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## Editorial

I would like to welcome you to the next edition of the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNDOC/TPB) Briefing that provides highlights of our activities with a focus on the second half of 2015.

UNODC/TPB has continued to provide legal and capacity building assistance to Member States to prevent and counter terrorism from a criminal justice perspective in full conformity with the rule of law and human rights. Our 2015 achievements include 20 new ratifications of the international legal instruments against terrorism by assisted Member States, 20 additional pieces of national legislation reviewed and drafted with our support, over 90 Member States provided with technical assistance, as well as more than 3,500 criminal justice officials trained in criminal justice aspects of prevention and countering terrorism.

The landscape of terrorism is fast evolving and requires national and regional bodies to regularly review their counter-terrorism strategies and measures. In 2015, both the General Assembly and the Security Council adopted several important resolutions pertaining to counter-terrorism that reflect the international community's strong commitment to further tackle terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including through strengthening criminal justice measures and strong legal regimes against terrorism. In particular, in its resolution 70/177 dated 17 December 2015, the General Assembly requests UNODC to continue its work on supporting Member States in countering emerging threats and specialized thematic areas, such as the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, the financing of terrorism and international cooperation in criminal matters, among the others. This required the Branch to mobilize its resources in order to quickly and efficiently respond to requests for assistance by Member States on foreign terrorist fighters, destruction by terrorists and illicit sale of world heritage items for the purposes of terrorist financing, kidnapping for ransom and links between transnational organized crime and terrorism.

The second regional conference on operational challenges in investigation and prosecution of foreign terrorist fighter cases in Malta in October marked the completion of Phase 1 of our initiative on criminal justice responses to this phenomenon. Phase 2 on the national and sub-regional perspectives commenced last November. The foreign terrorist fighters technical assistance was also initiated for Central Asian and the Sahel countries.

The last six months of 2015 were marked by our continued engagement with countries in the Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South and Central Asia, as well as Central America. We launched the next phases of the technical assistance programmes for Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Jordan and Morocco. The Branch also made good progress in reaching out to parliamentarians, including through seminars hosted by the national parliaments and strengthening cooperation with the PAM and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. We further mainstreamed human rights into all our technical assistance programmes. To that end, in coordination with the Justice Section of UNODC, we

initiated assistance to Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria on the criminal justice aspects of treatment of children allegedly involved with Boko Haram.

The second half of 2015 also saw the organization of two expert group meetings on the international legal framework against chemical biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism and an effective criminal justice response for countering crimes related to terrorism and violent extremism. This issue of our newsletter will also illustrate examples of our partnerships with the national training institutions to promote professional legal training on counter-terrorism issues and ensure sustainability of our technical assistance.

All these achievements would not be possible without the strong partnerships with Member States, the generous financial support from the donor countries and entities and a strong will of Member States to prevent and counter terrorism. I would also like to seize this opportunity to acknowledge the important contributions from counter-terrorism experts from Member States, United Nations and other intergovernmental entities that make TPB's technical assistance so unique in substance and scope.

I invite you to read through this new issue for further updates on TPB's work in preventing and combating terrorism.

With best regards,

*Trevor Michael Rajah,  
Chief, Terrorism Prevention Branch  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*

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## Second Regional Conference of UNODC/TPB Initiative Addressed Operational Challenges in Foreign Terrorist Fighter Cases

The second Regional Conference entitled “The Role of the Criminal Justice System in the Implementation of Preventive and Repressive Strategies against Foreign Terrorist Fighters: Analysis of Specific Cases and Sharing of Good Practices” was held in Saint Julian's, Malta, from 27 to 29 October 2015, by the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB), in consultation with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and in cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean.

This regional conference followed the successful launching event from 23-25 March 2015 of the UNODC/TPB Five-Year Initiative on Criminal Justice Response to Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs), funded by Canada, Japan, the United States and the European Union. The initiative seeks to build upon and complement UNODC/TPB's ongoing cooperation with Member States from the Middle East, North Africa (MENA) and South-Eastern Europe for the development of an

effective and sustainable legal regime against FTFs, embedded in the rule of law, due process and human rights.

Herzegovina, Kosovo (under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)), Montenegro, Serbia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of



*More than 70 professionals from 25 European and MENA countries participated in the second Regional Conference of the UNODC/TPB five-year initiative in Malta.*

Seventy-two senior representatives and criminal justice practitioners from 25 European and MENA countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen as well as the Balkan countries — among them Albania, Bosnia and

Macedonia — participated in the conference. Additionally, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Malta, the Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States were represented, together with four United Nations agencies and nine international and regional

organizations, including the Arab Maghreb Union, Eurojust, INTERPOL, the League of Arab States and the Monitoring Team of the Security Council's 1267 Committee.

