners from the region, based on applicable UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. It further allowed for greater networking and cooperation between officials from Afghanistan and the five Central Asian States.

As a final output of the project, a “High-Level United Nations-Central Asian Dialogue on Implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia” was

held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 13 June 2017. The High-Level Dialogue was chaired by the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, and was attended by the Foreign Ministers of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, the Interior Minister of Tajikistan, the Deputy Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, as well as senior officials from Afghanistan and the European Union. This event provided an excellent opportunity to discuss strategic counter-terrorism and violent extremism challenges facing the region. It also reviewed progress in the implementation of the JPoA and defined future strategic priorities for its implementation including the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, border security and management, and countering the financing of terrorism.

The High-Level Dialogue culminated in the adoption of the Ashgabat Declaration, which was unanimously adopted by all five Central Asian States. The Declaration underscored the concern of Central Asian States over the evolving



PHOTO: UN Photo

and dynamic nature of the threat of terrorism in the region, acknowledged the importance of UN counter-terrorism efforts in the region, and welcomed the Secretary-General's initiative to reform the UN counter-terrorism architecture by establishing the Office of Counter-Terrorism. Central Asian States also expressed their

continued support for the JPoA, as well as their commitment to further strengthen regional cooperation and coordination. The High-Level Dialogue also served to generate financial support for the implementation of the JPoA, with Kazakhstan providing a generous contribution to the Centre in June 2017.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2013-16)

The project achieved its key outputs, particularly those pertaining to conflict prevention, dialogue, understanding and countering the appeal of terrorism; the organization of a series of thematic workshops to build the capacity of Central Asian countries to implement the JPoA; and the organization of a high-level conference on reviewing progress made on implementing the JPoA and deliberating ways forward. It facilitated informed interactions and exchange of opinions between relevant national ministries involved in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism in the region, creating important informal networks between these individuals. Afghan officials also regularly participated in project activities, which served as a platform for better cooperation and collaboration in addressing cross-border transnational threats. As a result, Afghan authorities are now exploring ways to develop a similar document to the JPoA, in consultation with the Central Asian States. In addition, the project served to enhance coordination and cooperation between international and regional organizations that supported the delivery of project activities, including the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), INTERPOL, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

UNCCT-2017-69:

Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia (Phase III)

Status: Ongoing

In order to assist Central Asian countries to continue to respond to emerging challenges

in preventing and countering terrorism in the region, as well as to provide these countries with continued and coordinated UN System support in implementing the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA), UNCCT and UNRCCA jointly developed a third phase of the project "Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia". Phase III of the project covers three years (2018-2021) and

is financially co-funded by the Government of Kazakhstan. Activities under this phase will be based on the common priority areas identified at the 2017 High Level Dialogue and in General Assembly resolution 70/291 adopted during the Fifth Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in July 2016. In addition, the project will take into account recommendations received from consultations with Central Asian officials, and technical assessments undertaken by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). With UNCCT-UNRCCA capacity-building support, the project seeks to achieve the following results:

1. Central Asian States have enhanced capacity to prevent and fight terrorism in a strategic manner, as well as enhanced capacity on priority areas identified in the 2017 High Level Dialogue, General Assembly resolution 70/291, and recommendations drawn from the previous two phases;
2. Central Asian states develop effective policies and best practices to prevent and counter terrorism through increased understanding about drivers of radicalization, improved access to information and analysis, and enhanced opportunities for exchanging good practices in key priority areas of the JPoA;
3. Cooperation and coordination with regional and international organizations in their efforts to combat terrorism in the region is enhanced.

UNCCT-2016-50: **Facilitating the Development of a Regional Strategy for East Africa and the Horn of Africa to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism**

Status: Ongoing

In March 2017, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) adopted the Regional PVE Strategy for Eastern Africa, which was jointly developed by IGAD and UNDP in 2016. After consultations with IGAD, it was agreed that UNCCT would develop for the consideration of IGAD a package of capacity-building assistance to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy. The package, which will be discussed and validated with IGAD in 2018, will propose assistance especially in the areas of strategic communication, foreign terrorist fighters and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism.

UNCCT-2016-51: **Facilitating the Implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa**

Status: Ongoing

The Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa was adopted on 18 August 2015 at the Summit of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Heads of State. The overall aim of the Strategy, which was developed with the support of UNCCT, is to put in place a framework for actions that will prevent the spread of terrorism and related threats to Southern Africa. In 2017, UNCCT worked actively with the SADC Secretariat to advance the implementation of the



PHOTO: UNCCT



Strategy by Member States. In this regard, UNCCT organized jointly with the SADC Secretariat an expert workshop on the implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa on 15-16 March 2017 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The workshop aimed to review and update priorities of the Strategy’s Plan of Action in light of evolving circumstances, in order to ensure the full implementation of the Strategy through the development of a forward-looking and time-bound roadmap.

The roadmap was developed with national experts and partners including experts from the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism, the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa, SADC, UNCCT,

UNODC, UNDP, CTED and the DPA Liaison Team to SADC. It builds on the priorities identified in the Strategy such as creating and operationalizing national counter-terrorism coordination mechanisms, preventing radicalization and violent extremism, and strengthening national and regional capacities in areas identified as critical. The roadmap was approved by the SADC Ministerial Committee of Organs on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation in July 2017. In the period following the roadmap’s approval, the Centre worked with the SADC Secretariat to facilitate the appointment of national counter-terrorism focal points in each SADC country who will be responsible for ensuring implementation of the Strategy at the national level, in line with the priorities identified in the roadmap. In this regard, the Centre facilitated the nomination of counter-terrorism focal points in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia.



Output 2.2: Countering the Financing of Terrorism

OUTPUT 2.2: THROUGH UNCCT ASSISTANCE, REQUESTING MEMBER STATES AND REGIONS HAVE IN PLACE POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND TRAINED OFFICIALS TO COUNTER THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM

Terrorists require a constant stream of funds to plan, equip and execute attacks, as well as to sustain recruits and infrastructure. Terrorist financing typologies have evolved over the years to become increasingly complex and diversified to include misuse or abuse of non-profit organizations and value transfer systems, kidnapping for ransom, and illicit trade and trafficking in cultural property. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999), the Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and Security Council resolutions such as 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1989 (2011), 2253 (2014) and 2368 (2017), among others, are key multilateral instruments to combat the financing of terrorism. Many Member States, however, continue to face challenges to identify, analyse, criminalize, track and suppress terrorist financing. UNCCT programming in this

area is designed to improve the understanding of government agencies, financial institutions and non-governmental entities of terrorist financing trends and counter-terrorist financing practices, and to enhance their capacities to prevent and respond to terrorist financing instances in accordance with international norms and standards.

UNCCT-2014-29: International Good Practices on Addressing and Preventing Kidnapping for Ransom (KFR)

Status: Completed, Quarter 4/2017

Kidnapping for ransom (KFR) by terrorist groups like Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Boko Haram, Al-Shabaab, Abu Sayyaf, and Da'esh has been recognized as a problem of increasing importance in international efforts to eradicate the financing of terrorism, particularly in the way ransom payments result in supporting recruitment, strengthening terrorist operations and incentivizing future incidents of kidnapping for ransom. At the same time, resolving terrorist KFR incidents and the safe recovery of hostages has become an increasingly difficult endeavour due to prolonged incident durations, growing complexity of the kidnappers' motivations, rising sophistication of their modus operandi, greater tendency of terrorist groups to hold hostages in inaccessible strongholds, and their increasingly ambitious demands. The prolonged nature of hostage negotiations, coupled with heightened media sensationalism, often results in payments of ransom.

Despite resolute calls made by the international community to prevent terrorists from benefitting directly or indirectly from

ransom payments, as reflected in Security Council resolution 2133 (2014), and the need to strengthen the international community’s resolve to resist ransom payments, national efforts and international cooperation in the prevention of KFR have been hampered by low capacity of national hostage negotiators and crisis responders who handle KFR cases, divergent perceptions of acceptable outcomes, and different views on humanitarian obligations to hostages and their families. These shortcomings and variations in national capacities, interpretations and outcomes in each specific KFR instance are repeatedly exploited

by kidnapers to weaken the unity of the international community in the struggle against the financing of terrorism. Therefore, heightened familiarity and effective implementation of workable practices at the national levels, as well as strong international cooperation in addressing and preventing KFR, has acquired increasing importance and urgency.

The UNCCT capacity-building project on Addressing and Preventing Kidnapping for Ransom was completed during 2017 after successfully delivering two needs assessment conferences and seven capacity-building

<p>UNCCT Capacity-Building Modules on Preventing KFR</p>	<p>Future Focus Topics for UNCCT</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ KFR trends and dynamics in the context of terrorist tactics and strategies; ▶ Ethical, political, and legal dilemmas involved in the process of hostage recovery; ▶ Management of media (including social media) coverage during a kidnapping; ▶ Options for safe release of hostages while simultaneously denying terrorists the benefits of ransom payments and other substantive concessions; ▶ The stages of a kidnapping; ▶ Management of contacts and communication with hostage takers; ▶ Family liaison and stakeholder management; ▶ Government, NGO and private sector perspectives on KFR case resolution; ▶ Management of third party intermediaries (TPIs); ▶ The complexities involved in hostage rescues; ▶ Release and recovery planning; ▶ Post-incident hostage reintegration; ▶ Case study; and ▶ Simulated tabletop exercise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Heightened emphasis on the need for prevention; ▶ Capacity-building of the criminal justice system and prosecutors; ▶ Stronger focus on countering the root causes of terrorism and radicalization; ▶ Enhanced awareness at banks on methods to counter terrorist financing and corruption; ▶ Closer inter-agency coordination; ▶ Better training of media professionals and journalists on covering KFR stories; ▶ Additional discussions on the role of the private sector; ▶ Assessments on the impact of ransom payments to foreign terrorist organizations; and ▶ More in-depth and hands-on training of hostage negotiators and first responders to victims

training workshops for Government officials and the NGO sector in the East, North and Sahel regions of Africa (Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Rabat, Cairo, Accra and Dakar, respectively). A final event was organized in Algiers in partnership with the African Centre for the Study and Research against Terrorism in August 2017. A comprehensive workshop report for the Project was prepared.

Since its launch in December 2015, the Project produced a set of ten training modules that were premised on the findings of needs assessment conferences convened in Tunis for national capacity-building needs and in Nairobi on specific ways through which the local NGO

community could be trained on preventing payments of ransom. The modules and the subsequent capacity-building modules offered training on incorporating best practices on preventing KFR, as contained in the Global Counterterrorism Forum Algiers Memorandum, cross-sectoral understanding on the topics of hostage negotiation and recovery, exercises on liaison with families, media and the insurance sector, better awareness of “duty of care” responsibilities, and the overall approaches on tracing financial resources of terrorists. The Project was supported through generous contributions from the Governments of Japan and the United States.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2014-29)

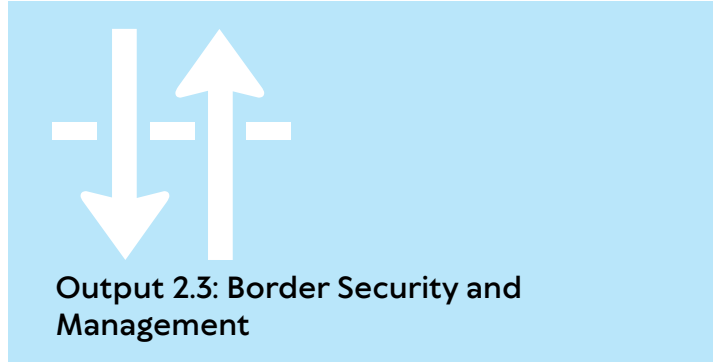
Feedback on the project’s implementation was highly positive, ranking at approximately 85% level of satisfaction among participants. Most participants complimented the in-depth and practical nature of the content that was shared with them during the training workshops. A common suggestion for improvement related to the short duration of the workshops, as many considered that a limited time of two days did not allow participants to dig deeper and exercise the best practices that were shared, especially given that countering KFR is a highly skills-dependent topic. However, feedback received from participants demonstrated that even in the two days of discussions, the workshops had the potential for immediate impact in terms of improving KFR preparedness and response plans for both national agencies and NGOs operating in the regions of focus. Going forward, UNCCT intends to utilize its capacity-building programming for further national-level trainings in order to involve additional relevant stakeholders from crisis cells, the media, the insurance and finance industries, aiming for further tangible impact at the national level.

**UNCCT-2012-12:
Capacity Building on Improving
Terrorist Designation and
Asset Freezing Regimes**

Status: Ongoing

In 2017, the UNCCT global capacity-building project on Terrorist Designations and Asset Freezing held one national engagement with the Government of Tunisia on building capacity of Tunisian officials on terrorist designation and freezing of assets. A training workshop was convened in Tunis in January 2017, and was premised on a request from the Government of Tunisia to UNOCT/UNCCT, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on helping Tunisia improve its legislation on asset freezing. In addition, the project also delivered one regional training for member countries of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation. The workshop was organized in September 2017 in Dhaka on the request of the Government of Bangladesh and aimed at helping the seven countries of the Bay of Bengal region — Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand — share good practices on third party requests related to freezing of assets. UNCCT also utilized the reporting period to conduct a comprehensive internal review assessment of the Project’s deliverables in order to expand its focus beyond the technicalities of asset freezing to include additional relevant topics on which Member States need support, such as FTFs financing, risk assessment, abuse of electronic money transfers and public-private partnerships. The Centre will develop additional modules for the project in 2018, and plans to build closer partnerships with CTED, the 1267 Sanctions Monitoring Team and relevant Financial Action

Task Force-Style Regional Bodies in order to customize training deliveries and enhance impact on the ground.



**OUTPUT 2.3:
BASED ON UNCCT
ASSISTANCE, REQUESTING
MEMBER STATES AND
REGIONS HAVE IMPROVED
BORDER SECURITY AND
MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING
THROUGH ENHANCED INTER-
AGENCY AND INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION**

Terrorist groups and foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) continue to move across borders to plan, prepare, perpetrate, or participate in terrorist acts, and/or to illicitly traffic arms, ammunition and explosives, drugs, contraband and people, including by using forged and/or fraudulently obtained travel documents and visas, or by abusing genuine travel documents. This undermines Member States’ efforts to counter terrorism, the phenomenon of FTFs and cross-border organized crime, increases the vulnerability of affected populations, and ultimately threatens international peace and security. UNCCT supports Member States in

implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) 2178 (2014), and 2396 (2017) by addressing capacity-building needs in inter-agency and international cooperation, border control and surveillance, document security, and information exchange. The Centre's programming in this area focuses on increasing understanding of advance passenger information (API) requirements, enhancing awareness of good practices in border security and management, supporting the development of border management strategies and action plans, improving cross-border cooperation and institutional training, and enhancing aviation security.

UNCCT-2014-34: Aviation Security in Nigeria

Status: Completed, Quarter 4/2017

As highlighted in Security Council resolution 2309 (2016), terrorist groups continue to view civil aviation as an attractive target with the aim of causing substantial loss of life, economic damage and disruption to connectivity between States, as well as transiting across international borders. Working closely with the Government of Nigeria and the Department for Transport of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, UNCCT finalized the implementation of this project, which was launched in July 2016, to address vulnerabilities pertaining to training and quality assurance in the aviation security sector in Nigeria.

In early 2017, Redline Assured Security Ltd, a certified aviation security training provider, was procured through a competitive bidding process

to provide capacity-building assistance to a cadre of national aviation security officials, referred to as Master Trainers, through the delivery of a high-intensity six-week train-the-trainers (ToT) training. To this end, a comprehensive training programme and regulatory framework was developed, consistent with international aviation security standards in the recruitment, vetting, training, mentorship and re-certification of screeners and related issues. In collaboration with the Nigerian Government, UNCCT also supported the establishment of two aviation security training schools in Abuja and Lagos to facilitate the delivery of training, which was initiated in March 2017.

The delivery of training to a group of 35 Master Trainers, all of whom are officials from the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), was successfully completed on 9 May 2017. The Master Trainers immediately embarked on the first roll-out of a two-week training to a group of 24 Airport Security Officers (ASOs) and Supervisors, who were subsequently deployed to the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport and Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Abuja and Lagos respectively. To ensure quality control, the newly trained ASOs and supervisors were provided with on-site mentorship by the Master Trainers, who were in turn monitored by Redline staff.

