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The second half of 2014 has been a busy time for the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB).

The Branch has been responsive to requests from Member States to support them in addressing emerging challenges, including the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon and kidnapping for ransom, from a legal and criminal justice perspective. In this regard, UNODC/TPB in cooperation with its partners in the United Nations family, the European Union, the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IJJ) in Malta and interested Member States, is preparing to launch a major initiative aimed at supporting national and regional efforts by Member States in strengthening legal frameworks and criminal justice capacities to more effectively address this threat.

On kidnapping for ransom, UNODC/TPB organized, jointly with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and in cooperation with the IJJ, a regional event on “Terrorist Kidnapping and Hostage-Taking: Enhancing the Implementation of the International Legal Framework against Terrorism”, held in Valletta on 16 and 17 September. The Branch also participated in the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council (CTC)’s Special Meeting on kidnapping for ransom and hostage taking committed by terrorist groups, held in New York on 24 November.

UNODC/TPB has continued its provision of legal and capacity building assistance to strengthen Member States’ criminal justice responses to terrorism while being responsive to the emerging and evolving needs of its Member States. Last October, the Branch organized, in Rabat, the first national workshop of the four-year EU-UNODC-CTED initiative on Effective Counter-Terrorism Investigations and Prosecutions while Respecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the Maghreb. The Branch also successfully organized several national workshops for Iraq and Egypt, as part of the Japanese funded project on strengthening the legal regime of Iraq and Egypt against terrorism. UNODC/TPB, jointly with the UNODC Country Office for Nigeria, continued implementation of the EU-UNODC project for Nigeria.

We continued strengthening our partnerships with national training institutions to further promote professional legal training on counter-terrorism issues and integration of our training modules into these institutions’ training curricula. For example, we co-organized with the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy of India, a national workshop, which was held in Hyderabad last November.

The Office also utilizes its technical assistance tools, including two new training curriculum modules, in the delivery of technical assistance, and hopes that they will serve as an important resource to States in strengthening their legal regimes against terrorism. In this regard, in December 2014 a train-the-trainers workshop on human rights while countering terrorism was held for the staff of the Branch, to strengthen their knowledge and skills for incorporating the human rights aspects in their work for delivering technical assistance.

I invite you, now, to read through this new issue of our newsletter for updates on TPB’s recent activities.

With best regards,
Trevor Michael Rajah
Chief, Terrorism Prevention Branch
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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UNODC/TPB Holds the First National Activity of the European Union-Funded Action to Strengthen Counter-Terrorism Efforts in the Maghreb Region

The first national workshop of the four-year joint initiative of the UNODC and the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), funded by the European Union (EU), was held in Rabat, Morocco, from 29 to 31 October 2014.

This initiative, launched in June 2014 at a regional conference organized in Tunis, aims at strengthening the capacity of countries of the Maghreb region, especially Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, in investigating and prosecuting counter-terrorism cases while respecting human rights and the rule of law. Specialized Moroccan judges, prosecutors, law enforcement and intelligence officers, as well as international senior experts from the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), EUROPOL, France, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Netherlands and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon participated in the workshop entitled “Challenges and Best Practices in Converting Intelligence and Classified Information Into Evidence in Terrorism Related Cases”. The workshop was opened by the Deputy Chief of the EU Delegation in Morocco, and several EU Member States representatives in Rabat participated in the sessions.



Participants at the workshop of the EU-funded action to strengthen counter-terrorism efforts in the Maghreb region, 29-31 October 2014, Rabat, Morocco

The workshop exposed Moroccan criminal justice, law enforcement and intelligence officers to relevant legal frameworks, mechanisms, challenges and best practices in the area of converting intelligence and classified information into evidence in terrorism related cases. Key elements of the workshop were the interactive discussions among experts and participants to exchange experience and good practices on policy, legal framework and operational aspects related to the use of classified information in counter-terrorism criminal proceedings and before the courts. The specific issues of the role of prosecutors and judges in de-classification and inclusion of protected or sensitive information

in the case file, as well as mechanisms and procedures to protect the disclosure of sources and collection methods, and protection of the anonymity and integrity of intelligence officers were addressed. Participants were also offered possible solutions to enhance international cooperation and intelligence sharing in counter-terrorism matters.