Based on the gaps and needs identified during the first regional conference, this second regional event focused on common operational challenges and measures related to the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of FTF cases. The conference aimed at developing targeted approaches and identifying ways to share efficient good practices in the operational fields among criminal justice

practitioners involved in counter-terrorism cases at the national level. Dozens of cases from all participating countries' jurisdictions underlining judicial, procedural and operational challenges were extensively shared. The participants discussed, in a very practical and concrete manner, every stage of the FTF criminal justice process, from formal and informal means of preventing departure, to challenges in generating admissible evidence to support cases and prove criminal intent. The development of a sustainable strategy for countering radicalization in prisons and for the rehabilitation and reintegration of FTF returnees as part of the judicial response was also further analyzed.

As a result, a detailed report compiling good practices and valuable national experiences will be disseminated with an aim at contributing to a better criminal justice response to the FTF threat.

This second conference was the closing point of the first phase of the five-year initiative. The second phase started in November 2015 with the implementation of a national activity in Egypt on countering financing of terrorism in the FTF context and will be followed by several activities in the MENA and Balkan countries as of December 2015.

## Parliamentarians Discuss Challenges Posed by a Preventative Criminal Justice Response to Terrorism and Foreign Terrorist Fighters

On 8-9 October 2015 in Bucharest, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) organized a joint regional workshop on the challenges posed by a preventative criminal justice response to terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs). The workshop was organized in the framework of the UNODC/TPB five-year initiative on criminal justice responses to foreign terrorist fighters in the Middle East, North Africa and Balkan countries, aiming at supporting the beneficiary States

to meet the requirements set by resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014) respectively adopted on 15 August and 24 September 2014 by the United Nations Security Council under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

The regional workshop brought together parliamentarians from the Mediterranean area, and particularly from the MENA region, the Balkans and Southern Europe, to discuss and identify national and regional strategies and approaches for effective preventative criminal

justice responses to offences related to FTFs (such as incitement, training and recruitment for terrorist purposes) in line with international standards and the rule of law.

The Parliament of Romania, as an Associate Member of the PAM, hosted this important event. More than 80 participants were in attendance. Thirty-two of whom were senior Members of Parliaments from Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and Turkey. International experts from a number of relevant international and regional organizations also participated in the workshop.

Mr Yury Fedotov, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna and UNODC Executive Director, opened the event together with Mr Jean-Paul Laborde, Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and H.E. Ambassador Sergio Piazza, Secretary General of the PAM.



*The Romanian Parliament hosted over 80 Parliamentarians from the Mediterranean region for a joint UNODC/PAM workshop.*

In the course of the workshop, various elements related to the topic of the FTF phenomenon were discussed, including applicable international law, the prominent role of parliamentarians in countering terrorism, the challenges related to the new financial channels of terrorist groups, as well as strengthening the regional and international cooperation. The meeting provided a forum for exchanging information and good practices among parliamentarians on the role they play and could play in developing and enacting legislation. Incorporation of the provisions of the universal legal instruments

against terrorism into national law should be an integrated part of any national plan addressing, inter alia, factors conducive to terrorism.

Throughout the conference, parliamentarians were proactive and engaged in lively discussions on their involvement in counter-terrorism work. More specifically, the meeting offered the opportunity to participating parliamentarians to increase their awareness towards a road map for the ratification and domestication of the universal legal framework against terrorism, in particular in relation to the FTF threat and the need to ensure full

implementation of mandatory Security Council resolutions. Furthermore, the workshop made policy makers aware of strengths and weaknesses of existing national legislation, especially with regard to specific FTF offences. Finally, the meeting established an informal platform and a forum for discussion among parliamentarians from different countries and regions facilitating their direct and personal contacts, enhancing their mutual understanding and promoting the establishment of alternative channels of communications for bilateral relations between the countries.

## UNODC Assists West African States Facing the Challenge of Child Recruitment by Boko Haram

According to a report recently presented to the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, “Boko Haram has recruited and used boys and girls for active hostilities ... Some boys were forced to attack their own families to demonstrate loyalty to Boko Haram, whilst girls were forced to marry, clean, cook and carry equipment and weapons. ... some boys and girls were increasingly used as human shields and to detonate bombs”.

against Boko Haram apprehend hundreds of children who appear to be used by the terrorist group.

