

Opening Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov,  
Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism

Quarterly Briefing to Member States by United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination  
Compact Entities

23 October 2019, 10:00AM

Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to thank you for attending this Quarterly Briefing to Member States.

I am grateful to the Permanent Representatives of Belarus, Hungary and the UAE, as well as my colleagues from United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, for joining me.

Let me take this opportunity to formally introduce my new Deputy, Mr Raffi Gregorian, who many of you know from his previous roles in the U.S Department of State.

This year we have witnessed horrific terrorist attacks that have claimed hundreds if not thousands of lives, spread fear, and contributed to growing polarization and intolerance around the world.

I would like to express my solidarity with those countries that have suffered the scourge of terrorism.

My thoughts are with the victims and their families.

Excellencies,

This morning, I would like to brief you on four key areas.

First, I will set out my thoughts on the High-Level Week of the General Assembly, where I was delighted to meet with many of your Heads of States and Government, Ministers and other senior representatives to discuss our common counter-terrorism priorities.

Second, I will brief you on the outcomes of the regig73cl hi

Third, I will brief you on the concrete ways in which my Office and CTED have continued to strengthen our collaboration, as per our recent briefing to the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Lastly, I will highlight recent progress in implementing our capacity-building programmes to support the counter-terrorism efforts of Member States, particularly our work on addressing the needs and upholding the rights of victims of terrorism.

First, the High-Level Week:

During the General Debate, the numerous side events and my bilateral meetings, Member States confirmed that the evolving threat of

At the initiative of Jordan, New Zealand and France, my Office also co-



Additionally, Ms. Coninx is a member of the Steering Committee, which sets the overall strategic direction of this initiative with the aim of advancing the implementation of Security Council resolution 2396.

On priority regions, UNOCT and CTED continue to work closely at the sub-regional level in the Sahel and Central Asia. In recent months we also increased our collaboration in South East Asia and Africa, especially in Burkina Faso and Niger.

As I said in my briefing to the Counter-Terrorism Committee, CTED has become an integral partner across entire mandate, especially in strengthening the provision of coherent, coordinated and impactful technical and capacity-building support to Member States.

To further strengthen the practical cooperation between us, I have established a dedicated P5-level position to facilitate capacity-building work and into joint resource mobilization efforts through the Global Compact.

One of the key ongoing tasks and deliverables of the Global Compact Working Group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation, co-chaired by UNOCT, CTED and UNODC, is to map all UN counter-terrorism efforts against the list of CTED technical assistance recommendations.

Fourth, let me brief you on our progress in implementing capacity-building programmes across all four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In the past quarter, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has provided capacity-building support to requesting Member States on a wide range of areas, including strategic communications; cyber-security; social media investigations; technical and vocational education and training; countering the financing of terrorism; and the challenge of potential chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks.

From July to October, UNCCT organized twenty-four workshops, delivering capacity-building assistance to a total of nine hundred and nineteen officials from Member States. These trainees are expected to contribute to the counter-terrorism efforts of their respective countries in a more effective manner.

So, the progress in increasing our capacity building support is evident. Capacity building is an important part of our mandate and I hope that the progress will continue with the same pace.

In this context, I would like to highlight our work on supporting the victims of terrorism, which is a key priority for the Secretary-General, as well as my Office

The Secretary-General launched a UNCCT photo exhibition Power of Resilience , which was visited by over two hundred people and sixty Permanent Missions.

We also hosted an informal meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism (the Group) to support survivors with their short, medium, and long-term needs.

We also reached out to 18 civil society organizations dedicated to victims of terrorism in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe and North America to support them in their activities to commemorate the International Day.

All of our efforts were supported by a dedicated social media campaign that reached fifteen million social media accounts, generating fifty-two million impressions.

The commemorations of this International Day reflected the growing momentum in the international community to address the needs and rights of victims of terrorism.

In June, the General Assembly adopted resolution 73/305 to enhance international cooperation to address terrorism.

And, with the establishment of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism thanks to the leadership of Afghanistan and Spain, supporting victims has been pushed to the very forefront of the counter-terrorism agenda.

The first-ever United Nations International Day of the Girl Child