PRESS RELEASE

CTED issues Trends Report on "The State of International Cooperation for Lawful Access to Digital Evidence: Research Perspectives"

New York, 26 January 2022 – Today, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) issued a Trends Report on "The State of International Cooperation for Lawful Access to Digital Evidence: Research Perspectives".

Prepared in accordance with Security Council resolution 2617 (2021), this report builds on CTED's engagement with Member States, including in the context of the country assessment visits conducted on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. It also benefits insights collected from various sources, including privacy- and data-protection agencies, and representatives of the private sector and civil society organizations (CSOs) from around the world, as well as members of relevant international and regional institutions working on cross-border data reforms. This report offers a snapshot of the regulatory reform landscape as of late 2021 and its main objective is to identify some of the major trends that contribute to the current overall cross-border situation in this area.

CTED will build on this analysis with the aim of supporting the Committee's work to promote implementation of the relevant Council resolutions relating to information and communications technologies (ICT). In this respect, CTED is committed to:

Continue its work on countering the use of the Internet, other ICTs, and other emerging technologies for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Explore ways to continue to expand its dialogue within the United Nations system and with international and regional actors, as well as to deepen its engagement and cooperation with the relevant civil society and private sector entities.

Make full use of the Committee's assessment and stocktaking tools and its dialogue with Member States in order to further its assessment and thematic analysis, as well as to identify and promote relevant good practices.

Continue to identify and assess issues, trends, and developments relating to the implementation of the relevant Council resolutions.

More information is available <u>here</u>.

Background

The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was established by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which was adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks carried out in the United States. The Committee (which consists of all 15 Members of the Security Council) was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which requests States to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal, institutional and operational abilities to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions, and around the world.