UNCCT organized a graduation ceremony for the 35 Master Trainers, as well as the newly trained ASOs and supervisors on 19 May 2017 in Abuja. The event received significant media attention, and was officially opened by the Minister of State for Aviation, H.E. Mr. Hadi Sirika. In addition to dignitaries from the FAAN and NCAA, representatives from the British, German and French Embassies also attended the event. During the closing session, the graduate

attendees were given an opportunity to raise any concerns they may have regarding the discharge of their duties. While several of them appreciated the level of training provided by UNCCT, they requested continued support to ensure that the Ministry of State Aviation could address the various challenges affecting the Nigerian aviation security sector, including insufficient resources and equipment. Several of the speakers, including the Minister of State Aviation, also appealed for UNCCT to expand the project's current scope by delivering high quality training to the police and other officials involved in this sector.

As of December 2017, the Master Trainers successfully delivered training to a total of 153 ASOs and 18 supervisors, all of whom have since been deployed to 26 airports across the country. The project also supported the review of all relevant national regulations to ensure conformity with international aviation security standards. To ensure coherence and coordination in UN efforts on aviation security, UNCCT

regularly briefed the CTITF Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement as it relates to Counter-Terrorism on the progress of this project. UNCCT also sought to strengthen its cooperation with the International Civil

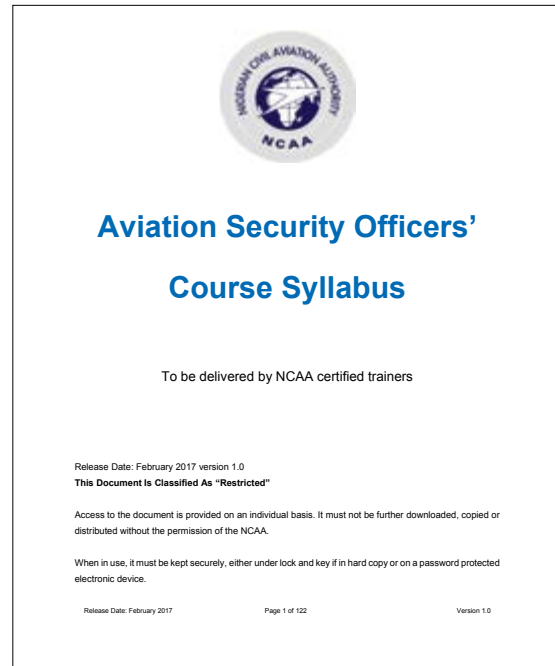


PHOTO: UNRCCA

Aviation Organization (ICAO) and enhance its understanding of how the Centre could draw from the Organization's safety oversight audits and risk assessments for purposes of capacity-building as called for in Security Council resolution 2309 (2016).

To this end, UNCCT presented its work on Aviation Security in Nigeria during the Sixth Steering Committee Meeting on the ICAO Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa (AFI SECFAL Plan), which was held in Montréal, Canada on 8 December 2017. The meeting reviewed progress

in the implementation of the AFI SECFAL Plan, which was launched in Mozambique in May 2015, and which provides a strategic coordination platform to better support African Member States to comply with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). UNCCT was also one of the entities that participated in ICAO's Inaugural Global Aviation Security Symposium (AVSEC2017) on 12-14 September 2017, which sought to reinforce, strengthen and promote the international framework for aviation security standards, including Security Council resolution 2309 (2016).

UNCCT Aviation Security Project in Nigeria

On 24 July 2017, after having received training and onsite mentorship on enhanced airport screening and security checks through the UNCCT Aviation Security project in Nigeria, two Airport Security Officers in Lagos managed to detect a large amount of machine gun ammunition in a checked baggage that was bound for Kano in the north of Nigeria. The method of concealment would not have been identified by the previously inadequately trained x-ray operators. The incident prompted an investigation and the preliminary results indicated that the incident was ISIL (Da'esh) related and part of the group's efforts to move its personnel and ammunition across the country.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2014-34)

During the 11 months of its implementation, the project achieved all planned outputs and outcomes, in a way that exceeded what was initially agreed. Key among these was the establishment of an aviation security training school in two locations to sustain the delivery of a high-quality security force to support the screening of passengers and cargo at airports across the country. As such, the project has had an immediate and positive impact on the aviation security sector in Nigeria, and has been a great source of pride for all stakeholders involved, in particular UNCCT, as well as the British and Nigerian Governments.

The project contributed to the Nigerian Government's overall counter-terrorism efforts. In the weeks after the graduation of the 35 Master Trainers and the first class of newly trained ASOs and supervisors, security improved at the two airports in Abuja and Lagos in which they were deployed. This is best evidenced by the number of significant findings that were identified by the newly trained staff.

UNCCT-2015-37:**Raising Awareness and Building Capacity on Advance Passenger Information (API)****Status: Completed, Quarter 4/2017**

The API project was launched in November 2015 in the framework of the CTITF FTF Capacity-Building Implementation Plan with co-funding from the United States, to strengthen the border security and management of Member States affected by the foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) phenomenon by raising awareness of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) and its API requirements. The resolution calls on Member States “to require that airlines operating in their territories provide advance passenger information to the appropriate national authorities in order to detect the departure from their territories, or attempted entry into or transit through their territories, by means of civil aircraft, of individuals designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011)” concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities. Subsequent resolutions 2253 (2015), 2309 (2016), and most recently, resolution 2396 (2017) have further called on Member States to establish and use API systems to prevent, detect and investigate terrorist travel. Resolution 2396 adopted on December 21 obliges Member States to require airlines operating in their territories to provide API to appropriate national authorities and to develop the capability to collect, process and analyse passenger name record (PNR) data. The resolution also calls on Member States to share information related to suspected FTF travel with countries of residence or nationality, or countries of return, transit or relocation, and encourages the sharing of PNR data with relevant or concerned Member States.

In 2017, UNCCT, in close collaboration with its API project partners, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), INTERPOL, and the International Air Transport Association (IATA), continued to support requesting Member States that have not yet implemented API systems to meet their API requirements. UNCCT also worked closely with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in supporting API capacity-building activities in the regions of relevance to the work of this Organization. In this context, the project held the fifth and final regional workshop on “Raising Awareness and Building Capacity on Advance Passenger Information” covering the Africa region in Nairobi, Kenya from 31 January-2 February 2017. The workshop brought together 60 officials from 11 African Member States, relevant CTITF entities, and international experts. The main issues covered included the role of API as an effective border management tool to stem the flow of FTFs, API regulatory framework, international standards and recommended practices for developing national API systems, how API systems match passenger data against watch lists, and key requirements for developing and implementing a national API programme through an integrated border management approach.

The Centre also held the remaining three (3) of the four capacity-building consultations planned under the API project in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 6-10 March 2017; in Nigeria on 12-16 June 2017; and in Morocco on 23-26 October 2017. The consultations were instrumental in furthering understanding of the legal, financial, infrastructural and technical capacities of recipient countries to implement national API

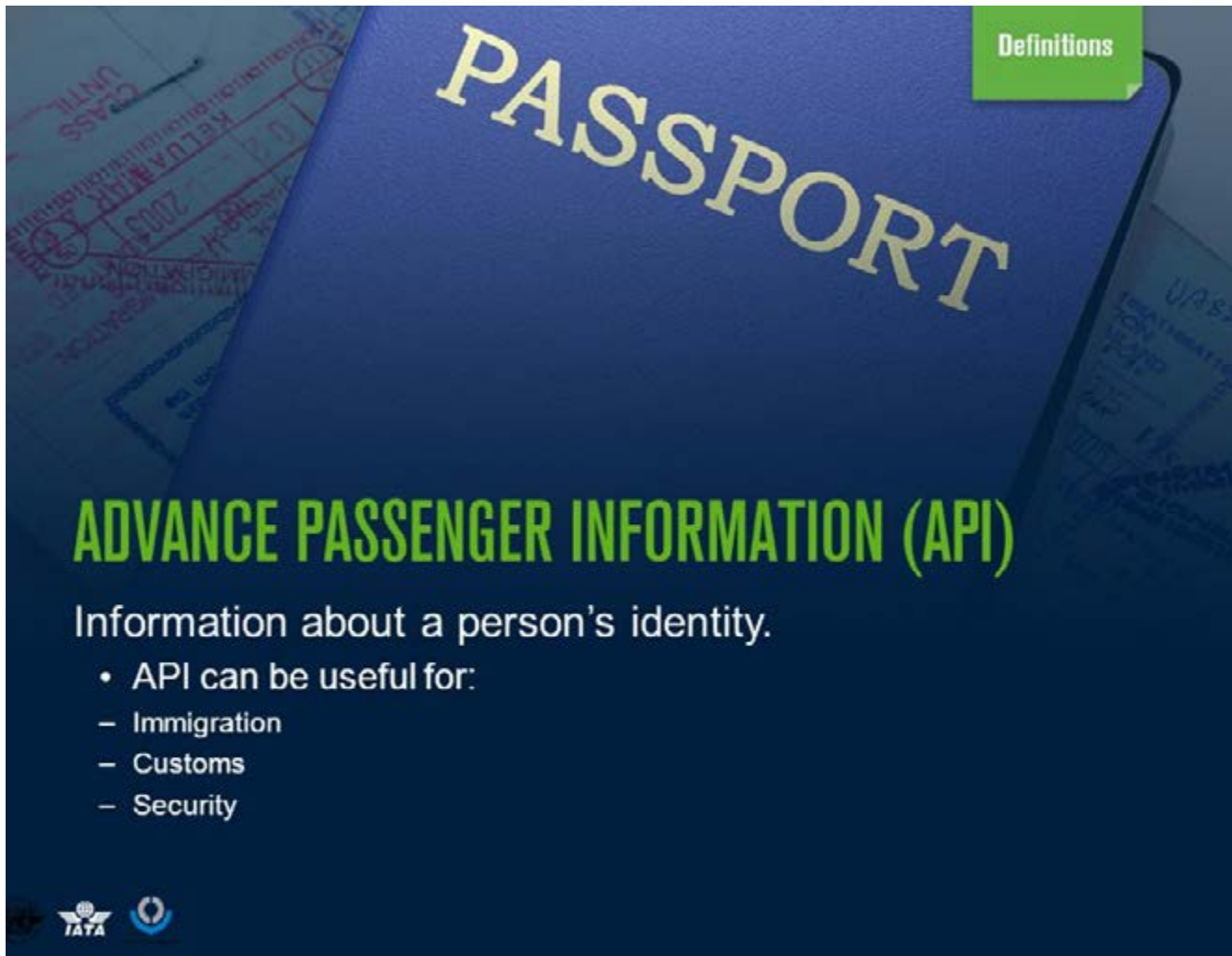
systems, and resulted in the development of a national API implementation roadmap for each country. This roadmap is a single bespoke step-by-step guide for implementing an API system that is fully compatible with the national border management infrastructure as well as requirements and objectives of resolution 2178 (2014) and other international standards and obligations.

As part of mainstreaming human rights in the Centre' work, the Centre also developed an internal guiding document to support Member States on human rights compliance in the development of API policies measures. The Centre undertook research on international human rights standards relevant to the use, transfer and retention of API, including with regard to protection of the right to privacy,



which had also been reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolutions concerning rights in the digital age. The guiding document developed from this research was further verified during the “Expert consultation meeting on ensuring human rights compliance of API legislation” in Geneva, Switzerland on 28 July 2017. A wide range of agencies participated in the meeting, including both the outgoing and incoming mandate holders of the Special Rapporteur on

the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, CTED, IATA, ICAO, INTERPOL, IOM, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).



The infographic features a dark blue background with a large, light blue 'PASSPORT' text at the top. A green tab labeled 'Definitions' is positioned in the upper right corner. Below the title, the text 'ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION (API)' is written in large, bold, green letters. Underneath, it states 'Information about a person's identity.' followed by a bulleted list: '• API can be useful for:' with sub-points '– Immigration', '– Customs', and '– Security'. At the bottom left, there are logos for IATA and another organization.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2015-37)

The API project, which was completed in December 2017, has delivered all outputs as planned. The project (1) completed five regional workshops in South and Southeast Asia (Bangkok, March 2016); the Middle East and North Africa (Amman, May 2016); Europe (Vienna, July 2016); Central Asia and the Caucasus (Almaty, December 2016); and the Sahel, Maghreb, West, Central and East Africa (Nairobi, January-February 2017); (2) held four capacity-building consultations in Malaysia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Nigeria, and Morocco; and (3) developed four national API implementation roadmaps. The total participation rate in the regional workshops was 80%, with 43 Member States out of 54 invited participating in these workshops. Post-workshop evaluation data demonstrated that most Member State participants found the workshops effective in improving their knowledge of API systems and relevant to their work.

The project has raised awareness and built capacity on API amongst 43 Member States that have been most affected by the FTF phenomenon (as prioritized by CTED) and have not previously implemented API systems. Several Member States that participated in the regional workshops have started implementing national API systems and many more Member States have requested further assistance in this regard. The project, as such, has significantly contributed to furthering the objectives of Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014), as well as subsequent resolutions 2253 (2015), 2309 (2016) and 2396 (2017).

The project illustrates the benefit of UNCCT leveraging the synergies of other UN entities, specialized agencies and international organizations. Its placement within UNOCT allowed the Centre to build on the coordination and coherence mandate to develop and implement the project in close partnership with CTED, UNODC, IOM, ICAO, INTERPOL and IATA, each bringing its specific expertise to the table. The project also demonstrates the impact of an “All-of-UN” approach as API project partners provided a joint submission to ICAO to establish a standard regarding the use of API systems by its Member States, which came into effect starting from 23 October 2017.

While the project achieved its expected outcomes, its broader impact on stemming the flow of FTFs will depend on sustained technical assistance and funding for API implementation. Many more States can benefit from the development of roadmaps by the project partners. Therefore, UNCCT is leveraging the lessons learned to include API implementation in its 4-year Border Security and Management (BSM) programme which will be launched in the first quarter of 2018 (see below).

**UNCCT-2014-33:
UNCCT Border Security
Initiative (BSI)**

Status: Completed, Quarter 3/2017

During the reporting period, UNCCT finalized the implementation of this project, which was a joint initiative with the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF). The purpose of this project was to support Member States to effectively manage and secure their national borders in order to hinder terrorists and other organized criminals from transiting through their respective countries. The project sought to enhance the capacity needs of border agencies in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel as they pertain to inter-agency cooperation, cross-border coordination and border community engagement. The project was partially funded by the United States.

As the final deliverable under this project, the Centre developed a Train-the-Trainers (ToT) curriculum on Border Security and Management (BSM), in collaboration with Morocco and the United States. The curriculum is based on the paper on the *Good Practices in Border Security and Management in the Context of Counterterrorism and Foreign Terrorist Fighters*, adopted by the GCTF in September 2017. Its objective is to assist senior-level BSM policy makers and practitioners to implement the *Good Practices* paper in alignment with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 2129 (2013), 2178 (2014) and 2309 (2016).

At all stages of its development, UNCCT held regular consultations with the US State Department’s Bureau of Counterterrorism and Multilateral Affairs, as well as Morocco’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. These

consultations were preceded by a distribution of the latest draft to project partners for their review. UNCCT also made optimum use of the wealth of information and lessons learned over the course of project implementation, including through the three regional workshops held for border practitioners from the Horn of Africa and the Sahel in 2016. The curriculum was finalized ahead of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly. It was introduced to and shared with GCTF Member States during the 8th GCTF Ministerial Meeting on 18 September 2017 in New York.

The Train the Trainers Curriculum on Border Security and Management

In 2017, UNCCT developed a Train the Trainers Curriculum on Border Security and Management (BSM) as the final deliverable of its Border Security Initiative (BSI), which sought to enhance institutional BSM capacity-building among Member States in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel region, and was jointly implemented with the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF).

The curriculum is based on the *GCTF Good Practices Paper on Border Security and Management in the Context of Counter-Terrorism and Foreign Terrorist Fighters*, and is a resource tool to facilitate the design and delivery of standardized trainings to senior-level border policy makers and practitioners.

