

“Virtual Dialogue: Preventing and Countering Extremism and Terrorism in the Caribbean”

Tuesday, 8 June 2021, 09.00 – 09.27 a.m.

Opening remarks of

**Assistant Secretary-General Michèle Coninsx,
Executive Director, CTED**

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Let me express my gratitude to the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS CICTE) and the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) for organizing this important meeting.

This is a momentous year: the international community marks the 20th

Based on CTED's assessments, including findings contained in our latest Global Implementation Surveys of Security Council resolutions 1373 and 1624, States have:

- Introduced counter-terrorism legislation in compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions and international and regional counter-terrorism instruments.**
- Strengthened their criminal-justice and operational capacities to detect, disrupt and prosecute terrorist networks.**
- Enhanced law enforcement and border security measures, critical infrastructure protection and counter-financing of terrorism capacities.**
- And improved intelligence-sharing partnerships and cooperation.**

I commend the work of individual Member States, as well as those of our United Nations and regional partners that have provided critical support – in part based on the Committee's identified gaps and technical assistance needs of Member States - over the past two decades, including within the frameworks of CARICOM and OAS/CICTE.

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Twenty years into this global campaign to counter terrorism, the international community has made significant progress, but we cannot remain complacent.

The threat of terrorism persists, it continues to adapt and evolve.

ISIL, Al-Qaida and its global franchises continue to inspire followers.

Within the subregion, the risk of recruitment to terrorism, the volume and

But Governments cannot do it alone.

It is important to engage all sectors of society including religious, community and women leaders, educators, and youth in the development and implementation of counter-terrorism strategies.

And it goes without saying: the COVID-19 pandemic has an impact on almost every aspect of our lives, including the security landscape.

The socioeconomic fallout from the crisis may undermine decades of progress.

Greater cooperation between and among States in the region and cross-regionally is more necessary today than ever before.

Our fight against terrorism cannot succeed unless we remain flexible, gender-sensitive and respect human rights and the rule of law.

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

As we approach the 20th anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001), the Committee and CTED look forward to the opportunity to build on our momentum to strengthen multilateral and regional collaboratMCID 10/L3wC7 (TETQq0.