UNODC is uniquely positioned to work in the area of children and criminal justice responses to terrorism given its mandate in both areas: counter-terrorism and justice for children.

To respond to the requests for technical assistance, UNODC held a

law enforcement, criminal justice and child protection officials from Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. Experts from UNICEF, OHCHR, the Office of the Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflict, the African Union and the International Criminal Court also participated.

In their conclusions, the workshop participants stressed that every possible effort should be made to prevent children from becoming associated with Boko Haram and that children associated with Boko Haram may be considered and treated as victims. They agreed that any measures to defeat Boko Haram must comply with international law relating to the rights of children associated with armed groups, justice for children and juvenile justice. They called upon the United Nations to provide technical assistance, tailored to the specific needs of each country, regarding the treatment of children allegedly associated with Boko Haram.



*In Dakar, 30 officials took part in the sub-regional UNODC workshop on the treatment of children allegedly involved with Boko Haram as alleged offenders, victims and/or witnesses of crime.*

Officials in the countries most affected by Boko Haram have asked for UNODC’s technical assistance to deal with the difficult policy and legal questions that arise as the military and law enforcement agencies carrying out operations

sub-regional workshop on the treatment of children allegedly involved with Boko Haram as alleged offenders, victims and/or witnesses of crime in Dakar from 13 to 15 October 2015. The workshop participants were around 30 military,

In the coming months, UNODC will continue to engage with Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria on the treatment of children associated with Boko Haram in the context of the ongoing UNODC national level technical assistance programmes in each of the four Lake Chad Basin countries.

## UNODC Assists Sahel Countries on Criminal Justice Responses to Foreign Terrorist Fighters

More than a hundred States are considered among the countries of origin, transit or destination of foreign terrorist fighters. No less than 25,000 foreign terrorist fighters have been recruited by the various terrorist groups, notably ISIS. Such an intense flow of fighters constitutes a major threat to the whole of the international community. Following instability in Libya, a recent United Nations report has identified the Sahel as one of the regions facing a real threat from this phenomenon.

To assist the Sahel countries in facing this serious challenge, UNODC organized a seminar in Dakar from 29 September to 1 October 2015, in the framework of UNODC's Contribution to the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel. This was a follow-up to the work initiated at an earlier workshop on the same topic in Dakar in June 2015.

These workshops brought together officials from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal, as well as experts from various organizations. The representational national delegations — with officials

from ministries of justice and interior, national police forces, the gendarmerie, the national guard, the public prosecution and the judiciary — enabled a multidisciplinary approach to identifying the legal and

United Nations Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) on foreign terrorist fighters and its criminalization requirements. The participants also reached a number of action-oriented conclusions and



*To stop foreign terrorist fighters from reaching or leaving the shores of Sahel countries, UNODC organized a multidisciplinary regional seminar in Dakar addressing this phenomenon.*

criminal justice challenges and effective response measures. In particular, participants worked on identifying the gaps in the current national legal systems of participating States with respect to

called on UNODC to support the development of platforms for police and judicial cooperation, security and the exchange of information between the Sahel countries.

## Promoting the Entry into Force of the 2005 Amendment to International Convention Strengthens Nuclear Security

“Entry into force of the Amendment [to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material] is the single most important step which the international community can take in strengthening nuclear security globally,” said Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Mr Yukiya Amano at the 59th General Conference of the IAEA on 15 September 2015. Terrorists are actively seeking nuclear and other radioactive materials while these materials are not always adequately protected, in

some cases because of the lack of adequate legal frameworks, and in other cases because the legal frameworks are not being implemented.

The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its Amendment are legally binding instruments that promote nuclear security and counter nuclear terrorism. Unfortunately, the Amendment to the CPPNM is one of the few international legal instruments against terrorism that

has not entered into force yet. The adherence to it of two thirds of the Parties to the Convention which are now 153 (152 States Parties plus Euratom), is required for the Amendment to enter into force. Currently, there are still 13 adherences needed for its entry into force.