In addition to the train the trainers methodology, it contains training materials on five BSM related thematic areas to counter terrorism and stem the flow of FTFs, namely:

- a. National Border Management Strategies and Action Plans
- b. Intra-Agency, Inter-Agency and International Cooperation
- c. Border Community Policing and Engagement
- d. Border Cooperation Centers and Liaison Officer Systems
- e. Risk Analysis, Information Exchange and Anti-Corruption Measures

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2014-33)

This project has been instrumental in facilitating a better understanding of existing challenges and priority capacity gaps among border agencies in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel region, as they relate to their capacity to prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists, including FTFs and other organized crime groups.

Since its inception in April 2015, the project has successfully delivered a series of capacity-building activities and outputs, namely, one study visit to Cairns, Australia (August 2015); one expert seminar in Vienna, Austria (September 2015); two regional workshops for countries in the Horn of Africa in Nairobi, Kenya and Djibouti City, Djibouti (December 2015 and May 2016 respectively); and one regional workshop for Sahel countries in Dakar, Senegal (May 2016). These activities provided an ideal platform to identify BSM related good practices and lessons learned, with a focus on formulating strategies for cross-border cooperation, as well as green and blue border surveillance methods and standards. They were also instrumental in informing the development of two key deliverables under the project, namely the GCTF Good Practices paper and the ToT BSM curriculum in 2016 and 2017, respectively. These good practices and lessons learned were reflected in the final project implementation report.

The 15 non-binding good practices are a useful resource to inform and guide Member States as they develop policies, programs and approaches for effective BSM, with a specific aim at strengthening cross-border cooperation and border surveillance in a counter-terrorism context. They can also be used to shape the provision of bilateral or multilateral capacity-building assistance, and could be adapted to regional and sub-regional contexts. The ToT BSM curriculum is an additional resource to facilitate the delivery of standardized trainings to senior-level policy makers and practitioners, thus strengthening their capacity to operationalize the 15 non-binding good practices in line with UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions. As agreed with the GCTF, it is foreseen that such trainings would ideally be delivered in one or two weeks, and would include participants from multiple border services in at least two countries, thus facilitating cross-border cooperation and collaboration among competent authorities.

As an additional output of this project, UNCCT developed a new and comprehensive four-year BSM programme, based on consultations with Member States, as well as relevant international and regional organizations.

**UNCCT-2017-68:
Strengthening Member State Capacities in the Area of Border Security and Management to Counter Terrorism and Stem the Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (BSM programme)**

Status: Initiated

During the reporting period, UNCCT finalized the development of a comprehensive *Programme on Border Security and Management (BSM)*, which will guide the work of the Centre in this area during the remainder of the 5-Year Programme, with the overall aim to assist Member States to prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists and stem the flow of FTFs. The programme will initially focus on Member States in the Horn of Africa and the wider Sahel region. It foresees a broad range of activities pertaining to the implementation of advance passenger information systems, cross-border cooperation at the intra-agency and inter-agency level, the development of border management strategies and action plans, as well as the provision of training and other forms of institutional capacity-building.

The programme incorporates relevant elements of the CTITF FTF Capacity-Building Implementation Plan, developed pursuant to Security Council Presidential Statement 2015/11, including the “All-of-UN” approach to addressing counter-terrorism related challenges. It is also a key deliverable from the recently concluded Border Security Initiative (BSI), which UNCCT jointly implemented with the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF). In its development, UNCCT has sought to identify areas that are currently under-addressed and that fit with its mandate, thus seeking to avoid overlaps and

duplication of efforts with other CTITF entities. These include supporting Member States to develop border management strategies that are specific to counter-terrorism, as well as to implement API systems. In its implementation, the Centre will continue to work closely with the CTITF Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement, as well as a range of relevant CTITF entities to ensure coherence and coordination. The Centre plans to launch the new BSM programme in 2018.

**UNCCT-2017-63:
Aviation Security**

Status: Initiated

Leveraging on the lessons learned and gains made through its recently concluded project on *Aviation Security in Nigeria* (see above), UNCCT developed a new and holistic Aviation Security project, which will seek to enhance the capacity of requesting Member States in aviation security training and quality assurance, and thus contribute to their efforts to counter terrorist threats to civil aviation. The new project foresees the provision of ongoing support to Nigeria, including through planning and executing the continued roll-out of aviation security training courses, as well as improving landside security at key airports across the country. It also foresees the establishment of national regulatory and supervisory bodies in new target countries in Africa to support quality assurance in aviation security screening, as well as the delivery of training to a cadre of aviation security officers and managers.

The project will contribute to the implementation of Security Council resolution 2309 (2016), which calls upon all Member States to put in place several security measures to

detect and deter terrorist threats to civil aviation, in accordance with international law. In its implementation, UNCCT will continue to engage with both CTED and ICAO to ensure that this new initiative addresses identified gaps and vulnerabilities, as called for in Security Council resolution 2309 (2016). As the project will initially focus on African countries, UNCCT will also align its capacity-building support to the Windhoek Declaration, which was adopted at the Ministerial Conference on Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa in Namibia in April 2016, and sets out 15 aviation security targets that are critical to air transport on the African continent. The project will be launched in 2018.



“All States are encouraged to strengthen their support to ICAO’s work on aviation security, ensure the implementation of the Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP) as a matter of high priority, and cooperate on global, regional, and national levels to raise the level of effective implementation of global aviation security. It will only be by virtue of sustained political will, especially at the highest levels of government and industry, that the GASeP will succeed.”

— ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu at the United Nations Security Council Briefing on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts: Aviation security”



Output 2.4: Cyber Security

OUTPUT 2.4: THROUGH UNCCT SUPPORT, REQUESTING MEMBER STATES ARE BETTER ABLE TO PREVENT TERRORIST CYBER-ATTACKS, AND MITIGATE THE EFFECTS AND EXPEDITE RECOVERY SHOULD THEY OCCUR

Potential cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure by terrorist actors are of increasing concern to Member States. In its resolution 2341 (2017), the Security Council expressed “concern that terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure could significantly disrupt the functioning of government and private sector alike and cause knock-on effects beyond the infrastructure sector” and recognized “that protection efforts entail multiple streams of efforts, such as [...] cybersecurity.” Through its 5-Year Programme, UNCCT aims to build the capacity of Member States to prevent and counter cyber-attacks by terrorist actors against critical national infrastructure, including by increasing understanding of current and emerging cyber-threats posed by terrorists, enhancing knowledge on potential solutions to increase IT security and resilience, and supporting the development of policies and practices to effectively respond to cyber-threats in an integrated manner, including in the areas of prevention, prosecution, mitigation, response and recovery.

UNCCT-2017-58:
Enhancing the Capacity of Member States to Prevent Cyber-Attacks Perpetrated by Terrorist Actors and Mitigate their Impact

Status: Ongoing

During the fifth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/70/291), Member States expressed concern at the increasing use by terrorists of information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet and other media, and the use of such technologies to commit, incite, recruit for, fund or plan terrorist acts. In its resolution 2341 (2017) the Security Council also recognized that ensuring reliability and resilience of critical infrastructure and its protection from terrorist attacks entails efforts in the area of cyber-security. This project therefore

aims to raise awareness of cyber-threats to critical infrastructure and support requesting Member States in South and Southeast Asia as well as Africa to enhance their capacity to prevent cyber-attacks and mitigate their impact. The project will be jointly implemented with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), and the INTERPOL Global Centre for Innovation (IGCI). The Government of Japan made a generous contribution in the amount of USD 400,735 to this project. The Government of the Republic of Korea contributed USD 60,000. The Centre participated in the 2017 edition of the Vienna Cyber Week that took place on 14-17 February, which provided additional insights to inform future UNOCT activities in the area of cyber-security and allowed for exchanges with international stakeholders working in this field.



OUTCOME 3: HUMAN RIGHTS AND VICTIMS (PILLAR IV)

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States ensure respect for human rights as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism

**Output 3.1 Human Rights**

**OUTPUT 3.1:
THROUGH UNCCT SUPPORT,
REQUESTING MEMBER STATES
HAVE ACCESS TO GOOD
PRACTICES ON ENSURING
RESPECT FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS WHILE COUNTERING
TERRORISM AND ARE
ENABLED TO APPLY THEM**

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy recognizes that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are complementary and mutually reinforcing goals. The Strategy, its subsequent review resolutions and relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions have repeatedly reaffirmed that any measures taken to combat terrorism must comply with international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law. UNCCT develops and implements capacity-building projects

specifically aimed at ensuring respect for human rights while preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism, while at the same time, mainstreaming human rights into all aspects of the Centre's programmatic work. The Centre develops practitioner tools and training modules on international human rights standards as they relate to counter-terrorism measures, delivers awareness raising and training workshops on ensuring a human rights compliant approach by Member States, supports Member States' efforts to mainstream human rights into national and regional counter-terrorism strategies and activities, and promotes counter-terrorism cooperation based on human rights standards including through working with civil society and the media.

**UNCCT-2015-40:
Training and Capacity Building
of Law Enforcement Officials on
Human Rights, the Rule of Law,
and the Prevention of Terrorism**

Status: Ongoing

UNCCT and the UN CTITF Working Group on Protecting and Promoting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism is currently implementing a global, multi-year project on Training and Capacity Building of Law Enforcement Officials on Human Rights, the Rule of Law and the Prevention of Terrorism (hereafter known as the "Global Project"). This Global Project provides training and technical assistance to Member States in order to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and implementation of international human rights

frameworks and the rule of law in the counter-terrorism context. The Global Project is intended to improve Member States' capacity across Africa and the Middle East to prevent, respond to and investigate terrorism threats in a human rights compliant way, supporting them in their efforts to implement measures under Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The Global Project consists of four phases which includes Phase I and II training for two different sets of enforcement and security officers and national trainers engaged in counter-terrorism measures. Phase III focuses on providing a bespoke package of assistance to the long-term needs of national authorities in their efforts to ensure the respect for human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism, through key capacity-building work which can be delivered through the UN CTITF Working Group on Protecting and Promoting Human

Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism. Phase IV focuses on monitoring and evaluation of the project. Phase I and Phase II trainings have been held throughout 2016 and 2017 in Iraq, Jordan, Nigeria and Tunisia. The multi-phase nature of the project ensures its sustainability in the long term and maximizes greater impact on the ground. Phase I and Phase II trainings were held in Mali from 6-20 February 2017 for participants from the police, judges and prosecutors, including from the newly formed counter-terrorism Pôle Judiciaire Spécialisé (consisting of judges, prosecutors and judicial police) and the police Brigade Spéciale d'Investigation (BIS) for counter-terrorism. The project continued to develop and maintain a roster of experts, who have been used as extra resources during the trainings. Project activities in the Middle East and North Africa are funded through a generous contribution from the Government of Canada.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2015-40)

Since the project's inception, a total of 250 law enforcement and security officials have been trained in Iraq, Jordan, Nigeria, Tunisia and Mali on pre-trial and detention issues through a modular curriculum, which included subjects such as the use of force, legal human rights frameworks, special investigative techniques, interviewing, and detention. These officers are now better able to undertake crucial counter-terrorism operations, while ensuring compliance with international human rights standards.

In 2018, the project will deliver a training of trainers to those Member States who are currently being trained in West Africa (Nigeria and Mali) and within the MENA region (Tunisia, Jordan, Iraq), introduce a gender sensitization element in Tunisia, and train law enforcement and security officials in Cameroon. Tunisia has been selected as a pilot country to integrate a gender element due to the government's expressed commitment to incorporate human rights into its counter-terrorism efforts and build on the existing gains of the Global Project to make it more sustainable.

Measuring Participant Satisfaction

As part of the project's implementation, UNCCT and OHCHR surveys the participants to assess the relevance of the training to their work and their satisfaction with the workshop. In all five Member States, the level of satisfaction was extremely high. In Iraq, more than 90% of participants felt that they now had a good or excellent understanding of the subject matter and all reported that the training had filled gaps in their knowledge, which indicated that the training was correctly focused and met the expectations and needs of the vast majority of participants who expressed a wish to receive further training on human rights and counter-terrorism. In Jordan, all responding participants indicated that the course either fully met or exceeded their expectations. In Nigeria, the average score for all aspects of the training was between 4 (good) and 5 (very good). In Mali, where 50 law enforcement and security officials were trained in 2017, the average rating for those who rated the training met or exceeded their expectations was 4.43 out of 5. In Tunisia, the majority of the participants rated the training as good or excellent.

UNCCT-2012-9: Basic Human Rights Reference Guides

Status: Completed, Quarter 4/2017

Under the umbrella of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group on Protecting and Promoting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism, the Centre, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), has developed six Basic Human Rights Reference Guides that seek to provide guidance on how Member States can adopt human rights compliant measures whilst countering terrorism. The Guides identify critical human rights issues and highlight respect for relevant human rights principles and standards. The six Guides focus on the following areas: (i) conformity of national counter-terrorism legislation with international human rights law; (ii) proscription of organizations in the context of countering terrorism; (iii) designing security infrastructure; (iv) stopping and searching of persons; (v) detention

in the context of counter-terrorism; and (vi) the right to a fair trial and due process in the context of countering terrorism. The Guides are intended for State authorities, including legislators, law enforcement and border officials, national and international non-governmental organizations, legal practitioners, UN agencies, and individuals involved in efforts to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of counter-terrorism. The Guides have been disseminated in a number of UNCCT human rights trainings, and are also featured on both the Centre's and OHCHR's websites.



**UNCCT-2017-65:
Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism (under BSM Programme)**

Status: Initiated

During the reporting period, the Centre, together with OHCHR, initiated the development of a human rights training module for border security and officials. The module will be for a three-day training on how to comply with international human rights standards while performing border security and management responsibilities. As the project will be an integral part of the UNCCT Border Security and Management (BSM) programme (see above), the primary target audience will be active border officials (land, air and sea). The module is being developed based on the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders (2014)* by OHCHR, which provides a comprehensive overview of applicable international human rights standards at borders. Six sections are planned, including those on human rights principles, interception, screening, referral, detention and removal. The section on screening will be further developed based on the *Handbook on International Human Rights Standards in Screening at Borders*, currently under development by the CTITF Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while

Countering Terrorism (see below). The training module is being developed in close collaboration with OHCHR’s Migration Team and Methodology, Education and Training Section. The Centre plans to launch the module through three regional workshops in 2018.

**UNCCT-2013-14-Rev:
Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards in Screening and Controlling Persons at Borders in the Counter-Terrorism Context**

Status: Ongoing

This project aims to provide guidance to Member States on how to comply with international human rights standards in the process of screening and controlling individuals at borders. A handbook on these themes will be developed





PHOTO: MINUSCA

to focus on key issues in screening, such as automatic screening using data and the right to privacy, use of profile, and special considerations for children and other vulnerable groups. The handbook will focus on senior officials, policy makers and trainers. Additionally, a pocketbook will also be developed to summarize key principles identified in the handbook with illustrations to raise awareness of officers at the frontline engaging in screening on a daily basis. During the reporting period, initial consultations were undertaken with key agencies, including OHCHR, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNCCT's border security expert, and legal research has been completed. The Centre plans to undertake a few scoping missions in 2018 to identify challenges and good practices. Both the handbook and pocketbook are to be completed, translated and printed in the second quarter of 2018.

UNCCT-2014-31: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism through Community- Oriented Policing, Rule of Law and Security Institutions

Status: Ongoing

The Centre established collaboration with the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) to develop a training module on community policing and resilience. The collaboration with DPKO was aimed to align activities under this project with DPKO's effort to develop a UN System-wide guide on community policing and to ensure the sustainability of efforts to enhance PVE efforts at community level. During the reporting year, two experts were identified to develop the training



PHOTO: UN Photo

module who subsequently held initial discussions for the framework of the module. The module will be piloted in three contexts — countries with peacekeeping missions; countries with UN political missions and countries without a UN peace operation (i.e. countries with UN Country Teams) in 2018. The project is partially funded by the United States.

UNCCT-2017-64:
Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Child Returnees

Status: Ongoing

Security Council resolution 2396 adopted in December 2017 highlights the challenges

posed to Member States by returning foreign terrorist fighters. Children accompanying such individuals raise additional challenges. While they tend to be perceived as a potential risk, Member States also have obligations to ensure that the rights of these children are respected, protected and fulfilled. To support Member States in this delicate task, the Centre is implementing a project with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. The project covers two groups of children: those who accompanied their parents to conflict zones, and those who were born to foreign terrorist fighters in conflict zones and now returning to their parents' countries of origin. The project will benefit from the lessons learned from experts working in relevant fields such as rehabilitation and reintegration of

child soldiers, treatment of child refugees and migrants, child psychologists, social welfare and education experts, and cross-cultural communication experts.

