

**Opening Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov,**

first of the Secretary-General's various UN reform initiatives, in response to the request from Member States to strengthen and improve the UN system's work on counter-terrorism.

I am pleased to report that the launch of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact earlier this month was a major step forward in this regard. I would like to take some time to brief you on this important development in some detail.

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This new Global Compact Coordination Task Force framework has replaced the previous Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. It updates and revitalizes our coordination framework to ensure a more coherent "one-UN" approach. It is focused on ensuring Impact through Coordination, based on a detailed Methodology and key Principles.

The first Principals-level meeting of the Coordination Committee of the Global Compact took place on 6 December in the presence of the Secretary-General.

So far, the Heads of 36 UN entities working on counter-terrorism, plus INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization, have become members of the Global Compact.

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The Coordination Committee will oversee the implementation of the Global Compact and will meet every quarter under my chairmanship in my capacity as Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism.

Once a year, the Committee will have a Principals-level meeting under the leadership of the Secretary-General to take stock and discuss strategic priorities.

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At our first meeting on 6 December, we discussed how to strengthen the coordination between Global Compact entities while respecting existing mandates. In particular, we discussed:

Improving how UN entities share information and consult each other to avoid duplication.

Strengthening our joint programming and other capacity-building activities, with a stronger focus on monitoring and evaluation.

And enhancing how we communicate and engage with Member States, especially on resource mobilization.

The Secretary-General's clear steer to Global Compact entities at the meeting was to focus on delivery and impact. In line with this, let me briefly highlight a few of the key outcomes of our first meeting.

We have agreed to develop a comprehensive programme of work for the next two years by 31 March 2019. This will be implemented through revitalized and streamlined “All-of-UN” working groups for result-oriented collaboration on thematic priorities.

We have also agreed to establish a new inter-agency working group on Resource Mobilization and Monitoring and Evaluation. This working group will aim to develop a stronger monitoring and evaluation framework for the entire Global Compact, so we can better measure the outcomes and impact of our work, including in terms of projects on the ground.

The Compact aims to strengthen the UN system from within. To complement this overall framework, my Office has also taken steps to promote specialized cooperation and collaboration with various parts of the UN Secretariat. We have created a new way of working with CTED in response to Security Council resolution 2395 and have strengthened our partnerships with UNDP, UNODC and DPKO. In 2019, we will build on this to make even more concrete progress.

Moreover, UNOCT has also successfully fulfilled its reporting requirements mandated by

Second, following from our original proposal to create a Network of Counter-Terrorism Coordinators, we will now be working on developing a UN Counter-Terrorism Coordination Portal instead of the network. Based on Member States' feedback, including the preference of some to take a less ambitious approach, we are re-designing this portal to serve as a coordination and coherence platform among Member States and UN entities, and to allow for practical information sharing and connectivity. We will soon be sharing a Terms of Reference for this with Member States.

Third, we are consulting widely on how we can strengthen our engagement with civil society across the scope of my Office's work. Given the considerable interest from Member States on this issue, I would like to take this opportunity to update you in greater detail.

Since the High-level Conference, we have met or engaged with over 200 global, regional and local civil society leaders from all over the world, including during my field visits to Fallujah, Timbuktu, Washington, Geneva and Vienna.

On the basis of these preliminary discussions, and ideas received from Member States, we will develop an engagement strategy that will explore good practices from other Global Compact entities, including CTED, UN Women and OHCHR, as well as from Member States.

I am pleased to confirm that we have received some catalytic seed funding from the Governments of Switzerland and Spain to develop this engagement strategy, to be prepared in early 2019.

This strategy will form the basis for further consultations with Member States. It will also review existing networks and make recommendations on how UNOCT can help to strengthen these networks, rather than duplicate or replace them.

We need to ensure a more systematic and regular approach to consultations with civil society organizations, allowing my Office and other Global Compact entities to benefit from their unique expertise and best practices. Moreover, as mentioned by the Secretary-General at the High-level Conference, these efforts will help ensure that the views of civil society are reflected in our policies and programmes.

