



Opening Remarks and Speaking Notes of  
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Office of Counter-Terrorism

UNOCT Ambassadorial-level Quarterly Briefing to Member States  
(Via MS Teams Webinar)

28 February 2023

Excellencies,  
Dear colleagues,

Good morning and welcome to our first Quarterly Briefing to Member States this year.

During this meeting, we will review the progress we made in our joint counter-terrorism efforts last year and review our policy priorities for this year.

Let us begin by watching a short video, which will highlight the key achievements of UNOCT in 2022 and set the stage for my opening remarks.

Excellencies,  
Dear colleagues,

Thank you for your attention. We are grateful for the enduring support and contributions of Member States and United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, which made our achievements in the past year possible.

Despite the considerable progress that Member States, with the support of the United Nations, have made in preventing and countering terrorism, terrorist groups continue to adapt their methods and spread to new areas, especially in conflict settings.

Al-Qaida remains at large in Afghanistan while permanent attacks by its affiliates in Western and Eastern Africa continue to take lives.

The expansion of Da'esh and its affiliates in Central and Southern Africa, as well as in the Sahel region is particularly worrying, while the lethality of its so-called Khorasan branch in Afghanistan only worsens the already disastrous humanitarian situation there.



These events will build on the successes of the two previous Counter-Terrorism Weeks and the eleven regional high-level conferences we have convened since 2018 to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation and foster new partnerships, promote sharing of expertise and resources, reinvigorate policy dialogue, and help develop best practices and ideas to address critical counter-terrorism challenges.

Third, we are co-leading, together with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Department of Peace Operations and the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the development of the New Agenda for Peace, proposed by the Secretary-General in his landmark report on "Our Common Agenda."

We are focusing on overarching global recommendations to address the terrorist threat through a multilateral approach, including putting more emphasis on human rights and reinvigorate in his landmark

Following the ninth Coordination Committee meeting of the Compact held last month, we are

However, we have reached a ceiling in terms of what our existing infrastructure to support programme offices outside of Headquarters can sustain.

Accordingly, we are consolidating these presences and do not expect to open new ones beyond those already under discussion.

Excellencies, the main objective of my presentation of these priorities to you today was to hear from you. What are your priorities?

How could we jointly further strengthen United Nations counter-terrorism efforts? How could we collaborate better? Which thematic issues concern you the most?

Thank you for your kind attention.