The project aims to configure these lessons learned under the umbrella of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, the Centre undertook the initial background research and consultations with key stakeholders and partners, including the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum and the United Nations University. In 2018, a handbook will be prepared to summarize good practices and lessons learned which will be shared with national level authorities through three national workshops in Europe, Lake Chad Basin and Southeast Asia. The first expert group meeting for the development of the handbook is scheduled for April 2018 in New York.

UNCCT-2017-55: Gender Mainstreaming in the Sahel for the Security Sector (with UNWOMEN)

Status: Ongoing

Gender sensitive security sector reform as it is currently practiced typically happens for women rather than with women. Often this means that women are excluded from the political processes that control security structures. The Centre, in collaboration with UN Women, is seeking to build the capacity for security actors on human rights and gender equality principles, including how their actions can contribute to radicalization processes. The Centre finalized the Contribution Agreement with UN Women and will begin implementation of the project in 2018.



PHOTO: MINUSMA



Output 3.2: Victims of Terrorism

**OUTPUT 3.2:
THROUGH UNCCT
SUPPORT, MEMBER
STATES HAVE ENHANCED
CAPACITY TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF
TERRORISM, INCLUDING
BY STRENGTHENING THEIR
VOICES**

In adopting the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Member States have recognized that the dehumanization of victims of terrorism has contributed to creating conditions to the spread of terrorism, and expressed resolve “to promote international solidarity in support of victims”. Member States have also stressed the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism. The Biennial Reviews of the Global Strategy (A/RES/66/282, A/RES/68/276, A/RES/70/291) further highlighted the important role that victims play in the counter narrative context as well as the need to support victims and strengthen the efforts of Member States in this regard. UNCCT is fully committed to supporting victims of terrorism, including by enhancing the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, building the knowledge and skills of victims of terrorism to counter the narrative of violent extremists, campaigning for global awareness on the role of victims of terrorism, and

developing and supporting projects to enhance Member States’ capacities to assist and show solidarity with victims of terrorism.

UNCCT-2015-41

**Victims media training:
Amplifying voices, building
campaigns: Training and capacity
building on the media in
establishing a communications
strategy for victims of terrorism**

Status: Completed, Quarter 1/2017

The Centre, with the support of the CTITF Working Group on Supporting and Highlighting Victims of Terrorism, completed this project which is designed to equip victims of terrorism and victims of terrorism associations with the appropriate tools and skills to strengthen their capacity, enhance their knowledge, understanding and use of the media in all its forms to better communicate their messages and play a more prominent role in countering the messages that are put forward by violent extremists.

Although many conventional responses to violent extremism have in the past been dominated by national governments, recently more non-governmental entities are confronting this spread and are able to reach a wider audience in a more credible manner. Mainstreaming victims’ voices into the countering narrative context thus can be an effective way to offset the narratives used by violent extremists as alternate, credible and powerful voices — victims’ voices can push messages countering those of violent extremists and consequently force the re-appraisal of the “single narrative”. For victims to take a more central role in this environment, they require specific skills and knowledge and an

understanding from those supporting them of the need to treat victims with dignity.

On this basis, the Centre, in collaboration with the Working Group, supported 14 victims and victims' associations to develop long-term communication strategies to put forward alternate narratives to those of violent extremists and terrorists. Three workshops were held for victims and victims' associations from across Africa and the Middle East in 2016. Participants learned key knowledge and skills related to communication campaigns, developed strategies and content pertaining to their local context, and designed individual plans and tools. The methodology of the trainings was based on simulations, role play and case studies with several interactive features such as interviews and video. Individual coaching within the training also allowed each participant to personalize the learning opportunities. The trainings provided a safe and secure environment where participants and trainers could learn from each other and speak openly and freely about their experiences. During the last training that was held in Tunisia in November 2016, a short video was produced that captured testimonies by some of the participants, as well as clips of the training on why they attended the training and the impact the training has had on their personal development, including on communications. Most of the participants' evaluations scored between 4 and 5 at the highest levels across the workshops, with considerable satisfaction from participants



PHOTO: UNCCT

on the skills gained, interaction with others, and understanding on how to get their messages across in a safe and effective manner. Almost all the participants had requested for post-training follow up and guidance to build on their strengths and consolidate their skills.

The last activity of the project was held from mid-November 2016 until mid-February 2017 and provided individual mentoring to all requesting participants. Mentoring took on several forms, and included the establishment of a Whatsapp network, which to date continues to be used very effectively by both participants and trainers to keep in touch, respond to messages, provide advice and guidance, and network. Participants were also mentored individually and numerous Skype and Whatsapp communications were held to further support participants implement their communication strategies.

One of the key activities of the project was to establish a database of individual victims of



PHOTO: Imrana Alhaji Buba

terrorism and national, regional and international victims' associations. Since the inception of the project, the Centre has outreached, networked and partnered with a number of victims and organizations and developed a database to

keep track of contacts. To date, the database has over 100 contacts from around the world and continues to be updated by the Centre as it further broadens its scope and outreach to victims of terrorism.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2015-41)

As a result of the trainings, many of the participants developed personal communication strategies that allow them to effectively deliver their key messages to target audiences. The Centre has continued to keep in touch with many of the participants of the training and supported them in their outreach and advocacy. These include a participant from Jordan who is working to establish a pan-Arab network called "ASTN: Arab Survivors of Terror Network" and has reached out to others in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia; a Libyan participant who has strengthened his work at the grassroots level; a Nigerian participant who has used various social media tools to expand his organization's online presence and begun to engage with the media and to speak more frequently at the international level; a Ugandan participant who has made several very effective public speaking presentations, including one to the UNCCT Advisory Board in September 2017; a participant from Iraq who has strengthened his organization's presence on social media and enhanced its counter-narrative component; and a Kenyan participant who has dramatically improved his skill which resulted in a number of invitations to international conferences due to his training.

Six months after the completion of the project, the Centre followed up with many of the participants to conduct a post-project evaluation. The survey, among other issues, requested participants feedback on the quality of UNCCT training and capacity building workshops, the relevance of the workshop to victims, whether the training improved their capacity to work on preventing violent extremism, and whether the acquired knowledge and skills has helped them in putting forward alternate narratives to those of violent extremists. An analysis of the post-project surveys revealed that 100% of the participants found that the training workshops enhanced their knowledge, understanding and use of conventional and social media to counter violent extremist narratives and combat the spread of terrorism and that as a result, 91% of participants had developed a communication strategy, with all the participants using the acquired knowledge and skills in their current efforts to prevent the spread of violent extremism.

UNCCT-2015-44: UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal

Status: Ongoing

Since its launch in June 2014, the Portal has been visited by approximately 300,000 users and its usership in 2017 increased by 45% since 2016.

The Portal has steadily grown into a mechanism that provides more practical information and resources for victims. It continues to be updated with relevant content and information that is responsive to victims' needs and its multimedia element has been significantly strengthened to make it more relevant, interactive and "human". Under the umbrella of "An Audience with" series, key interlocutors who work on victims of terrorism were filmed discussing their work for the Guest Interview series. To date, 10 guests have been interviewed, including the Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and human rights, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, and victims and experts from across Africa, Europe,

The UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal — there in time of need

The benefit of the Victims of Terrorism Support Portal is most significantly illustrated during the periods of well publicized terrorist attacks when the Portal registered major spikes in use. Approximately 200% more users accessed the site after attacks such as in Manchester on 22 May 2017 or in London on 4 June 2017. There is almost gender parity in users, with 46% female and 54% male users, mostly consisting of youth, with 61% aged 18-34. 2/3 of users are connected from a desktop whilst a third connected from a smartphone. Visit the Portal at: www.un.org/victimsofterrorism

the Middle-East and North America. Also, under this umbrella, the Portal launched its "Ask our expert" series on 14 December 2017, with the first guest, Ms. Jo Dover, an expert on resiliency, answering questions from the public from around the world on resilience and rehabilitation. This was the third most viewed page on the Portal. Events, activities and news continued to populate the Portal. On 9 November 2017, the Portal screened an event on victims' resilience and recovery that gathered victims and experts from Africa, Europe, the Middle-East and North America, and included

an interactive roundtable discussion and the screening of a UNOCT documentary that was watched by more than 2,000 viewers mainly from the US, China, Mexico and Russia.

UNCCT-2017-54:
Victims of Terrorism
Documentary

Status: Ongoing

One of the main objectives of the documentary series is to raise awareness on and stand in solidarity with victims and to provide a platform for victims' voices. In this respect, the Centre filmed the first in its series on victims of terrorism which profiled two survivors of the 2011 mass killings in Norway that killed 69 members of the Workers' Youth League on Utoya Island and

nine people in central Oslo. The documentary, 'Surviving terrorism: voices of Norway', shows a snapshot of the lives of Mr. Viljar Hanssen and Ms. Kamzy Gunaratnam and discusses how the events of 2011 influenced their current day-to-day thinking and how informal and formal support systems played a major role in their recuperation after the attack. The documentary was screened during an event called "Surviving Terrorism: Victims Voices" which was held on 9 November 2017 at UN Headquarters and attended by approximately 100 Member States and civil society. Victims from around the world, including Ms. Gunaratnam and Mr. Hanssen, spoke on resilience and rehabilitation during the event. The documentary was also screened on the Portal which registered an increase of 200% in viewers on that day. In the reporting period planning for the filming of additional documentaries in early 2018 was undertaken.



PHOTO: UNICEF



PHOTO: UNCCT

UNCCT-2017-56: **Good Practices Handbook to Empower and Strengthen Victims of Terrorism Associations to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism**

Status: Ongoing

Victims of terrorism associations have been established across Africa and the Middle East where they cater to the needs and requirements of people who have been directly impacted by a terrorist attack. Different associations provide support and assistance in unique ways relevant to their national context and on a wide variety of issues. As part of the recommendations of the 2016 International Conference on the Rights of Victims of Terrorism, the Centre worked on implementing a project that seeks to strengthen the efforts and effectiveness of

Victims of Terrorism Associations through the development of a “Handbook of Good Practices”. Representatives of victims’ associations from Africa, the Middle East, Europe and North America participated in four (4) closed expert meetings to discuss and develop good practices. The experts meetings were on: (i) victims roles in preventing violent extremism held in Nairobi, Kenya on 28-30 June 2017, (ii) financial and non-financial assistance for victims of terrorism held in Dakar, Senegal on 20-22 September 2017, (iii) how to build and sustain resiliency at the community and individual levels held in Casablanca, Morocco on 2-4 August 2017, and (iv) civil society collaboration with national authorities to better promote and protect the rights of victims at the Dead Sea, Jordan on 23-25 August 2017. The Centre will be holding a conference in Accra, Ghana in early 2018 to validate the good practices in the draft handbook before its publication.

OUTCOME 4: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (PILLAR III)

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States, UN entities and other stakeholders cooperate to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism



Output 4.1: Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT)

**OUTPUT 4.1:
I-ACT IS PROMOTED AND
EXPANDED TO COVER
ADDITIONAL REQUESTING
MEMBER STATES AND
PRIORITY GAPS ARE
IDENTIFIED AND ADDRESSED
IN A COHERENT MANNER BY
RELEVANT CTITF ENTITIES**

In 2017, UNOCT-UNCCT continued to promote an integrated, strategic and system-wide approach to capacity-building for the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through its Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative. I-ACT aims to support requesting governments and regional organizations in their implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the national and regional level in a coordinated and coherent manner. To improve coordination, coherence, information-sharing

and joint analysis of needs among CTITF entities participating in capacity-building activities under the I-ACT framework, UNOCT-UNCCT organizes joint missions with CTITF entities to Mali and the G5 Sahel. “All-of-UN” framework documents and analysis of needs for capacity-building support have helped inform the regional I-ACT for the G5 Sahel composed of strategic, mutually supportive, and gender-sensitive projects that mainstream human rights. In carrying out its work, the UNCCT I-ACT Unit continued to deepen its partnership with I-ACT-supported countries through regular consultations and carefully worked in line with the priorities identified by these countries.

UNCCT Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Voronkov visited Mali and Mauritania in December 2017 during which he discussed UNOCT-UNCCT’s current and future engagement with the G5 Sahel region. The visit sent a strong signal to the region, confirming that the Sahel is key in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. The I-ACT Unit also developed strong partnerships with donors funding the I-ACT initiative, regional organizations such as the G5 Sahel Secretariat, and UN field presences such as the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).



Mr. Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and Mr. Yahya Ould Hademine, Prime Minister of Mauritania

PHOTO: UNCCT

REGIONAL I-ACT FRAMEWORK

UNCCT-2017-74:

Supporting the Regional Efforts of G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism

Status: Ongoing

The UNCCT project *Supporting Regional Efforts of the G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism* was launched in April 2017 for a 14-month period under the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative for the G5 Sahel, and is being implemented in close cooperation with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat. The project aims to help implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary-

General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in the G5 Sahel region. The initiative is led in response to the Security Council's request that I-ACT be expanded to the G5 Sahel to ensure an "All-of-UN" approach. It engages Government officials of the G5 Sahel countries from relevant agencies involved in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, as well as civil society organizations from the G5 Sahel region complementing such efforts. The regional I-ACT Framework is being implemented in conjunction with the national I-ACT initiative for Mali.

The key areas of the regional I-ACT are based on a needs assessment conducted by UN entities including by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and are aligned with the priorities set by the G5 Sahel countries, namely: i) preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism; ii) border



Mr. Voronkov, Under-Secretary General, Office of Counter-Terrorism visiting Mali

PHOTO: MINUSMA

management and cross-border cooperation; iii) rule of law and criminal justice; and iv) overall coordination. To further validate the draft I-ACT Framework for the G5 Sahel with capacity-building partners and the G5 Permanent Secretariat, UNOCT-UNCCT deployed a mission to Dakar on 3-5 May 2017 and to Nouakchott on 11-12 May 2017. The timing of this project was extremely opportune, as the project is implemented while the UN system has redoubled its efforts to support the G5 Sahel in light of the security situation in the region. Given that one of the key objectives of the G5 Sahel Joint Force is countering terrorism, UNOCT-UNCCT's support has been essential to strengthen the region's civilian counter-terrorism efforts, and to support a multidimensional approach to the crisis in the region.

In early 2017, to speed up the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), the Secretary-General assigned the Deputy Secretary-General the task of mobilizing the entire system to support the region through an Executive Committee Working Group (ECWG) on the Sahel, comprising the Heads of UN offices, agencies, funds and programmes. ECWG agreed to a division of labour among UN entities in the region, conducted a mapping exercise of ongoing programmes by the UN and other actors in order to identify gaps and is developing an investment plan for mobilizing resources. UNOCT/UNCCT has been an active member of the ECWG and is intensifying efforts to ensure that its efforts are fully integrated into UNISS.

In the last quarter of 2017, UNOCT/UNCCT undertook preparations for its participation in the UN Regional Directors' meeting with the G5 Sahel scheduled for 28-29 January 2018 in Nouakchott. The meeting aims to: i) renew the political engagement between the UN and the G5 Sahel; ii) determine and define the operational modalities and perspectives of cooperation between the two Organizations; and iii) lead sectoral discussions on governance, security, resilience, infrastructures and development.

UNCCT has worked to finalize the modalities of its partnership with UNESCO in organizing a regional workshop on the role of education in preventing violent extremism, which will focus on measures taken in the education sector in selected countries to respond to recruitment of youth by terrorist groups. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed and the activity is expected to take place in 2018. The

exercise will involve youth groups, teachers, families, communities, the media, policy makers, academics and practitioners to debate and suggest practical solutions to prevent young people from joining terrorist organizations and to engage them in initiatives to promote peace and intercultural dialogue.

