

Statement by Mr. Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, on the ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) by the Republic of Tajikistan

29 June 2022

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), congratulates the Republic of Tajikistan on the historic ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT).

Following the deposit of the instrument of ratification during a ceremony held at the signature room of the United Nations Treaty Section today in New York, Tajikistan officially became the 119th State Party to the Convention, which is one of the 19 international legal instruments to prevent terrorist acts.

Mr. Voronkov stresses that the risk of terrorists gaining access to nuclear and radiological materials is a significant threat to humanity and international peace and security which requires increased vigilance.

To address this potential threat, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov calls for universal adherence to ICSANT, a Convention that facilitates international cooperation including the exchange of information on nuclear security threats, prosecution, and extradition of suspects.

Mr. Voronkov therefore thanks the European Union for supporting the project on 'Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of ICSANT', jointly implemented by UNCCT/UNOCT and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). He further notes the project's contribution to the ratification process, including through the organization of the National Advocacy Event with Tajikistan Parliamentarians in February 2021 to raise awareness on the Convention.