



this Council and all the Members of the Council for their incredibly useful and insightful work on AR/VR and for bringing this topic to UNOCT.

While these technologies hold great potential, terrorist groups have also proven to be adept at using them. Terrorists extensively use information communication technologies to expand their reach, radicalization, and recruitment methods, all of which target vulnerable people around the world. With the increased online connectivity resulting from the pandemic, this has enabled terrorist actors to reach a wider audience globally,

good practices to address the threats of AR and VR, but also to incorporate their potential use into counter-terrorism efforts while complying with human rights and international law.

We are especially thrilled to have top expert panelists with us today who will share their experience with augmented reality and virtual reality technologies, their related challenges and opportunities, as well as their experience in applying these technologies as capacity building tools. We will also benefit from their knowledge regarding lessons learned and good practices and on the future of these technologies in our CT/PVE efforts.

I am confident that today's discussions on the application of AR/VR technologies will set a strong foundation to guide us towards the development of effective measures against terrorism and violent extremism, upholding human rights and promoting gender responsiveness while countering terrorism in the age of these technologies. Let me particularly thank the two moderators Dr Robert Bunker and Dr Timothy Marler and all the experts and speakers who, out of their very busy scheduled, accepted with enthusiasm to bring their knowledge, experience and great skills to us today.

I thank you for your attention.