The Centre has planned a regional capacity-building workshop for law enforcement officials on intra-agency and inter-agency cooperation on best practices to address and prevent kidnapping for ransom which is tentatively scheduled for April 2018. The exercise will involve police, first responders, investigators and hostage negotiators from selected countries that will have to respond to specific hostage taking scenarios with the objective of securing safe release of hostages without the payment of ransom, and ensure terrorists do not benefit from ransom payments.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2017-74)

In May 2017, UNCCT recruited a Nouakchott-based consultant, administrated by UNOWAS, who has been providing technical advice to the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat on the operationalization of the G5 Sahel regional cell on countering radicalization and prevention of violent extremism (CELLRAD). The consultant provides continuous and on-site technical assistance, mentorship and advice for the full operationalization of the CELLRAD and national antennas. The consultant identifies technical assistance needs and potential donors to sustain the future operationalization of the CELLRAD through consultations, meetings and discussions with relevant stakeholders. Through this support, the Centre helped improve the visibility of the cell and increased awareness about its importance.

UNCCT has worked in close consultation with CTITF entities and G5 Sahel regional partners on assessing the expertise required for drafting a handbook on good practices for community resilience in the G5 Sahel region. This handbook will contain a case-study of the shared experiences, lessons learned and good practices from selected communities of the G5 countries, including cross-border communities.

With the generous support of the Peace and Development Fund established in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General through a contribution by the People's Republic of China, UNCCT conducted a four-day regional table-top exercise on border security and management for the G5 Sahel States on 5-8 September 2017 in Niamey, Niger. This workshop was organized in collaboration with the G5 Permanent Secretariat and UNOWAS G5 Liaison Cell in Nouakchott, Mauritania to ensure that its design and delivery aligned with the needs of the G5 Sahel countries. With the participation of 21 senior BSM practitioners from the G5 Sahel countries, the workshop focused on strengthening intra-agency and inter-agency cooperation, with a view to countering terrorism and stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters in the G5 Sahel region. Participants identified a range of models related to border community engagement, border community policing, effective border surveillance methods, risk analysis and risk management, and gaps and needs assessments. They further enhanced their capacity to develop tactical targets and appropriate measures to enable them to make appropriate decisions and transfer these decisions into an operational plan. They were also trained on how to organize and coordinate a BSM law enforcement operation, and effective and coordinated law enforcement cross-border interventions. The table-top exercise served as a useful platform to explore and identify potential gaps and needs of G5 Sahel States in BSM management, organization, education and training, border surveillance and related equipment, and to improve the understanding of participants on the common challenges faced by the G5 countries in BSM.

NATIONAL I-ACT FRAMEWORK

UNCCT-2014-36: Enhancing the Capacity of Mali's Security and Justice Sectors to Counter Terrorism (I-ACT)

Status: Ongoing

In 2017, UNCCT continued to assist Mali in strengthening the capacity of its security and justice sectors to counter terrorism under the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) framework, and with funding from the United States, conducted a series of capacity-building activities. These included two

workshops, facilitated by UNODC, to enhance the capacity of Malian criminal justice officials and judicial cooperation; two workshops, facilitated by the Government of Turkey, to increase the ability of Malian law enforcement officials to develop strategies to prevent suicide attacks and understand the process of radicalization that leads to terrorism, while focusing on operation, investigation and intelligence; and two trainings, conducted under the Global Project of the CTITF Working Group on Protecting and Promoting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism, to build the capacity of Malian law enforcement and judicial officials to fully comply with international human rights obligations while countering terrorism. In total,

more than 250 officials received training under the I-ACT Mali framework in 2017. UNCCT also funded a “Training of Trainers” project on responding to suicide bombers which was developed by MINUSMA’s Justice and Corrections Section in collaboration with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the United Nations Police (UNPOL). Ten inert suicide bombing awareness training-kits, procured by MINUSMA and funded by UNCCT, were donated for use as training materials by Malian trainers to ensure the sustainability of UNCCT’s efforts.

UNCCT also supported the development of a comprehensive national strategy on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism in Mali entitled “Politique Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte Contre l’Extrémisme Violent”. A UNCCT Bamako-based consultant supported the development of this Strategy in close cooperation with the Malian Steering Committee, MINUSMA, CTED, UN Country Team, particularly UNDP Mali, and other relevant stakeholders. The “All-of-UN” support to the drafting process helped ensure the timely completion of a comprehensive Strategy. The draft Strategy was finalized by the drafting Committee and was approved by the Malian Cabinet on 20 November 2017. The work to develop a sectoral Plan of Action that would support the implementation of the Strategy is ongoing, and will ultimately serve



PHOTO: UNCCT

as the basis for the third phase of the UNCCT’s I-ACT programming in Mali.

During Under-Secretary-General Voronkov’s visit to Mali in December, the country’s Minister of Religious Affairs and Worship, responsible for the process of drafting the national counter-terrorism and PVE strategy, expressed appreciation for UNOCT/UNCCT’s support and emphasized the Government’s commitment to the adoption and implementation of the Strategy. With the adoption of the Strategy, the Government of Mali will commit to funding 33% of the projects established under the Plan of Action, and will seek funding from the UN and bilateral partners for the remaining activities. In the next phase of engagement, the Centre will continue to work with the Government to seek ways to support the implementation of the country’s national Strategy and its Plan of Action.



Output 4.2: Supporting CTITF

**OUTPUT 4.2:
RELEVANT CTITF ENTITIES
HAVE AN ENHANCED
CAPACITY, WITHIN THEIR
MANDATE, TO ADDRESS
TERRORISM AND VIOLENT
EXTREMISM, INCLUDING IN
PARTICULAR THROUGH JOINT
EFFORTS**

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) was established by the Secretary-General in 2005 and endorsed by the General

Assembly in 2006 through the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to enhance coordination and coherence of counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system. The Task Force consists of 38 UN Secretariat departments, agencies, funds and programmes, affiliated organizations and INTERPOL, all contributing to the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through their individual mandates. It organizes its work through 12 inter-agency Working Groups each specializing in a thematic priority area. The Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and the UNCCT Executive Director, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, is the Chairman of CTITF. UNCCT's positioning within UNOCT allows the Centre to jointly develop, fund and implement capacity-building projects with CTITF entities and its Working Groups, and thus leverage the combined expertise to ensure maximum impact across a range of counter-terrorism subjects. These efforts to enhance coherence, coordination and efficiency will be bolstered further by the adoption of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which was developed in late 2017 and will be signed



PHOTO: UNCCT

by the Secretary-General and the Heads of all 38 CTITF entities in early 2018. The Compact will provide an agreed framework for action-oriented collaboration among all CTITF entities.

UNCCT-2013-26: Enhancing Inter-Agency Interoperability and Coordinated Communications in the Event of a Chemical or Biological Attack (Phase II)

Status: Completed, Quarter 2/2017

In the absence of a lead international agency bearing overall responsibility for responding to terrorist attacks involving chemical or biological weapons, this project aims at enhancing the ability of international organizations to intervene and effectively operate together in the provision of assistance to affected Member States. More specifically, the project fosters enhanced protection of human communities and the provision of assistance when Member States' local capacities are overwhelmed or specialized international response expertise is required. Nineteen entities¹, including UN offices, agencies

and other international organizations, participate in the project. In 2017, the project concluded its second phase of implementation (Phase II) and entered the preparatory and planning stage for a third phase (Phase III).

During Phase II, an Inter-Agency Table-Top Exercise was held at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague, the Netherlands on 18-20 January 2017, with the support of UNCCT and the Government of Canada. The exercise, which was the first of its kind, simulated inter-agency coordination of response activities and communication following a chemical and biological terrorist attack. A report, identifying key lessons and recommendations on the exchange of information, needs assessments, response and communication at policy and strategic levels was produced. A publication containing the outputs of the project's first two phases was also produced for international dissemination which concluded Phase II. Following a strategic review of the preliminary results of Phase II, the Working Group elected to reorient the work plan during Phase III to focus on the implementation of the recommendations, instead of further exercises, with the understanding that this would enhance the project's impact. In this regard, a roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations by the participating agencies was developed.

With the completion of Phase II in May 2017, preparation for Phase III commenced and a proposal for the implementation of the key recommendations was drafted under the leadership of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the OPCW, co-chairs of the CTITF Inter-Agency Working Group on Preventing and Responding to Terrorist Attacks. From October–December 2017, UNCCT undertook outreach to promote results and build momentum for Phase III. This included

¹ 1540 Committee Group of Experts, Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Maritime Organization, International Criminal Police Organization, International Maritime Organization, World Organisation for Animal Health, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and UNOCHA/United Nations Environment Programme Joint Environment Unit, United Nations Department of Public Information, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, World Customs Organization and World Health Organization.



PHOTO: UNCCT



participation in conferences and workshops organized by stakeholders such as the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (UNODA BWC ISU), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, the World Organization for Animal Health, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction.

On 13 December 2017, UNCCT convened a High-Level Event at the United Nations Headquarters. The event entitled “Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction Attacks: Better Together” was opened by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, Assistant-Secretary-General Michèle Coninx. Speakers from Canada, Malaysia, the United States, IAEA, OPCW, UNODA BCW ISU and WHO discussed the threat of WMD/CBRN terrorism and preparedness and response. In

this regard, Mr. Voronkov called for effective partnerships and invited Member States to engage in Phase III.

In early 2018, a Meeting of Focal Points will be organized at the OPCW in The Hague to agree on the recommendations and activities to be implemented in Phase III. It is envisaged that Phase III will be launched in the second quarter of 2018. UNCCT will also seek to expand its WMD/CBRN counter-terrorism activities in 2018. Strategic objectives in this regard will be to advance understanding of the threat of WMD/CBRN terrorism; broaden capacity-building activities to support prevention, preparedness and response in Member States, including in the areas of border and custom control, strategic trade control, illicit trafficking, and the security of critical infrastructure; develop partnerships to contribute to the ongoing capacity-building efforts of the international community; and improve visibility and support mobilization of additional resources.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2013-26)

The primary responsibility of ensuring the safety of citizens in the event a terrorist attack involving chemical and/or biological weapons and coordinating the international organizations involved ultimately rests with the affected Member State. There is no single lead international agency bearing overall responsibility for response coordination. While Phase I concluded that coordination is critical for eliminating gaps and duplication of effort, facilitating the division of responsibility, and establishing mechanisms for information sharing, planning and collaboration; Phase II laid the groundwork to build upon this conclusion and to develop a framework for testing inter-agency cooperation. Preventing harm is challenging, due in part to the difficulty of identifying a common approach among agencies whose mandates, methods, resources and systems are diverse. The inter-agency table-top exercise, report and recommendations, road map and publication which have been produced during Phase II greatly contributed to overcoming this challenge. An evaluation following the inter-agency table-top exercise illustrated participants' high level of satisfaction and concluded that the exercise had met its objectives and provided "an important step towards improving cooperation and coordination among agencies in response to a chemical or biological attack". It is further expected that the project's impact will be amplified during Phase III with the implementation of the key recommendations.

UN FTF Capacity Building Implementation Plan

The UN General Assembly encouraged all Member States to address the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighters with the support of the United Nations in the resolution adopted at the end of the Fourth Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The General Assembly further welcomed the development of the Implementation Plan and "encourage[d] Member States to provide needed financial and other assistance to the Task Force and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre for the effective delivery of the projects mentioned in that plan, in close consultation with Member States." The Security Council, in its Presidential Statement 2015/11, strongly recommended that the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Office, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities (AQMT), develop the FTF Capacity-Building Implementation Plan through its inter-agency FTF Working Group.

In line with its mandate to support coordination and coherence, UNCCT in 2017 continued to support the evolution of the Plan by providing substantive and programme development expertise. Following an update of the Plan, 13 CTITF entities had submitted 50 project proposals to UNOCT. The project proposals address the entire "life cycle" of the FTF phenomenon, including radicalization, travel, financing, and prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, should they return. The budgets of individual proposals amount to USD 107 million. Member States have thus far provided approximately USD 34 million (32%) of the total budget. UNCCT is contributing approximately USD 9.5 million (9%) to several projects as catalytic seed funding.

**UNCCT-2016-77:
Building Capacity for
States in Africa to Prevent
the Acquisition of Arms
and Ammunition by
Non-State Actors**

Status: Completed, Quarter 1/2017

As part of the implementation of UNCCT's programme on addressing the threat of Foreign Terrorist Fighters, the Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA) organized a training of trainer's workshop based on its "inter-institutional course for the fight against the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons (SALW)" in Yaoundé from 24 to 28 January 2017 in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) and the Government of Cameroon. The main objective of the workshop, funded by UNCCT, was the implementation of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) through the strengthening of capacities of African States to prevent the acquisition of arms and ammunition by non-State actors, such as terrorists and other armed groups. The training, focusing on Lake Chad Basin countries (Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria) was expanded to Burkina Faso and Mauritania. It pursued four main objectives: (i) promote comprehensive and coherent actions to implement UNSCR 2178 (2014) on threats to peace and security caused by terrorist action; (ii) prevent, combat and reduce the acquisition of arms and ammunition by non-State armed groups, including terrorists, by identification of capacity-building needs, sharing good practices, and offering solutions; and (iii) complementing sub-regional efforts in the field of judicial and military cooperation



PHOTO: UN Photo

to combat terrorism, as agreed at the Niamey Summit of October 2015.

A total of 37 national and regional officials from different sectors of the defence and armed forces participated in the workshop: Burkina Faso (4), Cameroon (8), Mauritania (2), Niger (5), Nigeria (4) and Chad (4); as well as officers from the Multinational Joint Task Force² (10). The intense debate and analysis that took place during the training demonstrated the level of ownership and importance participants attached to these issues.

² The Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) is a combined multinational formation, comprising units, mostly military, from Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. It is headquartered in N'Djamena and is mandated to combat the Boko Haram insurgency.

Results/Impact (UNCCT-2016-77)

In evaluating the training, participants noted that they had a better understanding of the challenges and issues related to SALW proliferation and armed violence in general. They are now better able to train compatriots on these issues. The participants made recommendations that will be reviewed to improve the manual and the training programme. It was suggested that there is a need to extend the training to additional State actors, beyond security sector personnel, involved in combating the proliferation and illicit trade in SALW. In addition, there was a call to increase the involvement of civil society.

UNCCT-2013-21: UNCCT List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors

UNCCT continued to maintain *the List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors* to provide capacity-building assistance to Member States, UN peacekeeping operations, UN special political missions and UN Country Teams as requested. The Centre established an effective mechanism to provide capacity-building assistance to Member States in the following thematic areas: 1) preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism; 2) addressing the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon, including their return; 3) development of counter-terrorism strategies; 4) countering the financing of terrorism; 5) border security and management; 6) cyber security; 7) respecting, protecting and promoting human rights; 8) protecting and promoting the rights of victims of terrorism; 9) integrated assistance to counter terrorism (I-ACT); 10) counter-terrorism support through an "All-of-UN" approach; 11) network of counter-terrorism actors; and 12) South-South cooperation in the field.

In 2017, the Centre mobilized and deployed six (6) Advisors. These advisors provided policy and

technical advice to Member States in developing regional counter-terrorism strategies, preventing foreign terrorist fighters travel, the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, border management and advance passenger information (API).

Specifically, the Centre mobilized an Advisor to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Region who assisted the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) with the development of the CARICOM Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In June 2017, the Advisor attended a CARICOM Counter-Terrorism Strategy Conference organized by the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) and provided technical and policy advice to develop the CARICOM Action Plan to guide the implementation of the CARICOM Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In 2018, UNOCT will continue to support the CARICOM Member States in the implementation of the regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In addition, UNOCT/UNCCT continued its efforts to strengthen its partnership with the League of Arab States (LAS), including with the Arab Interior Minister Council (AIMC) of the LAS, which officially requested support from UNOCT

to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the PVE Plan of Action in the Arab World. In this regard, an Advisor attended the first Conference of a Committee of Arab States established to help ensure regular dialogue with UNOCT in Tunis in November 2017. The Advisor also supported the finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at formalizing the cooperation between UNOCT and the General-Secretariat of the AIMC.

The Centre engaged an Advisor for the preparation of the end-of project report for the Border Security Initiative (BSI). The Advisor also supported the review of a draft handbook and training module on international human rights standards in the screening of individuals at borders for the project *Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards in Screening Persons at Borders in the Counter-Terrorism Context*. The Centre employed another Advisor for the completion of the project *Advance Passenger Information (API)* and for finalizing the end-of-project report.