Recognizing the vital importance of the Amendment, on 28 and 29 October 2015, UNODC, in cooperation with the IAEA, held a High-Level Workshop on the

Promotion of the Entry into Force of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. The United Kingdom provided financial support for this conference. The

of political prioritization of the adherence to the instrument. Among the useful practices for the ratification, the participants mentioned a key role of the high-level international encouragement of

material used for peaceful purposes. However, the Amendment modifies the CPPNM at three different levels. First, it expands the CPPNM's scope of application over the physical protection of nuclear material during international transport to include the protection of nuclear facilities and the protection of nuclear material in domestic use, storage and transport. Additionally, the Amendment requires State Parties to establish, implement and maintain a physical protection regime applicable to nuclear materials and nuclear facilities. Second, the Amendment criminalizes the acts of “nuclear smuggling” and “sabotage”, as well as provides “substantial damage to the environment” as an additional element of some of the offences. With respect to ancillary offences, in addition to those included in the original CPPNM, the Amendment also provides that it is an offence to organize and direct others to commit certain offences and to contribute to the commission of the offences. Third, the Amendment establishes new cooperation, assistance and coordination measures among States Parties and intergovernmental organizations (and non-State Parties in specific instances).



*UNODC/TPB and IAEA brought together in Vienna representatives from 35 countries that have not yet ratified the Amendment to the CPPNM.*

Workshop was attended by representatives of 35 countries that are Party to the CPPNM, but have not yet ratified the Amendment to the convention, and was supported by representatives from the IAEA, UNODC and the 1540 Committee Group of Experts.

the ratification of the Amendment. They also called for the support of international organizations, such as UNODC and IAEA, in holding national level discussions on the significance and benefits of the Amendment to the CPPNM. In the view of a number of participants, these national level actions would significantly facilitate the domestic processes of ratification of the instrument.

The workshop participants felt particularly encouraged by the shared experiences of countries that have recently ratified the Amendment in spite of various domestic challenges, such as the lack

Both the CPPNM and its Amendment apply to nuclear

The ratification of this instrument is essential for increasing nuclear security and preventing nuclear terrorism worldwide. It is in the very interest of each country in the world that it enters into force as soon as possible.

## Addressing the Challenge of Terrorists Acting Alone or in Small Cells to Counter Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism

From 9 to 11 November 2015, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB) teamed up with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), to cooperate with Israel in its organization of a

major international counter-terrorism conference in Tel Aviv.

With the aim of contributing to increase dialogue and cooperation, the international conference entitled “Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism: The Challenge of

Terrorists Acting Alone or in Small Cells” was attended by more than 100 counter-terrorism experts from 41 OSCE participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation countries from Central Asia, the Middle East, North America, Northern, Eastern, Central and Southern Europe. Entities such as the

Anti-Terrorism Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the European Union, INTERPOL, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure of the Shanghai Co-operation Organization, the Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute also took part in the event.

Participants shared their perceptions of the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including the increased risk for terrorist attacks to be perpetrated at home either by returnees from conflict hotspots, such as Syria and Iraq, or by individuals who were prevented from travelling to join terrorist groups abroad. Discussions highlighted ongoing challenges faced by competent authorities when confronted with terrorists acting alone or in small cells, in terms of inter-agency coordination, criminalization of offences and related human rights challenges, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cases and international cooperation. Attention focused on the engagement with civil society, private sector and the media to prevent, detect and

intervene, in compliance with the rule of law and international human rights law, to disrupt isolated and increasingly diffused cases of radicalization to terrorism.

The event concluded with a practical scenario-based exercise in the

This conference presented an ideal opportunity for practical-oriented discussions on critical issues and challenges faced by counter-terrorism practitioners today when dealing with the evolving nature of terrorism, intensified by new terrorist modus operandi and



*OSCE Participating States and Partner Countries, as well as international organisations, took part in the UNODC-OSCE conference in Tel Aviv.*

breakout groups which debated States' differences in approaches towards issues such as preventive detention, evidentiary thresholds for criminal justice responses, removal of contents from the Internet and other possible mitigation measures in the event of higher threat levels.

features. As the United Nations prepares to launch its comprehensive Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, States voiced a strong will to strengthen their capacities to counter radicalization and violent extremism in a pre-emptive manner.

The UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch has developed 38 technical assistance tools and publications, which are used as an integral part of the counter-terrorism capacity-building activities. Most of these tools are available in the six official languages of the United Nations, and many have been translated into other languages as well.

These resources are available at [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/technical-assistance-tools.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/technical-assistance-tools.html) and include:

- Counter-terrorism legal training curriculum modules,
- Practical guides, handbooks and manuals,
- Studies,
- Electronic legal resources on international terrorism,
- Model laws,
- Compendiums of legal instruments,
- UNODC mutual legal assistance request writer tool,
- USB flashdrives, and
- Observatory for jurisprudence for the Americas.

