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- In the last decades, many terrorist attacks have been perpetrated in public places against soft targets. Attacks against sports events are particularly hideous as sports have historically played a significant role in the dissemination of positive values across civilizations and cultures, especially for young people. To address this threat, the United Nations and its partners have launched today, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, a "Global Programme on the Security of Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE)."

The programme was presented today on the occasion of a two-day expert meeting, which gathered over 100 of high-level representatives from Member States, international and regional organizations as well as

Speaking on behalf of Mr. Mohammed Hanzab, Chairman of the International Centre for Sport Security, Mr. Massimiliano Montanari, ICSS CEO, added that "Protecting major sporting events means protecting opportunities for international dialogue and socio-economic development. Through the Global Programme, we will promote sustainable approaches to security, ways to preserve the legacy of major sporting events as a common good of the international community and advanced policies grounded on the principle of shared responsibility."

The programme is supported by the State of Qatar, the United Nations Peace and Development Fund (UNPDF – funded by the People's Republic of China) and the Republic of Korea.

[www.un.org/counterterrorism/sports](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/sports)