Additionally, another Advisor supported deliverables for a coordinated UN System-wide approach on preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism. The Advisor's work has focused on establishing the PVE web platform to enhance coordination among CTITF entities on PVE-related efforts, as well as on the development of a PVE Reference Guide which will serve as a tool for Member States, experts and practitioners in drafting national and regional PVE Plans of Action in accordance with the guidelines set out in the UN PVE Plan of Action.

UNCCT-2017-73: Seed-Funding for CTITF Working Group Projects

UNCCT initiated seed-funding to select projects developed by the 12 CTITF Working Groups for 2017-2018 with a total budget of USD 1,356,000. The seed funding is intended to incentivize the work of the Working Groups, promote coordination and coherence and allow for additional fundraising for projects. It will also provide the Chairs of the Working Groups with more flexibility to address programmatic needs, within the overall strategic framework of their Annual Work Plans. The initiative will create shared responsibility among CTITF entities within the different Working Groups and leverage their resources and expertise to promote an "All-of-UN" approach in project development and implementation. Three project proposals for UNCCT seed-funding were approved in early 2018 and nine proposals are under consideration on the 12 thematic areas, including in the areas of border management and law enforcement, protection of critical infrastructure, legal and criminal justice responses, promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law, national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, support to victims of terrorism, countering the financing of terrorism, prevention of violent extremism, preventing and responding to WMD attacks, communications, and gender-sensitive approach to preventing and countering terrorism. Implementation of these projects is expected to start in 2018.



Output 4.3: Network Related to Counter-Terrorism

OUTPUT 4.3: THROUGH UNCCT SUPPORT, PROFESSIONAL LINKAGES BETWEEN RELEVANT GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COUNTER-TERRORISM CENTRES HAVE BEEN ENHANCED

Global counter-terrorism efforts have led to the creation of specialized centres of excellence, training centres, resource institutions, think tanks and Government-sponsored entities and initiatives that house a wealth of knowledge on a variety of issues related to counter-terrorism. Such efforts are often conducted in relative isolation. In order to expand their reach to outside the country or region of activity, UNCCT supports digital platforms and initiatives that facilitate information exchange and cooperation among national, regional and international counter-terrorism centres, reinforcing their collaboration with the UN while contributing to building professional linkages in counter-terrorism.

UNCCT-2013-24:

Fostering International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Promoting Collaboration between National, Regional and International Counter-Terrorism Centres and Initiatives (Network Against Terrorism, Phase II)

Status: Ongoing

Since its establishment, UNCCT has organized two International Conferences on “Engaging Partners for Capacity-Building with Counter-Terrorism Centres”, which were held in Saudi Arabia and Brussels in February 2013 and October 2014, respectively. One conclusion from these conferences was to strengthen the common response of these centres to the evolving threat of terrorism by creating a dynamic web tool that would allow direct engagement in real-time by using the advantages of the Internet. Since 2014, UNCCT has worked to develop a web portal prototype called “the UNCCT Network Against Terrorism” (NAT), which integrates a graphical search engine and enables the centres to share counter-terrorism information such as experts, projects, areas of expertise, geographical expertise, events and publications.

In 2016, the functionalities of the NAT web portal were developed and implemented and all data was populated into the web portal. Moreover, the security aspects of the portal were tested and reinforced by the security team of the UN Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT). In 2017, the NAT portal was further populated with data collected from fifteen (15) counter-terrorism centres as well as with data related to the counter-terrorism work of CTITF entities. The platform currently contains data related to more than 200 counter-terrorism

projects and 100 counter-terrorism experts and has significantly contributed to exploring potential synergies and areas of collaboration between counter-terrorism centres. Also in the reporting period, a soft launch of the NAT platform was organized with five participating counter-terrorism centres to obtain direct user feedback on the usability of the tool and possible improvements. As a result of this soft launch, additional useful functionalities such as flat search, thematical synergy detector and geographical synergy detector, were developed and included in the final version of the NAT portal. Following the planned official launch of the NAT portal in 2018, the portal will see a substantive increase in the volume of data input, data sharing and rate of data interaction.



Results/Impact (UNCCT-2013-24)

The initial data population performed during 2017 resulted in the identification of 46 new linkages for potential cooperation between participating global, regional and national counter-terrorism centres. This number of professional linkages is expected to grow significantly in 2018 thanks to the strong connectivity of the centres' graph network and the amount of data which will be provided to the platform by the centres once the NAT is officially launched. The NAT portal as such will continue to serve an important function in facilitating the sharing of information, expertise, and best practices, and strengthening virtual coordination and cooperation among counter-terrorism centres at the global, regional and national levels.



Output 4.4: South-South and Triangular Cooperation

OUTPUT 4.4: THROUGH UNCCT SUPPORT, SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COUNTER- TERRORISM CAPACITY BUILDING COOPERATION HAS BEEN ENHANCED

There are valuable experiences and lessons learned in the global South, especially in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and South America, which would support other nations in developing effective counter-terrorism strategies and

mechanisms that reflect global best practices. African, Asian and South American experts are particularly well-placed to contribute their expertise and experience to South-South cooperation including in areas such as developing national PVE plans and national counter-terrorism initiatives across varied counter-terrorism disciplines; reintegrating former terrorist fighters into societies; countering terrorist groups' exploitation of information and communication technologies; countering terrorist financing; enhancing cooperation in counter-terrorism mechanisms; developing specific counter-terrorism legislative frameworks; and promoting women's participation in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism.

In many of the counter-terrorism activities organized by UNCCT, participants from the global South have expressed appreciation of relevant information from other participants from the South. In senior level engagements, Member States have offered to share their experiences in counter-terrorism in a more sustained manner, including by offering training courses on specific counter-terrorism challenges, and others have expressed an interest in receiving training from other developing countries. To optimize the use of available capacities and expertise in the global South on counter-terrorism, UNCCT has developed capacity-building initiatives that facilitate engagement and promote knowledge sharing between experts, practitioners, and policy makers from Africa, Asia and South America.

UNCCT-2017-70: Promoting South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism through the Sharing of Best Practices

Status: Initiated

During the reporting period, UNCCT developed a project to strengthen South-South exchange of expertise on countering terrorism between experts from Africa, Asia and South America and enhance counter-terrorism and PVE cooperation among the countries from the global South. The project will be launched in 2018. The project will mobilize experts, practitioners and policy makers from Africa, Asia and South America, to identify and share best practices to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, as well as to create and sustain a network of practitioners using UNCCT's existing tools such as the Network against Terrorism (NAT) portal. Through the envisaged capacity-building support, the project will contribute to achieving Output 4.4 of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme on South-South cooperation including through establishing fora of most affected countries in regions of the global South and collecting good practices and sharing lessons learned on South-South and triangular cooperation on counter-terrorism. The project is part of a broader initiative that will encompass several strands including mainstreaming South-South cooperation in the policies, projects and programming processes of UNOCT/UNCCT.

SECTION III

III. Programme and Project Management

Human Rights and Gender

The Centre continued to enhance its efforts to support Member States concerning Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy — human rights and the rule of law. The recruitment of a human rights officer strengthened the Centre’s capacity to both increase its work on human rights in the counter-terrorism context as well as to mainstream human rights in its work in other areas. As summarized in the report above, a few projects newly developed this year focused on human rights considerations in particular areas of counter-terrorism, such as border security and management and addressing the FTF phenomenon. The exercise to develop an internal guidance document on adopting advance passenger information policy measures in compliance with human rights obligations is another example of such efforts. To further enhance human rights mainstreaming in all projects, the Centre initiated the practice to have project concept notes and project documents reviewed to identify any human rights considerations and to integrate such considerations in these documents.

Similarly, the Centre made considerable efforts to mainstream gender both in how it operates and in its substantive work. The Centre’s Human Rights Officer serves as the Gender Focal Point and is assisted by a full-time gender advisor.

All project documents of ongoing projects were reviewed from a gender perspective, and the project managers received suggestions on how to better integrate a gender perspective in the implementation of their projects. To further support UNCCT staff to integrate a gender dimension in developing and implementing projects, a UNOCT “Gender Mainstreaming Staff Toolkit” was developed, including a short introductory guide and a list of questions to be considered in developing projects. All UNCCT staff received a gender-mainstreaming capacity-building briefing which provided an overview of key terms and the women, peace and security agenda, highlighted relevant research on the broad spectrum of roles women play in preventing and supporting violent extremism and terrorism, and addressed how to effectively use the toolkit. The briefings were held in small-group settings with many technical questions raised. Securing nominations for female participants for capacity-building activities by Member States was presented as one of the continuous challenges.

Further, the Centre adopted a gender marker system — a methodology used by many UN entities to assess the gender-responsiveness of each project and related budgets by assigning a certain scale. Trainings will be held in early 2018 on the gender marker system with the assignment of a gender marker for each UNCCT project expected to be standard practice moving forward. The marker system will allow UNCCT to assess its progress toward meeting the Secretary-General’s 2015 call for 15 per cent of all countering violent extremism funds to be committed to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

During the reporting period, UNCCT expanded its awareness raising activities around the importance of gender mainstreaming in

countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism and the Centre’s work in this area. A UNOCT/UNCCT series of brown bag discussions was initiated to mainstream gender into the thematic areas of focus of the CTITF Working Groups. The first session was held in December 2017 together with the CTITF Working Group on Victims and the Office of the Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflicts. The session focused on addressing the needs of survivors of sexual violence perpetrated by ISIL (Da’esh), featuring a Yazidi survivor and two medical professionals who have treated victims. The series will be continued in 2018. A side-event co-hosted by UNOCT/UNCCT and UN Women at the margin of the Commission on the Status of Women will also be held in March 2018. In 2017, UNCCT also worked closely with the gender advisor for UNOWAS to support their high-level event “Women, Violence and Terrorism in West Africa and the Sahel region: Building A Regional/ International Response”.

During the reporting period, the Centre also started developing a few projects with focus on gender equality in the counter-terrorism and PVE context along with the priorities identified under the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. One project under development focuses on the impact of measures to counter terrorist financing on women’s groups, while another focuses on empowering female law enforcement and security officers in the counter-terrorism and PVE context. These projects will be further developed in 2018 in close consultation with key partners, including UN Women.

Finally, in 2017, UNOCT’s gender focal point and the gender advisor advanced gender-mainstreaming efforts throughout the Office of Counter-Terrorism. In compliance with the



PHOTO: MINUSMA

Secretary-General's System-wide Strategy on Gender Parity, an implementation plan of the Strategy for UNOCT was developed in close consultation with the Executive Office/DPA, Office of Human Resources Management and UN Women. The plan, with the strong support of the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, among others, aims to achieve gender parity at P2, P3, and P4 levels by the end of 2018 and P5 and D1 levels by the end of 2019. Within UNOCT, UNCCT is already well on track in this regard as of the end of 2017, 12 female and 10 male staff in the professional category are covered under UNCCT funding. As a new UN entity, UNOCT will annually report into the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality

and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP) in January for the 2018 reporting year. The actions that would set UNOCT on a path to eventually meet the UN-SWAP's performance indicators, including in terms of recruitment and retention, were also initiated.

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Centre is strongly committed to continue to improve its ability to monitor and evaluate its contribution to the implementation of all four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as outlined in the 5-Year



PHOTO: UN Women

Programme. To this effect, the Centre finalized a comprehensive “Programme Results Framework” in May 2017, with the support of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) expert consultant and through consultations with project managers and the UNCCT Advisory Board. The Results Framework allows the Centre to systematically monitor progress in achieving the outputs and outcomes of the 5-Year Programme based on a set of performance indicators and targets. As relevant, the assessments of impact at the project level under Section II are based on progress against this Results Framework.

The Results Framework was developed using United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards. The Results Framework maps out outcomes and outputs which the programme

seeks to achieve through programmatic interventions (projects) that correspond to each programme output. It allows the collection of data that measure the implementation and effectiveness of each project using indicators, and supports an evidence-based assessment of progress towards achieving programme outputs and outcomes.

In this context, the Results Framework measures UNCCT’s contribution to the full implementation of all four Pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNCCT programme objective), and is structured on four (4) outcomes corresponding to each Pillar and twelve (12) outputs, with each output corresponding to an outcome and comprising several projects under a single thematic area that contribute to the output. Combined, the outcomes and outputs

measure progress against five core activities in the 5-Year Programme:

- ▶ Promotion of the **Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**, and information sharing on international norms, standards and good practice
- ▶ **Strengthen the capacity of requesting Member States** (individual, organizational, institutional) and other entities (regional organizations, civil society organizations, and the media)
- ▶ **Strengthening institutional frameworks** (at the national, regional

levels and multilateral levels, with technical support to legislation/policy/strategies and plans/systems and procedures)

- ▶ **Improving cooperation** on implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (regional, south/south, triangular, state-society, multilateral)
- ▶ **Improving coherence and coordination in the UN system** for delivering the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (“All-of-UN”)

The Results Framework uses five basic Outcome Indicators. These are repeated throughout the Results Framework, for consistency on what is being measured.

	OUTCOME TYPE	WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?
1.	“Improved Effectiveness of UNCCT to...”	Change in UNCCT effectiveness (a measure of the extent to which an objective is achieved) as a service provider.
2.	“Enhanced awareness and capacity of recipients to...”	Measures change in personal/ organisational capacity, achieved by recipients through using UNCCT services.
3.	“Enhanced institution framework (policy, strategy, legislation, mainstreaming HR etc.) ...”	Measures contributions to strengthening institutional frameworks, achieved by recipients through using UNCCT services.
4.	“Improved cooperation between ...”	Measures increased cooperation, supported/ facilitated by UNCCT services.
5.	“Improved coherence/coordination within the UN system to...”	Measures increased cooperation within the UN system.

The Results Framework uses eight Output indicator types. Again, these are repeated throughout the framework, sometimes with variations, for consistency on the issues being measured.

INDICATOR TYPE	WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?
<p>1. Number of Member States, Regional Orgs and Civil Society Orgs that request and receive UNCCT support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand for UNCCT products • UNCCT response and # of activities • Type of entities requesting and receiving UNCCT support
<p>2. Level of recipient satisfaction with the relevance and quality of UNCCT support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiary perception of the quality and relevance of UNCCT products
<p>3. Percentage of recipients that perceive they have improved knowledge and skill after participating in a UNCCT activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality and relevance of UNCCT products • Promotion of UNGCTS norms/standards • Strengthening capacity of individual officials
<p>4. Percentage of recipients reporting they use good practice/are better able perform their duties/develop policy, laws, plans and/or programmes, 6-12 months after participating in a UNCCT activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of UNGCTS norms/standards • Strengthen capacity of individuals and organisations
<p>5. Number of recipient Member State/Regional Orgs developing policies, laws, plans and programmes that integrate GCTS standards and good practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of GCTS norms/standards/good practice • Organisational and Institutional development
<p>6. Number of (new) instances of cooperation among Member States at the regional level that request and receive UNCCT support, to develop integrated counter-terrorism strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of GCTS norms/standards • Strengthen regional organisations • Strengthen regional policy and cooperation frameworks/organisations • Strengthen regional action
<p>7. Improved coherence and coordination in delivery of capacity building assistance within the United Nations' system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen "All-of-UN" coherence and quality of services. • Leveraging UNCCT resources
<p>8. New instances of cooperation (south/south and triangular, regional, web-based information sharing between centres)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen cooperation, based on GCTS standards and good practice.

UNCCT uses several data gathering instruments to obtain information on performance indicators. These include programme and project management data, end-of-activity surveys with participants, follow-up surveys 6-12 months after activity, reporting from Member States, regional organizations, civil society organizations, other UN entities and public sources, and reporting from participating UN entities, among others. During the reporting period UNCCT aligned the questions in the evaluation surveys with indicators in the Results Framework which were subsequently distributed to participants. These were used to measure how satisfied participants were with the relevance and quality of a capacity-building activity; and how likely they are to use the knowledge and tools gained from the training in the performance of their daily functions.

The Results Framework will be used for the remainder of the 5-Year Programme (2016–2020) with information gathered during the implementation of the current reporting period serving as a baseline for many of the Programme indicators for the following year. Going forward, UNCCT aims to fully operationalize the Programme Results Framework to monitor progress against both programme outputs and outcomes, and to integrate its findings in the Centre's reporting.

