

**Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)**

**Open VTC of the Security Council on the twelfth report of the Secretary-**

## Counter

**United Nations entities remain deeply concerned at the dire situation facing hundreds of thousands of individuals — mostly children and women — stranded in camps and prisons in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic.**

**These individuals are struggling to meet their day-to-day basic needs because they lack access to food, medicine, hygiene and shelter.**

**COVID-19 has further restricted their access to humanitarian assistance and led to the suspension of protection and support services.**

**However, Member States continue to face challenges in their efforts to repatriate their nationals (including women and men, children, and the elderly) from Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic.**

**States also continue to face significant obstacles to their efforts to ensure accountability for the crimes committed by ISIL and to secure justice and redress for ISIL's countless victims.**

**COVID-19 has forced many States to delay hearings or extend proceedings, prolonged pre-trial detention, and caused case backlogs.**

**And this has also prevented the victims of terrorism from**

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**Although levels of terrorist violence have ebbed and flowed — and will no doubt continue to do so — there has been a consistent and welcome downward trend over the past five years.**

**As the terrorist threat has evolved, so too has the response of the United Nations.**

**This response has been driven by the Security Council’s adoption of a number of resolutions, which have consistently emphasized the need for enhanced international cooperation and coordination, as well as the need to ensure a human rights-compliant, gender-sensitive approach to counter-terrorism and CVE.**

**CTED has played a unique role in supporting Member States’ efforts to implement those resolutions, through its engagement and dialogue with Member States, UN agencies and other implementing partners (primarily, of course, via online tools in recent months).**

*Mr. President, excellencies, distinguished colleagues,*

**The Secretary-General’s report makes clear that Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic remain ISIL’s primary focus.**

**CTED, under the guidance of the CTC, plans to conduct a hybrid follow-up assessment visit to Iraq and other neighbouring States.**

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**CTED also continues to prioritize the Committee’s recommendations to Member States on dealing with returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters formerly associated with ISIL.**

**We recently launched a joint initiative with the Government of Indonesia, UNODC and UNOCT on “Strengthening supervision and community-based treatment for rehabilitation and reintegration of terrorist and violent extremist defendants and offenders”.**

**This initiative (which is supported by the Government of the United Kingdom and Japan) will identify good practices to be disseminated throughout South and South-East Asia.**

**CTED’s ongoing efforts to help Member States review and update their national legislation have strengthened their ability to bring terrorists to justice while protecting and promoting international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law.**

**CTED is also currently preparing a thematic study of the interrelationship between counter-terrorism frameworks and international humanitariQ0000912 0 612 92 reW\*nBF1 13T**

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**Our work with UNOCT to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance for capacity-building purpose, in follow-up to CTC assessment visits, also includes playing a key**

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**CTED stands ready to continue to fulfil its unique and vital role in ensuring that approach, based on its assessments, dialogue with Member States, partnership, and analysis and expertise.**

*Thank you.*