## UNODC/TPB Partners with Nigerian Bar Association to Train Defence Lawyers on Handling Terrorism Cases and Human Rights

“Terrorism is ravaging Nigeria and there is a need for lawyers to play their role, including in defending terrorism suspects.” This statement by an experienced Nigerian lawyer participant sums up the spirit of the Training Workshop on Fundamental Rights in the Investigation, Prosecution and Trial of Terrorism Cases organized by the UNODC and Nigerian Bar Association from 15 to 17 September 2015, with funding from Denmark.

The training for defence lawyers complements the ongoing Nigeria-UNODC programme partnership on strengthening rule-of-law based criminal justice responses to terrorism, which has seen UNODC deliver specialized training to Nigerian police investigators, prosecutors and judges.

A group of 20 Nigerian advocates met for an intensive three-day training workshop in Abuja, joined by two defence lawyers with experience in defending terrorism suspects from Kenya and the United Kingdom, as well as Nigerian and UNODC experts.

The participants discussed complex questions regarding the arrest and detention of terrorism suspects, their right to consult with a legal practitioner, and the use of statements obtained in violation of rights as admissible evidence. The training culminated in a mock hearing before a Nigerian Federal Appeals Court judge, in which participants argued the prosecution

and defence sides of a case where a terrorism suspect disowned self-incriminating statements previously made to the police, alleging that they had been extorted under duress.

The training was based on the custom-tailored training modules for Nigeria on human rights aspects of the investigation, prosecution and trial of terrorism cases that were

under attack from Boko Haram with the right of all persons accused of a crime, including terrorism suspects, to be assisted by legal counsel, as enshrined in Nigeria’s Constitution and international law. They highlighted that lawyers defending terrorism suspects would be met by incomprehension from their communities and risk of compromising their reputation and



*In Abuja, 20 Nigerian advocates discussed legal details of terrorism cases and held a mock hearing before a Federal Appeals Court judge as part of a three-day UNODC training workshop.*

developed by UNODC in partnership with a leading academic institution, the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, and funded by the European Union.

In addition to technical legal questions, participants grappled with ethical issues arising in the defence of terrorism suspects, such as reconciling loyalty to their country

respect from their community members.

The Nigeria-UNODC programme partnership on strengthening rule-of-law based criminal justice responses to terrorism has been funded by the European Union, Denmark, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom.

## UNODC/TPB Partners with UNDP to Assist Somalia on its Counter-Terrorism Bill

Working together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB) is assisting the Somalia National Federal Parliament in its review of the Somali Counter-Terrorism Bill

(2015). For this purpose, a legislative workshop was held in Kampala, Uganda, from 20-26 October 2015, organized by the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project for Somalia, within the

framework of the United Nations Mission in Somalia (UNSOM).

Participants in the workshop were members of the Somali Parliamentary Committee on Interior and Security, the State Attorney

General, officials from three Ministries of Justice, National Security and Justice, as well as the National Police Force and representatives from the Somali media. These Somali participants were assisted by three experts from UNODC/TPB, UNSOM and the British Embassy in Mogadishu to review the Bill and elaborate modifications for ensuring that the Bill's provisions are aligned with the universal legal framework against terrorism and other pertinent international obligations and good

practices, especially with regard to compliance with human rights. As the next step, the Committee is to conduct public consultations as

” *Somali officials were assisted to review the Bill and elaborate modifications* ”

called for by Somali Constitution. Thereafter, a follow-up workshop is planned to be organized by UNDP with the support of UNODC/TPB to assist in finalizing the Bill.

The capacity building support to Somalia was initiated by UNODC/TPB in May 2015 through undertaking the first training workshop for a select group of 18 Somali judges and prosecutors. This training workshop, hosted by the Justice Academy of Turkey in Ankara, focused on rule-of-law based investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism-related offences.

## UNODC/TPB Reinforces Support for Central Africa, Especially Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch, jointly with the UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa, will be strengthening counter-terrorism assistance delivery for the Central African countries, with special focus on Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, drawing on funding support from Japan and the USA.

Similar to the Sahel countries, some of the Central African countries are increasingly confronted with serious terrorist threats, most notably from al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) present in the Sahel region and from Boko Haram, which initially operated from Nigeria and has already spilled over to Cameroon and Chad.

### Central Africa Regional Strategy on Counter-Terrorism

In November 2015, 11 Member States of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) adopted the Regional Strategy on Counter-Terrorism and the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa, which builds upon the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. They also adopted a Plan of Action for implementing the Regional Strategy and committed to regular monitoring of progress in implementation. This Regional Strategy focuses on four fundamental pillars: prevention, protection, prosecutions and responses to terrorism and

trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa. It also highlights the importance of respecting human rights and the rule of law as essential bases for countering terrorism.