In 2017, the Centre also finalized the process of recruiting an M&E Officer who will support monitoring progress against the Programme Results Framework, and coordinate with UNCCT project managers in ensuring that relevant data is collected. The Officer will review the effectiveness of the Results Framework in monitoring the implementation of the 5-Year Programme and identify any new monitoring requirements that may emerge as the UNCCT programme evolves in line with the needs and

priorities of Member States. The Officer will also provide guidance to project managers on ensuring that projects continue to have effective M&E frameworks in place and that these support the programmatic outputs and outcomes.

During the reporting year, UNOCT established a Programme Review Board chaired by the Director of UNOCT/UNCCT and attended by all Chiefs of Units and the Executive Officer of DPA. The Board reviews concept notes and project documents, including budgets and logical frameworks, in terms of their strategic alignment with the UNCCT 5-Year Programme and priorities of Member States, complementarity with existing UNOCT/UNCCT and UN system-wide projects, as well as implementation feasibility, and makes recommendations on these for the consideration and approval of the UNCCT Executive Director. As such, the Board functions as an internal monitoring and oversight mechanism to ensure that proposed projects are coordinated and properly aligned with the Centre's programme of work. In October and November, the Board convened a total of three meetings, during which it approved five (5) new projects for implementation, including projects on preventing violent extremism through strategic communications (phase III), gender mainstreaming in UNOCT, facilitating coordinated "One UN" support to Member States on PVE policy-making and developing national and regional PVE plans, enhancing the capacity of Member States to adopt human rights compliant treatment of child returnees in the FTF context, and support for a comprehensive implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia. The Board also approved the concept notes and hence the further development of four (4) projects on compliance with human rights standards at borders in the counter-

terrorism context, promoting South-South cooperation in countering terrorism, training and capacity-building of law enforcement officials on human rights, the rule of law and prevention of terrorism, and aviation security.

In 2017, the Centre has prepared four (4) Quarterly Project Highlight Reports which provide an overview of the activities and outputs delivered under each project on a quarterly basis, and outlines the priority areas of work in the following quarter. These reports were presented during the quarterly meetings of the Advisory Board, where Members of the Board have expressed the usefulness of these reports to monitor progress of the UNCCT 5-Year programme. The Centre prepared the 2016 Annual Report which was published in the form of a booklet and presented to the UNCCT Advisory Board, and subsequently disseminated to a broader audience of Member States and regional and international organizations on the margins of the 72nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly, and in meetings with interlocutors throughout the year.

UNCCT is committed to strengthening its monitoring and evaluation framework, which currently includes both internal and external monitoring instruments, including the Programme Results Framework, the Programme Review Board, as well as regular reporting to the UNCCT Advisory Board. This M&E framework has strengthened decision-making processes relating to the planning, design and implementation of the 5-Year programme, enhanced transparency and accountability in programme implementation and use of resources, and ensured evidence-based reporting to the Advisory Board and donors. The Centre will further build on this M&E framework with the guidance and support of a full-time officer to be deployed in 2018 specifically for this

task, to ensure that the Centre's work is achieving the desired impact at national, regional and global levels.

Lessons Learned

Through the implementation of its many projects and with the monitoring and evaluation framework in place, UNCCT continues to learn lessons on how to further improve its project delivery. The Centre systematically gathers lessons learned from these projects, in terms of both substantive and project management related issues. These are used in the development of new projects and are shared between project managers and other UNCCT staff in regular engagements.

As further detailed below, UNCCT has made significant progress on gender mainstreaming its projects. The Centre has also strengthened its language in engaging with Member States when organizing workshops, conferences and trainings. In the past the Centre had merely indicated a wish for the States to designate female participants where possible, but starting in 2017 the Centre expanded this standard invitation language and also asked invited Member States to provide details on their efforts to identify female participants, and to explain why it had not been possible to designate an equal number of women and men to the events, if this was the case. The Centre has seen some improvements in this regard, although gender parity at its events continues to be an issue. The new requirements do, however, provide further insight into the issues Member States may have in designating women, and thus allow UNCCT to change the organization of events, as relevant.

In 2017 the Centre also started deploying consultants in the field to provide more sustained

engagement with key partners. This included consultants based in Nouakchott to support I-ACT and in Addis Ababa to support engagement with the African Union and the Centre's projects in Eastern Africa. The Centre also started the recruitment process for the deployment of a Political Affairs Officer in Nouakchott — the first UNOCT/UNCCT post in the field. Going forward the Centre will continue to explore deployment of staff and consultants, including to support the implementation of major projects.

For the implementation of many of its project activities, the Centre relies on the UN system presence in the beneficiary countries to support logistical and financial aspects, such as hotel and training venue arrangements, travel and payment of daily subsistence allowance to meeting participants. This is done in full compliance with relevant UN rules and regulations. As the volume of activities increases, the number of individual financial agreements with other entities has expanded adding to the administrative tasks of the Centre's staff, including those placed in the Executive Office. Going forward, the Centre is exploring whether a comprehensive agreement could be made with UNDP to cover all planned UNCCT activities during the course of 2018. This would allow for efficient and effective planning of engagement with the specific UNDP offices in the relevant countries.

As detailed below, 2017 saw a significant improvement in fund-raising compared to 2016. The Centre also worked on a number of pledges that will come to fruition in 2018. That said, the Executive Director is strongly committed to ensuring the continued diversification of

the Centre's donor base, including to ensure sustainability. He therefore decided to establish an External Relations and Communications Section in his Office, which will spearhead donor engagement ensuring dedicated attention to resource mobilization. The strong Member State interest in the Office of Counter-Terrorism and its UNCCT has also allowed the Office to expand its efforts to have Member States support its work with Junior Professional Officers (JPO). Thus far, the Office has received commitments to fill seven (7) JPO posts, and several other Member States have given initial indications of their interest to support the Office in this manner.

UNCCT continued and expanded the useful practice of jointly implementing projects with CTITF entities, thus strengthening the "All-of-UN" approach. The Centre is working closely with the CTITF Working Groups on several projects, including to leverage the specific expertise of the individual entities, rather than duplicate these capacities. During the course of 2017, the Centre negotiated memoranda of understanding with partners, including UNDP, UNESCO, UN Women and INTERPOL, and made less formal agreements with Secretariat bodies such as CTED, UNODC and OHCHR to implement joint programmes. In several cases, such cooperation was promoted by donors such as Canada, Japan and the United States, that all saw the benefit of drawing on the coordination and coherence mandate of UNOCT to support UNCCT led projects with the CTITF entities. It is, however, expected that the process will be completed in early 2018 for most of these agreements allowing for implementation in the next programme year.

SECTION IV

IV. Governance & Outreach

Advisory Board

UNCCT benefits from the strategic guidance of the Advisory Board, which consists of 21 Member States and the European Union as Guest Member. Chaired by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Ambassador Abdallah Yahya Al-Mouallimi, the Board convenes quarterly, and provides advice to the UNCCT Executive Director on the Centre's programme of work, including its projects, programmes and proposals. Four (4) Advisory Board meetings were held in 2017, including two (2) at the Ambassadorial level and two (2) at expert level. In these meetings, the Centre presented the 2016 UNCCT Annual Report and quarterly project highlight reports, and updated the Board on the implementation progress of the 5-Year Programme. The Centre also responded to the Advisory Board's proposal for presentations by countries that benefit from UNCCT's capacity-building assistance to monitor impact of projects, by inviting beneficiary countries to the Board's meetings.

Advisory Board Members convened at the Ambassadorial level on 23 June 2017, during which the Chairman of the UNCCT Advisory Board paid tribute to Under-Secretary-General Jeffrey Feltman for his service and contributions to the Centre as its former Executive Director, and welcomed the appointment of Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov as the new Executive Director of UNCCT. Members of the Advisory Board welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution 71/291 on 15 June



UNCCT Advisory Board Meeting: H.E. Mr. Abdallah Yahya A. al-Mouallimi, Chairman of UNCCT Advisory Board, Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General and Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT.

PHOTO: UN Photo

2017 that established the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), recognized the importance of the Centre's work, and maintained existing contribution agreements and the functions, chairmanship and composition of the Advisory Board. Members also welcomed the 2016 Annual Report and the Programme Results Framework for the 5-Year Programme as positive steps for enhanced transparency, efficiency and communication. They highlighted the need to strengthen strategic focus on priority issues that address the evolving threat of terrorism, to better assess the impact of projects, to enhance collaboration with UN entities to benefit from optimum use of synergies and avoid duplication, and to diversify and expand the Centre's funding base. Members further expressed support to the Centre's priorities including the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive

to terrorism, foreign terrorist fighters, border control, and support to victims of terrorism.

The second Ambassadorial level meeting of the Advisory Board was held on 30 October 2017, with the attendance of Secretary-General António Guterres and Mr. Voronkov, as the new Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and the Executive Director of UNCCT. Advisory Board Members thanked the Secretary-General for his vision and commitment to reform and strengthen the United Nations' counter-terrorism architecture, and expressed continued support to the work of the Centre under the leadership of Mr. Voronkov. The meeting provided an opportunity for the Centre to highlight its commitment to align its programme of work based on Member States' priorities and ensure the balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, to

strengthen coordination and coherence with and among UN entities, and to attract co-funding for projects. Members welcomed the Third Quarterly Project Highlight Report, in particular the progress made in the areas of border security management, advance passenger information, aviation security, combating the financing of terrorism, finalization of national and regional strategies, support to victims of terrorism, and gender mainstreaming. Other issues that were highlighted included the importance of local ownership of projects that are based on national priorities and coordinated with national focal points; of using complementarities and synergies with UN partners, national and regional initiatives; and of addressing FTF and child returnees, information sharing related to FTFs, homegrown radicalization, the use of the Internet, root causes, and the nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime.

As part of the Centre's approach to ensure full transparency and inclusivity, the Centre invited Bangladesh, a non-member of the Advisory Board, to present its experiences in working with the Centre on several projects. This was welcomed by the Board as an opportunity to monitor the impact of the Centre's projects on the ground. The Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Masud Bin Momen, outlined three projects implemented in Bangladesh with the Centre's capacity-building assistance in the areas of terrorist designations and asset freezing regimes, strategic communications, and technical and vocational institutes. Drawing attention to the importance of coherence and cooperation in the provision of capacity-building assistance to Member States, Bangladesh noted that UNCCT was attuned to national priorities and developments on the ground in its offer and design of specific projects and coordinated its work through designated

national focal points, and advised the Centre to follow up with national focal points on project evaluation and impact assessment. The country called on UNOCT to effectively exercise its coordinating role and ensure that UN entities keep the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and its working groups apprised of the projects at national level to avoid duplication, misuse of resources, and lack of ownership. To optimize the use of available resources, the country also advised the Centre to focus on the expertise and competence at its disposal and to share tasks with other mandated UN entities including the Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) through enhanced cooperation and coordination.

During this reporting period, two expert-level Advisory Board meetings were held to discuss the Centre's work in more detail and address questions from Members at a technical level. The first meeting at the expert level convened on 28 February 2017, during which the Centre updated the Board on initiated and ongoing projects, as well as work on the monitoring and evaluation framework. The Centre presented its activities in the area of Advance Passenger Information (API), and provided an overview of its new Border Security and Management programme. The meeting also provided an opportunity to hear directly from Nigeria on its experiences working with the Centre on specific capacity-building projects in the areas of aviation security training, human rights training of law enforcement officials, and border security. Another expert-level meeting of the Advisory Board was held on 7 September 2017, which served as an opportunity to provide an overview of the Centre's activities in the area of victims of terrorism. Advisory Board Members welcomed a presentation by a victim of the 2010 World Cup bombings in Kampala, Uganda. He explained

how he had benefited from the Centre's victims' media training and experts meeting on building resilience for the development of a handbook of good practices to support victims of terrorism. Experts expressed support for the new Office and the work of the Centre, highlighted the importance of addressing the issue of foreign terrorist fighter returnees and benefiting from synergies with UN partners and regional organizations, and provided suggestions, including the need to expand information-sharing on the Centre's work with non-Advisory Board Members.

UNCCT Advisory Board Meeting (centre of photo, from left to right): H.E. Mr. Abdallah Yahya A. al-Mouallimi, Chairman of UNCCT Advisory Board; Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General; and Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT.

PHOTO: UN Photo

Consultations with Member States

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has also benefited from the frequent engagement with Member States. This has included quarterly briefings open to all Member States which were undertaken in connection with the mandated CTITF briefings. In 2017 briefings took place on 6 July and 13 December.

With the establishment of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism in June 2017, and in particular following the assumption of duties by Mr. Voronkov as Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Executive Director of UNCCT in September, Member States have been consulted extensively on the work and desired future priorities of the Centre. During the 72nd annual General Debate of the General Assembly



alone, Mr. Voronkov held more than 50 bilateral meetings, including with one President and 24 ministers, to better understand Member States perspectives, concerns and priorities with a view to develop a coherent United Nations counter-terrorism programme in support of Member States' efforts.

Member States provided guidance on their priorities, including in terms of areas where UNCCT should focus its capacity-building work. The five key counter-terrorism priorities were: 1) Strengthening international cooperation to counter terrorism; 2) Preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including in terms of providing youth with educational, skill-building and job opportunities; 3) Preventing terrorist use of the Internet and cyber-space; 4) Addressing the Foreign Terrorist

Fighters phenomenon, including in terms of border security and management; and 5) Countering the financing of terrorism.

Since then, the Executive Director has continued his consultations with Member States, including by visiting countries for more in-depth discussions on counter-terrorism issues. As national ownership is the cornerstone of all UNCCT projects, the Centre's staff also engage frequently with Member States to discuss specific issues relating to capacity-building activities, co-funding agreements, and exchange of expertise and good practices.

In 2017, UNOCT/UNCCT continued to strengthen its coordination and partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations in support of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, consistent with the



expectations of Member States set forth in the Strategy and its subsequent review resolutions. UNOCT/UNCCT engaged in particular with the African Union, the European Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the League of Arab States (LAS) and its Arab Interior Ministers' Council (AIMC), the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Shanghai Co-operation Organization and its Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure (SCO-RATS), and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

Communications

Website

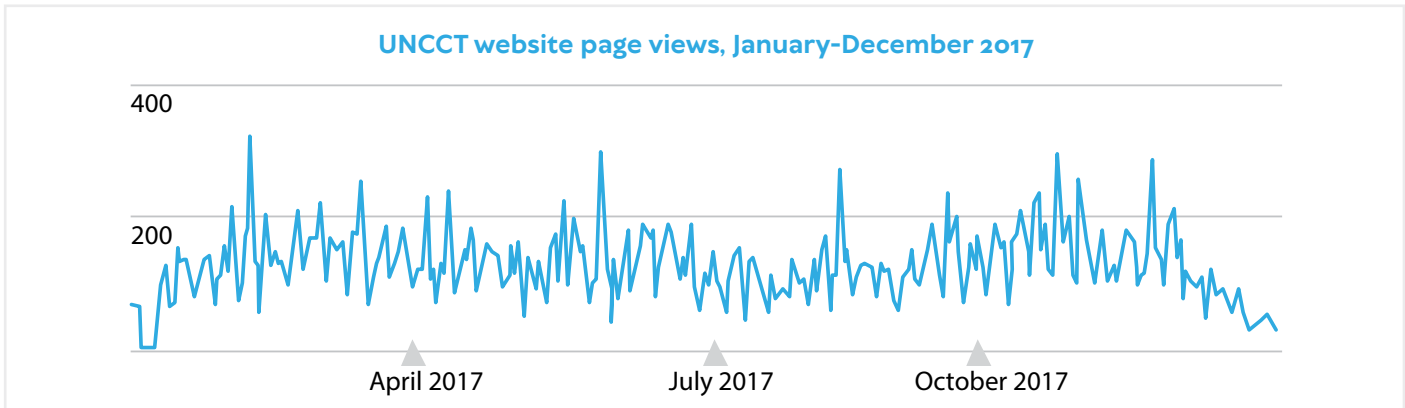
The UNCCT website (www.un.org/uncct) is available in all six UN official languages. In 2017, the Centre regularly updated the website to timely reflect ongoing activities, including workshops and major events organized by UNCCT and CTITF entities. During the reporting year, the traffic to the UNCCT website increased 11% to 43,948 page views from 39,631 page views in 2016. In addition, a new website (www.un.org/en/counterterrorism) was developed for the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

(UNOCT), with the support of the Department of Public Information (DPI).

