



Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General,
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism [pre-recorded]

Side Event: Securing of Vulnerable Targets from Terrorist Attacks: Promoting Sustainable Security
and Legacies

29 June 2021, 1.30 p.m. (NY time)

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to side event on “Securing of Vulnerable Targets from Terrorist Attacks: Promoting Sustainable Security and Legacies”.

We are here because historically, terrorist groups have attempted, and continue to attempt, attacks against sporting events.

The tragic story of the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, the 2009 terrorist attack against the Sri Lankan cricket team, and the Boston Marathon bombing of 2013, as well as many other attacks against other sporting events, are stark reminders of this awful reality.

Sporting events are not solely targeted because they are attended by large groups of people, but also because they represent what terrorists aim to destroy in our societies and across the world: human dignity, peaceful coexistence and high ideals.

As many of us have experienced first-hand, sport is an extraordinary generator of positive values with unifying power, which can transcend

This Guide has been developed as part of UNOCT's Global Sports Programme, in partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and the International Centre for Sport Security, and in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate.

The guide provides policymakers and relevant security stakeholders with a comprehensive overview of good practices to inform the security considerations in the planning, preparation, organization and management of major sporting events.

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