

# **Multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation: the United Nations**

## **Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact—Global Counterterrorism Forum partnership**

30 June 2021, 8 9.30 am EDT (via Microsoft Teams)

Statement by Ambassador Andreas Künne, Germany

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and colleagues,

I am pleased and honoured to speak to you today as one of the co-chairs of the West Africa Working Group of the Global Counterterrorism Forum. Countering and preventing terrorism and violent extremism continue to be high priorities for Germany.

Terrorism, as a multidimensional and global phenomenon, can only be tackled successfully by working together, by sharing experiences and best-practices, by 0.03(t)-2( 0 0 1 2878 25.32 Tm98



region. We also agreed from the outset that one of our major objectives is to strengthen the Working Group's capacity to coordinate and cooperate on counterterrorism with regional and international organizations.

That is why, next to organizing specific workshops e.g. on police and justice cooperation, border management and countering terrorist financing, we have reached out to multiple regional and international organizations that already play a crucial role in our shared endeavor to fight terrorism in West Africa. The Cooperation with the UN is of particular importance for us and has proven time and again very fruitful from the strategic to the operational level; from New York and Vienna to the regional offices.

Our conceptual starting point was, of course, the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy with its four pillars. In 2019, together with Algeria and the members of the West Africa Working Group, we developed eight priorities which we wanted to focus on during the time of our co-chairmanship from 2019 until 2022. These priorities are based on the GCTS. Within this framework we have identified together with our West African Partners ways to strengthen all four pillars.

On a more tactical level, we knew from the start that a successful | |

national trainings within the framework of the GCTF in addition to the regular program. To implement this idea, we partnered with UNODC. Not only do they bring their great expertise in the field to the table; they also have an excellent network that has proven invaluable for our work. Furthermore, the West Africa Working Group benefits from an on-the-ground perspective the regional offices of UNODC are able to provide, allowing us to address the topics with a great variety of speakers with specific local insight. And, on multiple occasions our GCTF Working Group has benefited and will further

Ladies and gentlemen,

Recent tragic events in Burkina Faso and Niger as well as last