Publications, Communication Strategies, and Events

UNOCT worked in close collaboration with the Office of the Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General to manage media relations on the occasion of the establishment of the new Office in June 2017 and to raise awareness on UNCCT and its activities. Two statements were issued by the Secretary-General, one announcing the creation of UNOCT and the second on the appointment of the new Under-Secretary-General. A press release was issued with regard to the visit of Mr. Voronkov to Mali and Mauritania while his visit to Jordan was announced at the noon press briefing. A Q&A on UNOCT and its Counter-Terrorism Centre was developed and regularly updated during the year. The activities of the Office and the Centre were also presented to the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) chaired by DPI on 19 December 2017.

UNOCT worked with DPI to develop the brand identity of the Office and UNCCT's place within it, and to print in English and Arabic the UNCCT 2016 Annual Report which was shared with Member States, and regional and international interlocutors on the margins of



Film Screening and Roundtable Discussion



Surviving Terrorism: Victims' Voices

the 72nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2017 as well as in subsequent meetings and capacity-building events. A special issue of the quarterly BEAM Newsletter published on the occasion of UNGA prominently featured UNOCT and other CTITF entities. UNCCT also developed one-page factsheets on UNOCT/UNCCT and its capacity-building projects.

A number of media interviews including with the TASS Russian News Agency, Skynews TV Arabia, Al Hurra, the Saudi Press agency, Al Arabiya TV International, The Independent and the Saudi Al-Riyadh were organized during 2017 to promote the activities of UNOCT/UNCCT. The Director of the Centre, Mr. Jehangir Khan, also gave interviews to the media on the occasion of

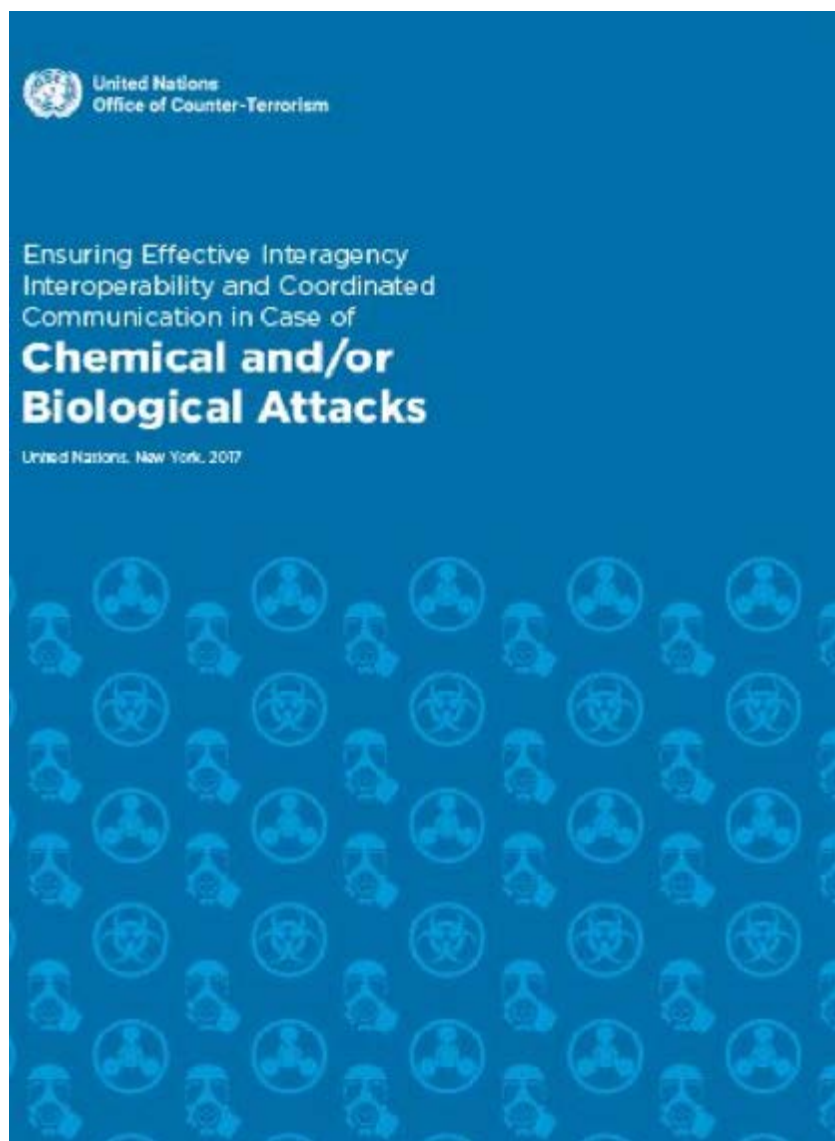
his visits to Saudi Arabia and Brussels. The United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) in Brussels featured a story on UN counter-terrorism efforts on their website based on an interview with Mr. Khan.

UNCCT developed press releases and organized press conferences for many of its capacity-building events, including the *High-Level Dialogue on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, which was held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 13 June 2017 under the chairmanship of UN Secretary-General António Guterres. A video message was also produced for the Centre's Aviation Security Training in Nigeria project on the occasion of the graduation of the first 35 Master Trainers in Abuja, Nigeria on 19 May 2017.

Two press releases were issued and disseminated on contributions to UNCCT from Kazakhstan and the United Arab Emirates on 15 June and 25 May, respectively. On 3 August 2017, the launch of the UNCCT report on “Enhancing Understanding of the FTF Phenomenon in Syria” was announced to the media at the UN Spokesperson noon briefing and through the UN News Centre. As a result, the launch was covered in 20 countries by more than 50 media organizations.

In 2017, UNOCT/UNCCT also organized several public information events. A panel discussion on strategic communications and social media to prevent violent extremism was held on 16 February 2017 with other CTITF entities to raise awareness on the UNCCT *Project on Strategic Communications to Prevent Violent Extremism*. On 9 November, a documentary entitled “Surviving Terrorism: Victims Voices” was screened in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations and the Department of Public Information. The screening was followed by a roundtable discussion.

To expand outreach, the event was webcast and covered by the UN News Centre, and promoted on UN social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and UNTV, reaching 350,000 people according to tweet reach. The event was also livestreamed on the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, which registered a 300% increase in views on that day. Flyers and social media material were developed on this occasion. The event was



attended by both Under-Secretary-General Mr. Vladimir Voronkov and Under-Secretary-General of Global Communications, Ms. Alison Smale, DPI.

A Speaker Series event entitled “Responding to WMD Attacks; Better Together” was organized on 13 December as a side-event to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs Expert Meeting on Article VII of the Biological Weapons Convention. A publication with all the key documents of UNCCT project on *Ensuring Effective Inter-Agency Interoperability*

and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks was issued.

UNOCT/UNCCT also organized a Brown Bag entitled “Sexual Violence as a Tactic of Terrorism: Supporting the Survivors” in collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Within the framework of the CTITF Inter-Agency Working Group on Communications, established to provide guidance on capacity-

building projects related to communications, members have discussed the draft work plan and priority areas of the Working Group on the basis of the Security Council Presidential Statement on Counter Narratives (PRST/2016/6) and the 2016 Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. This has included a discussion on how UNCCT can support the activities of the Working Group through its Strategic Communications to Prevent Violent Extremism project (see above).

SECTION V

V. Resource Mobilization and Financial Overview

Resource Mobilization

The diversification of funding is a key priority of the Centre, including as outlined in the Vision Statement on the Future Role of UNCCT, which was shared with the UNCCT Advisory Board by the then Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon in 2014. The Chairman of the Advisory Board, His Excellency Ambassador Abdallah Yahya Al-Mouallimi, has also repeatedly stressed this priority. Similarly, the General Assembly has encouraged Member States to provide funding to the Centre to support its capacity-building efforts.

As such, the Centre has made concerted efforts to expand the donor base from nine in 2016 to ten during the reporting year, which include a number of new donors. Given the limited opportunities to obtain un-earmarked funding, the Centre engaged with Member States to seek co-funding for its specific projects. This allowed the Centre to focus on the priority thematic and geographic areas of donors, while maintaining strategic coherence through the 5-Year Programme. An increasing number of the Centre's projects are now based on the principle of co-funding and the Centre's staff are fully dedicated to implementing capacity-building projects.

Through the generous support from Member States, UNCCT received contributions in the amount of USD 4,596,366 during the course of 2017. This represents an increase of 175% from 2016.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FROM DONORS IN 2016 AND 2017 (in United States Dollars)		
DONOR	RECEIVED IN 2016	RECEIVED IN 2017
United Arab Emirates		350,000
Belgium	99,975	
Canada	44,410	582,705
People's Republic of China		921,880
European Union	278,126	
Japan	226,100	920,512
Republic of Kazakhstan		300,000
Republic of Kenya	5,000	
Republic of Korea		330,000
Kingdom of Morocco	30,000	
State of Qatar		250,000
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia		333,334
Spain	33,680	
Switzerland		20,000
United Kingdom	44,187	587,935
United States of America	908,000	
Total Received	1,669,478	4,596,366

Confirmed pledges amount to USD 5,201,479 out of which 88% was received by 31 December of the reporting year. The remaining balances are expected to be released by the donors once

progress on activities is achieved in accordance with donors' expectations, including in the implementation of the project Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communications.

Implementation Rate

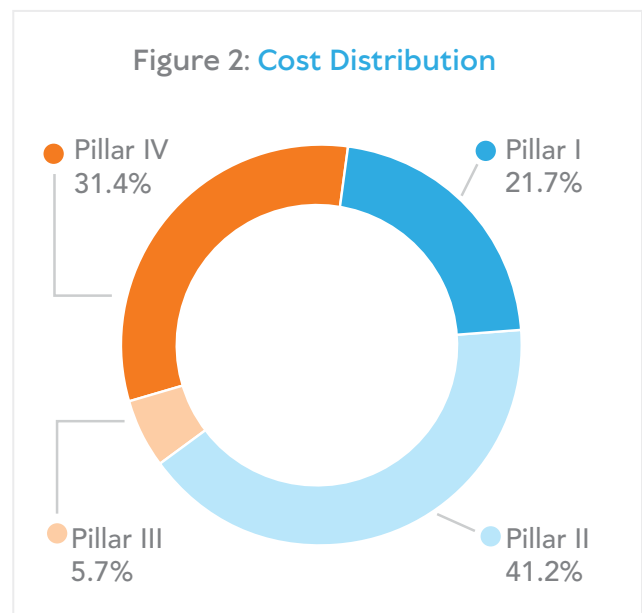
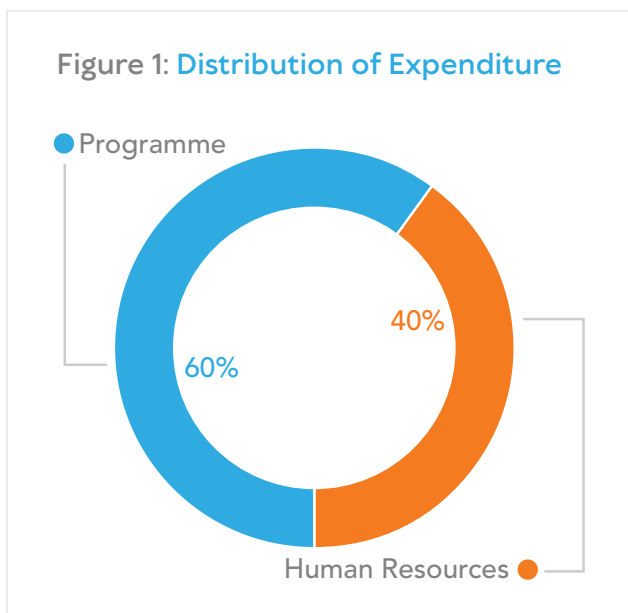
In 2017, which is the second year of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme, the total implementation rate achieved was 75%.

PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE BY PILLAR (in United States Dollars)				
PILLAR	DESCRIPTION OF PILLAR	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	IMPLEMENTATION RATE
Pillar I	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism	2,932,960	2,397,330	82%
Pillar II	Combatting Terrorism	6,495,894	4,558,308	70%
Pillar III	Supporting International Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism	1,181,136	633,804	54%
Pillar IV	Human Rights and Victims	4,120,777	3,467,362	84%
TOTAL		14,730,768	11,056,804	75%

As illustrated in **Figure 1**, 60% of the total expenditure was directly related to programme activities while the remaining 40% covered human resources costs.

In line with the overall guidance by the UNCCT Advisory Board to support the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-

Terrorism Strategy, the Centre has worked towards a proportionate priority allocation of resources across each pillar. As shown in **Figure 2**, this was largely achieved with respect to Pillars I, II and IV. Support for Pillar III is primarily provided through human resources supporting the I-ACT initiative and is therefore less prominently reflected.



SECTION VI

VI. Conclusion & Strategic Priorities for 2018

2017 was a year of significant transition for UNCCT. The establishment of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism brought increased attention to the work of the Centre in providing capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States. In the short term, the reorganization required management and staff to focus on the set-up and establishment of the new functions. In the medium to longer term, as a result of the streamlining of functions, the Centre is better placed to deliver capacity-building to Member States at their request.

The implementation rate of 75% shows that the Centre delivered a broad range of capacity-building projects to Member States, and completed projects relating to important issues such as Advance Passenger Information, aviation security, countering the financing of terrorism, preventing violent extremism, human rights, and support for victims of terrorism. The important work carried out by UNCCT was recognized by the General Assembly when it established UNOCT in June 2017 (resolution 71/291).

The appointment of an Under-Secretary-General fully dedicated to counter-terrorism, including in his function as Executive Director of UNCCT, has provided reinforced leadership to the Centre and increased senior level engagement with Member States concerning the Centre's capacity-building work, and also provided significant impetus to its resource mobilization efforts.

In moving forward, the Centre will be guided by a range of new important initiatives that will allow for additional coherence in its work and a continued expansion of the “All-of-UN” framework championed by UNCCT since its establishment. With the adoption of Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), the Centre is much better placed to benefit from the expert assessments of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and has already stepped up cooperation on the identification of priority capacity needs of Member States that could be addressed through UNCCT capacity-building projects. The Centre will also benefit from the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact developed during the course of 2017. The Compact calls for a deeper level of coordination and coherence among CTITF entities, including on capacity-building support to Member States and fundraising.

The General Assembly has repeatedly stressed the need for Member States to support UNOCT/UNCCT, including in its most recent review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, when it encouraged all Member States to collaborate with UNCCT and to contribute to the implementation of its activities, including through the development, funding and implementation of capacity-building projects. On establishing UNOCT, the General Assembly again emphasized the need to ensure that the Office is provided with adequate capacity and other resources for the implementation of its mandated activities. The Executive Director will continue his engagements with Member States to ensure that the necessary resources are available both for the Office as a whole and for the capacity-building work of the Centre. Sustainable funding is vital for the Office and UNCCT to function effectively in the years to

come. While benefitting from the initial generous contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, UNOCT/UNCCT aims at diversifying its funding base, including through co-funding for UNCCT capacity-building projects and through support for the coordination and coherence work of the UNOCT.

Terrorism and violent extremism continue to evolve and the Centre must be able to adapt and respond in a pre-emptive and effective manner that ensures its capacity-building support to Member States remains relevant and addresses shifting priorities in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. In June 2018, the General Assembly will again review the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, providing Member States with an opportunity to further guide the work of the Centre and its engagement with Member States. The Chairman of the UNCCT Advisory Board is also planning a high-level meeting in 2018 which will provide the Members of the Advisory Board with an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the Centre as it approaches the half-way point in the implementation of the 5-Year Programme and to provide additional guidance on the work of the Centre going forward.

In response to the changing threat, the Centre has already taken steps to expand programming in 2018, including on cyber-issues, which is a thematic priority of the 5-Year Programme that has seen less attention, and on preventing and responding to WMD terrorist attacks, which has thus far been done only through the CTITF Working Group. The Centre is also continuing its efforts to consolidate disparate projects into larger programmes, including as it pertains to the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, border security and management,

countering the financing of terrorism, and support for victims of terrorism. This will allow for more sustained engagement with Member States.

Member States have high expectations of the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre as it continues to support them in their full implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Executive Director is committed to meeting

these expectations by providing high-quality, timely and sustainable “All-of-UN” capacity-building projects that empower Member States through national ownership. Only by expanding our work together can we forge a new, international counter-terrorism partnership needed to effectively counter terrorism across the four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy over the longer term.

