

Recorded Statement by Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT)

Regional Workshop on Strategic and Crisis Communications (involving the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand), Bangkok, Thailand

3 April 2023

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to officially welcome you all to the Regional Workshop on Strategic and Crisis Communication in Southeast Asia, organized by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and made possible thanks to the generous contribution of the European Union.

First and foremost, I would like to thank our counterparts in your governments for their support in organizing this important regional workshop: the National Counter Terrorism Agency of Indonesia, the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism of Malaysia, the Philippines Anti-Terrorism Council Program Management Center, and the National Security Council of Thailand.

Having worked closely with you during the national workshops, today's capstone event marks the next important milestone in our partnerships with you.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to our partners in the European Union for making it possible for UNOCT to provide fit-for-purpose PCVE capacity building and technical assistance to the region, with training, toolkits, and cutting-edge crisis simulation software.

Furthermore, I would also like to thank our partner, the United Nations Development Programme, for its role in helping implement this project and provide support to the national workshops on strategic and crisis communication in the region.

Ladies and gentlemen, Dear colleagues,

I am confident that the tools and technical support that you will receive during this workshop will help you deepen your understanding of the vital role of strategic and crisis communication in preventing and countering violent extremism, and that it will help build and foster your regional network of expert partners in this field.

You can count on the engagement and continued support of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. I wish you a successful and productive workshop.

Thank you.