PRESS RELEASE

Counter-Terrorism Committee conducts first assessment visit to Benin

New York, 4 April 2023 - Acting on behalf of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee, its Executive Directorate (CTED) conducted its <u>first country assessment visit to the Republic of Benin</u> from 13 to 17 March 2023. The visit concluded the Committee's hybrid assessment of Benin, following a visit in July 2021 conducted virtually due to travel restrictions related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The assessment

Background

The Counter-Terrorism Committee 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), in which the Council 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.

H.E. Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of the Committee on 30 January 2023.

The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) was established by the Council as a special political mission of the United Nations, tasked with assisting the Counter-Terrorism Committee in monitoring Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant counter-terrorism resolutions. Acting on the Committee's behalf, CTED conducts on-site country assessments visits, with the consent of the host State, to identify progress made and remaining challenges in addressing threats posed by terrorists to international peace and security. The findings of the assessment visits also form the basis for technical assistance and capacity-building projects delivered by partner entities.

Natalia Gherman was appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate by Secretary-General António Guterres on 2 December 2022. Ms. Gherman took up her functions on 1 March 2023.