



Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to the Third United Nations High Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism
Agencies of Member States.



Against this backdrop, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism will partner with Nigeria to co-organize an African Counter Terrorism Summit in Abuja, in early 2024.

I count on your continued interest and support to make sure the Summit succeeds in opening a new chapter in the fight against terrorism in Africa.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

We must also address the complex issue of repatriation. This is a matter not just of security, but also of human decency. I urge all Member States to accelerate their efforts to facilitate the safe and dignified repatriation of the tens of thousands of children, women, and men languishing in camps and detention facilities in northeast Syria.

In his forthcoming policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace, Secretary-General Guterres, has underscored Member States' call to prioritize prevention to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism that can lead to terrorism.

The New Agenda for Peace is also a call to ensure that counter-terrorism responses are firmly grounded in international law, international human rights law and gender-responsive approaches.

Good governance, the rule of law, equality, and the full realization of human rights are central to effective and sustainable counter-terrorism efforts.

And in keeping the General Assembly's call for whole-of-society responses to countering terrorism, we also need to strengthen our engagement with civil society actors, including women, youth, and community organizations.

Promoting inclusive participation of various stakeholders and protecting