In the Regional Strategy and its Plan of Action, the Central African States called on UNODC to support them in their implementation. This mainly entails providing legislative assistance, supporting implementation capacity building of the criminal justice system entities

” *UNODC contributed to the elaboration of the Regional Strategy and its Plan of Action for Central Africa* ”

and supporting the establishment of a Regional Judicial Cooperation Platform for Central African Countries with a specific focus on terrorism and related arms trafficking.

UNODC contributed to the elaboration of the Regional Strategy and its Plan of Action, especially by assisting to conduct the workshop on criminal justice responses to terrorism, held from 29 September to 2 October 2015 in Libreville, organized jointly by the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate, the Regional Office of the United Nations for Central Africa and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, with the participation of the Economic

Community of Central African States and the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States.

### Cameroon

Since early 2014, Cameroon has suffered several terrorist attacks perpetrated by Boko Haram from neighbouring Nigeria.

Pursuant to the request from the Government, consultations were recently held with relevant national authorities, resulting in the formulation of a counter-terrorism assistance programme, which has now been endorsed by the Government. The programme would help to: (i) reinforce the national counter-terrorism legal regime in line with the relevant international legal framework; and (ii) to strengthen capacities of national criminal justice and law enforcement officials in counter-terrorism, especially with regard to investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism cases, including their financing, as well as judicial cooperation.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has suffered numerous attacks from armed groups operating in the eastern part of the country and from neighbouring countries and does not yet have a comprehensive counter-terrorism legislation.

The national authorities have asked for UNODC assistance for legislative modification and capacity building to implement criminal justice measures against terrorism. Recently, the Government endorsed a national counter-terrorism assistance programme elaborated by UNODC and the national authorities. The new programme

would help the country to: (i) build up a comprehensive national counter-terrorism legal regime; and (ii) to strengthen capacities of national criminal justice and law enforcement officials in counter-terrorism, especially with regard to investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism cases,

including their financing, as well as judicial cooperation.

Two legislative assistance workshops were held in September and December 2015 with the support of UNODC, and the revised draft counter-terrorism law is scheduled to be submitted to Parliament in early 2016.

## EU-Funded Action in the Maghreb Region: Strengthening Counter-Terrorism Efforts in Morocco

The Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) organized a national workshop in Rabat from 29 September to 1 October 2015, under the framework of a UNODC/TPB-Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) joint initiative funded by the European Union (EU).

Twelve Moroccan criminal justice and law enforcement officers, together with seven international senior experts from France, Germany, Spain and Tunisia, as well as EUROJUST, Europol and the European Court of Human Rights participated in the workshop entitled “The Use of Special Investigation Techniques within the Framework of the Rule of Law and with Respect for Human Rights”. The workshop was opened by the Deputy Chief of the EU Delegation in Morocco and several EU Member States representatives in Rabat participated in the sessions.

The objective of the three-day workshop was to present to Moroccan criminal justice and law enforcement officials relevant judicial frameworks, mechanisms, challenges and best practices in using special investigation techniques in terrorism related cases with full respect for human rights and the rule of law.

In particular, through interactive discussions and presentations illustrated by concrete cases and case studies, participants and experts discussed various issues related to:



*Nineteen law enforcement officers and international senior experts participated in the UNODC national workshop in Rabat on the use of special investigation techniques to combat terrorism.*

- audio and video surveillance (including wiretapping/telephone tapping and videotaping) in public spaces, professional and private areas, including in sensitive premises such as prisons and police custody cells;
- special measures regarding home searches or conducting searches in workplaces (hours to conduct searches, legally protected areas or professions, etc.);
- administrative surveillance measures (including wiretapping/telephone tapping, videotaping, police shadowing and supervision, etc.);
- special investigation techniques on the Internet/electronic surveillance (anonymous browsing for investigation purposes, interception of data and mails, decryption of encoded data, etc.);
- undercover operations/infiltrated officers, while respecting the rights of the accused person (judicial oversight, mechanisms and procedures to protect the disclosure of sources and collection methods, protection of the anonymity and integrity of intelligence officers); and
- the international cooperation aspects relating to the use of special investigation techniques in counter-terrorism cases (including within the framework of international letters rogatory).

