

**“Preventing the Spread of Violent Extremism in the Prison Context of Uganda”**

**10 September 2019, Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala, Uganda**

**Statement by Mr. Steven Siqueira, Chief of Pillar I and IV, UNOCT/UNCCT**

Mr. Mwange James, Deputy Commissioner-General of Prisons of Uganda,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

expressed concern about the danger of recruitment and radicalization to terrorism in prisons (A/RES/70/291). Given the rising concern amongst many Member States about the spread of violent extremism in prisons, we expect continued interest in this important issue during the next review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in June 2020.

The UN PVE Plan of Action (2016) (A/RES/70/291), highlights that the management of prisoners within a correctional system can run the risk of making some vulnerable to violent extremist ideology. The Plan of Action calls for safeguards to be put in place that prevent the spread of extremist ideologies, while upholding the protection afforded under international law to persons deprived of their liberty.

In 2017, when considering measures that should be taken by Member States to strengthen their response to the threat of returning FTFs in resolution 2396, the United Nations Security Council terrorist recruitment.

It is important to note that the Security Council also highlighted the critical role of prison authorities in the effective and sustainable rehabilitation and reintegration of former prisoners back into communities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

UNOCT emphasizes that the challenges posed by violent extremist prisoners can only be effectively addressed by measures that adhere to fundamental human rights, in line with Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. We support the strong integration of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners

