

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the opening of the first UNCCT Roundtable for entities working on counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism issues. Today's event kicks off a series of discussions over the next three days.

All of those represented at the Roundtable are recognized as top experts within their fields. We all share the same goal: preventing and countering the global scourge of terrorism. We are honoured to have so many distinguished speakers and participants registered for the Roundtable.

I want to particularly thank His Excellency Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi, Chairman of the UNCCT Advisory Board, for his strong support to UNCCT and our efforts to bring together all of you for a discussion. Its outcomes will help us to further develop UNCCT as a Centre of Excellence that supports Member States and you in the fight against terrorism.

I also want to thank my colleagues and good friends, Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly, Ms. Michèle Coninx, Ms. Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, and Mr. Edmund Fitton-Brown for joining us today.

I welcome sincerely our colleagues from civil society organizations, which continue to work hard in these difficult times of the pandemic. The primary aim of this Roundtable is to develop a dynamic and result-oriented network between counter-terrorism and PCVE centers of excellence.