Participants and experts analyzed the mechanisms to ensure effectiveness of those techniques while respecting

the rule of law, as well as the potential application of the good practices highlighted during the seminar to the Moroccan system. The UNODC-CTED initiative funded by the EU was launched in

June 2014 and aims at strengthening the capacity of countries in the Maghreb region, especially Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, in investigating and prosecuting counter-terrorism cases while

respecting human rights and the rule of law.

## Incorporating UNODC/TPB Modules related to Counter-Terrorism in the Training Curriculum of the Libyan High Judicial Institute

Within the current Plan of Action aiming at supporting Libya's efforts towards the development and implementation of a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy in the fight against terrorism, as well as promoting an effective and rule-of-law based comprehensive criminal justice response to terrorism and responding to the specific request by the Libyan authorities, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch

Programmes and a number of trainers from the Libyan High Judicial Institute (HJI).

The goal of the national workshop was to present the technical tools (i.e. training curriculum and publications) produced by UNODC/TPB to Libyan criminal justice officials, including the trainers from the Libyan HJI, for inclusion in its training curriculum.

occasion provided an opportunity to outline best practices included in the tools.

In order to provide the participants with a concrete example on how the training curriculum could be used for trainings at the HJI, practical case studies were analyzed by the participants with UNODC/TPB experts' guidance.

The Deputy Director and the Director of Programmes of the HJI, with full support of all trainers and criminal justice officials participating, fully endorsed the UNODC/TPB proposal to include the counter-terrorism training curriculum as an integrated part of both the initial and the continuous HJI learning curricula.

Libyan trainee judges will be provided with hard copies of the technical tools (i.e. counter-terrorism training curriculum modules and publications) through the HJI. This action will constitute a "first contact" approach for the trainers and trainees with international instruments and practices to prevent and combat terrorism.

Moreover, UNODC/TPB will, in cooperation with trainers of the Libyan HJI, develop training modules on different legal aspects to prevent and combat terrorism. These modules will then be included in the relevant HJI training curriculum, first in the programme related to international law, and later in the regular criminal law and criminal procedure programme.



*UNODC/TPB presented its technical tools to the Libyan criminal justice officials during a three-day workshop in Amman for inclusion in the High Judicial Institute's training curriculum.*

(UNODC/TPB) has been delivering a series of specialized thematic capacity building training courses for criminal justice and law enforcement officials in criminal matters related to terrorism.

The workshop took place in Amman, Jordan, on 28 and 29 November 2015 and was attended by 17 judges and prosecutors, including the Deputy Director, the Director of

During the two-day workshop, experts from UNODC/TPB presented the modules of the training curriculum and relevant technical publications produced by the Branch. UNODC/TPB experts delivered presentations on each manual and each module, highlighting a wide range of topics covered along with the related challenges. Furthermore, the

## UNODC/TPB Holds Expert Group Meeting on Development of a Training Tool for the CBRN Legal Framework

On 26 and 27 August 2015, the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) convened in Vienna an Expert Group Meeting on the Development of a Training Module on the International Legal Framework against Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism.

The event brought together some 20 experts from Member States, as well as representatives from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the 1540 Committee Group of Experts, the Centre for Science and Security Studies at King's College London, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

The meeting aimed to obtain an expert peer review of the UNODC/TPB counter-terrorism legal training curriculum's new draft module dealing with the international legal instruments against CBRN terrorism. Consistent with the mandates and focus of the UNODC work, the target audience

of the counter-terrorism legal training curriculum includes prosecutors and judges, investigators and other law enforcement officials, policymakers and government officials from concerned key departments — notably foreign affairs, justice and interior — who are involved in legislative drafting, international cooperation in criminal matters, investigation, prosecution

and adjudication of terrorist crimes or have responsibilities with regard to the ratification of international treaties. The curriculum utilizes a train-the-trainer approach aimed at transferring to the practitioners in the Member States the knowledge and expertise needed to strengthen their capacity to implement the international legal framework against terrorism.



*Around 20 experts from Member States as well as representatives from relevant organizations attended the two-day Expert Group Meeting convened in Vienna by UNODC/TPB.*

## Expert Group Discusses Criminal Justice Responses for Countering Crimes Related to Terrorism and Violent Extremism

An increasingly complex and dynamic crime and security environment presents significant challenges for law enforcement and criminal justice agencies responsible for preventing, investigating and prosecuting crimes associated with terrorism and violent extremism. The recent dramatic emergence of new (often Internet-based) methods for the radicalization, incitement, recruitment and training of recruits for terrorist purposes, including foreign terrorist fighters and individuals to carry out so-called “lone wolf” attacks, have

necessitated a change in approach by law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, in addition to their duty to prevent the commission of terrorist attacks.