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UNOCT is also heeding the call from the General Assembly to develop and sustain close partnerships between the United Nations and regional and sub-regional 7.47 1,rTsW\*55i Tm0 g0 G(-)]TJETQq



UNOCT. I encourage all Member States to also consider providing financial support to this important initiative.

Another priority for the UN system is the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighters. Last week, the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee held an important meeting on this very issue. To support member states in addressing this challenge, the UN's Capacity Building Implementation Plan for Countering the Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters includes 40 capacity-building projects from 12 UN entities.

Overall, in 2018, UNOCT has continued to focus on larger and more impactful projects and programmes, including in priority areas such as border security and management, countering the financing of terrorism, youth engagement, skills development and employment facilitation, preventing and responding to terrorism related to weapons of mass destruction, foreign terrorist fighters, and supporting victims of terrorism.

In July, UNCCT launched a global multi-year Victims of Terrorism Support Programme that provides a comprehensive framework to support the rights and needs of victims of terrorism.

A first success of this programme was the organisation of a month-long multimedia exhibition of interviews with victims to commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

In 2018, we have also worked hard to engage and empower youth to build their resilience to terrorist recruitment and propaganda. Next year, we intend to further strengthen our work on youth issues.

This year, in Bangladesh, UNCCT trained more than 200 principals and teachers from technical and vocational institutes on preventing violent extremism, institute management, liaison with employers, and entrepreneurship. In view of the positive feedback from the field and growing interest from Member States, the Centre is working to expand this initiative to Indonesia, Iraq, and the Maldives.

Countering terrorist financing is another area where we have contributed significantly to building national capacities.

More than 100 officials from financial bodies, private sector, intelligence, and law enforcement agencies in Tunisia, Mongolia, and Mauritius benefited from training on the implementation of targeted financial sanctions.

UNOCT has also continued efforts on the important issue of human rights. We are working on human rights training for border officials and have held regional workshops in Southeast Asia, Southern Africa, the G5 Sahel and Northern Africa. We are also addressing issues related to children accompanying foreign terrorist fighters, working closely with other UN entities such as OHCHR and the SRSG on Children and Armed Conflict.

My Office has also supported the implementation of counter-terrorism strategies in East Africa, Southern Africa, and Central Asia.



As you may be aware, my Office has only 8 regular budget posts, one of which is my own, even though what we do is core to the work of the UN. This is a fraction of the Regular Budget resources available to similar UN departments. My Office will study closely how we can address this issue of our limited Regular Budget resources and I hope we can count on your support.

UNOCT thus depends heavily on extrabudgetary contributions. I have been engaging actively with many delegations on this issue of resources, particularly during my visits to different capitals and regions.

I wish to thank the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and all Member States that have provided funding for our important work. I am grateful for the new contributions that we have received into the UN Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund this year from Belgium, Japan, the Russian Federation, UK, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, while the European Union and the Republic of Korea will also contribute before the year's end.

In addition, just this weekend, I have signed a new Contribution Agreement with Qatar to strengthen UNOCT, support implementation of the Global Compact and UNOCT capacity projects on API/PNR, and PVE and victims of terrorism. The State of Qatar will contribute US\$ 15 million to UNOCT per year for a period of five years, amounting to a total contribution of US\$75 million.

My Office is also fortunate to have been supported by several Member States through the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) programme. We currently have 5 JPOs from Sweden, Germany, Kazakhstan, France and Denmark working in UNOCT and I am grateful for this contribution.

Looking forward to 2019, we will launch UNOCT's first Consolidated Multi-Year donor appeal next month, in close consultation with other Global Compact entities. This donor appeal is unique in that we are aiming for an "All of UN" approach to resource mobilization. For the first time, we are presenting projects from various UN entities collectively to Member States.

I hope that you will give careful consideration to supporting the appeal to enable us to do more to assist Member States affected by terrorism and vulnerable to violent extremism.





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