The need to identify and implement key components of effective criminal justice measures for countering crimes related to terrorism and violent extremism (particularly those committed over the Internet or social media), including through the use of specialized investigative techniques, tools and procedures, has once again

been highlighted by recent terrorist attacks internationally.

To better achieve these objectives, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch organized an Expert Group Meeting on Implementing Effective Criminal Justice Responses for Countering Crimes related to Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Vienna from 16-18 November 2015. The meeting brought together representatives of 22 Member States, regional and specialized bodies, academia, media, civil society and the private sector.

During the meeting, participants were provided with presentations on a wide range of topics covering different challenges associated with the criminal justice aspects of countering violent extremism. Panel discussions provided an opportunity for participants to exchange ideas

and experiences on challenges, approaches and opportunities to counter terrorism-related crimes from a criminal justice point of view. Specific topics included the role of youth and children as groups vulnerable to recruitment and incitement of violent extremism and

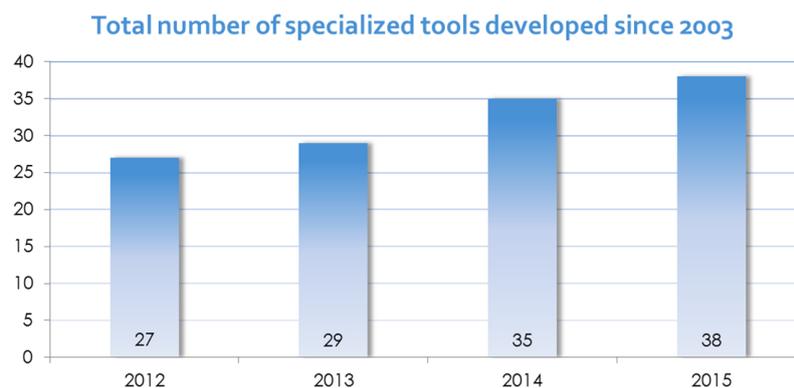
terrorism, the use of technology by terrorist groups, as well as in countering violent extremism, and de-radicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration of radicalized individuals and violent extreme offenders, and the monitoring and evaluation of impact of technical assistance.



For three days, experts from 22 Member States, regional and specialized bodies came together in Vienna to discuss criminal justice responses to crimes related to terrorism and violent extremism.

As a result of the meeting, a report with practical guidance for policymakers, criminal justice practitioners and other relevant actors will be developed in 2016 as a resource and tool for the use by Member States as well as UNODC and other technical assistance providers. The tool is intended to assist in strengthening the effectiveness of law enforcement and criminal justice responses to more effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate crimes associated with violent extremism and terrorism.

## Some Achievements of the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch since 2003



## What we do

The **Terrorism Prevention Branch** of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) delivers counter-terrorism legislative and capacity-building assistance to Member States, upon request, aimed at strengthening national capacity to implement the universal legal regime against terrorism.

### Which topics do we cover?

- Universal legal framework against terrorism,
- Investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism-related cases,
- Human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism,
- International cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism,
- Countering the financing of terrorism,
- Criminal justice responses to the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters,
- Preventing and suppressing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism,
- Transport-related (civil aviation and maritime) terrorism offences,
- Countering the use of the internet for terrorist purposes,
- Victims of acts of terrorism, and
- Children associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups.

### What do we offer?

UNODC/TPB offers a broad spectrum of services to counter and prevent terrorism:

**Capacity building workshops** are organized at the national, sub-regional and regional level, through which criminal justice officials receive specialized knowledge enhancement and training on preventing and countering terrorism;

Our **online counter-terrorism learning platform** is an interactive tool for training criminal justice officials on countering terrorism that offers tailor-made online training and access to a worldwide community of practitioners, enabling networking and the sharing of good practices;

**Mock trials and investigations** of terrorism cases, terrorist financing and linkages to serious related crimes provide practitioners with an opportunity to simulate trials and criminal investigations based on real-life scenarios;

**Legislative services** aim to support Member States with the incorporation of the provisions of the international legal instruments against terrorism into national legislation through legislative analysis, drafting and national workshops;

**Study tours** are organized for criminal justice officials to get them acquainted with counter-terrorism good practices;

**Partnerships with national training institutions** are established to promote professional legal training on counter-terrorism issues through train-the-trainer programmes and development of training materials customized to the national legal systems.

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