Extended and rich debates took place, discussing recommendations and possible solutions to key practical challenges faced by Moroccan judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers in light of the different experiences exposed.

UNODC/TPB in Cooperation with the Spanish and Italian Specialized Police Conducts Training on Criminal Investigations of Terrorist Offences Involving the Internet

The specialized national training on the use of special investigation techniques in criminal investigations of digital communication channels was held on 15-18 December 2014 in Tunis, in cooperation with cyberterrorism experts from the Cyberterrorism Group of the Spanish Guardia Civil and the Special Operations Group of the Italian Arma dei Carabinieri. This activity forms

part of a series of specialized thematic capacity building activities delivered under the Plan of Action established between UNODC/TPB and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia with funding provided by the United States of America.

Based on a unique interactive and practical methodology, jointly developed by UNODC/TPB and the Carabinieri and Guardia Civil

experts, this tailor-made training gave some 25 law enforcement officers from the General Directorates of National Security and National Guard of Tunisia, as well as the newly established National Telecommunications Agency (ATT), an opportunity to exchange experiences with their Spanish and Italian colleagues.

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In-depth discussions and dedicated sessions ensured transfer of practical knowledge and expertise, such as the necessary tools to investigate terrorist offences on the Internet, including preservation and recovery of digital evidence, as well as an analysis of communication channels used by terrorists.

The sessions were delivered jointly by UNODC/TPB and experts from the Guardia Civil and the Carabinieri. These sessions covered a range of specialized topics, such as international context and investigative challenges, efficient forensic criminal investigation and methods to better investigate Internet-based communication tools (such as VoIP, emailing, chat forums, etc.), as well as preservation and protection of digital evidence, anonymous browsing, Deep Web, security measures related to e-mails, etc. within the framework of respect for rule of law and human rights international standards. The workshop was enhanced by practical exercises, which were discussed and explained by the trainers.

The delivery of this specialized activity, conducted in close cooperation with the Tunisian Ministry of Interior and the ATT, was very timely as more and more practitioners find themselves increasingly faced with new telecommunications-related challenges, while terrorists appear to adapt perfectly to these new



Participants of the workshop on criminal investigations of terrorist offences involving the Internet, 15-18 December 2014, Tunis, Tunisia

means of communication. The Internet has become known to be used by terrorist groups to incite, glorify terrorist acts, recruit, finance or even prepare and commit terrorist attacks.

This point was emphasized during the recent visit of the Minister of Interior of Tunisia to UNODC headquarters in Vienna in September 2014. H.E. Lotfi Ben Jeddou recalled the importance of preventing and countering terrorism for Tunisia, and emphasized the importance of equipping law enforcement officers with the best possible tools to investigate terrorist offences effectively and engaging in international cooperation, to ensure that States can act quickly and

robustly when faced with cross-border challenges.

The workshop ended with both the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior, as well as the ATT, welcoming this specialized technical support that UNODC/TPB is providing under the plan of action and expressing their full appreciation of it. The subsequent activity to be organized by the UNODC/TPB will focus on human rights and rule of law while countering terrorism. This EU-funded workshop on the use of special investigation techniques to combat terrorism within the framework of the rule of law and with respect for human rights will take place in Tunis from 27 to 29 January 2015.

UNODC/TPB Event on Terrorist-related Offences for Iraqi Officials

A national workshop on investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating terrorist offences was successfully organized by UNODC/TPB and held in Amman from 26 to 28 August 2014.

Eighteen Iraqi participants with first-hand experience in conducting investigations, prosecutions and trials of terrorist cases attended the workshop. They were joined by seven international



Participants in the workshop on terrorist related offences for Iraqi officials, 26-28 August 2014, Amman, Jordan

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experts, from Germany, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Spain and the United States of America respectively.

During this three-day workshop based on the UNODC/TPB *Digest for Terrorist Cases*, several experiences and challenges along with concrete cases and real-life examples of the different topics on the agenda were presented. Topics covered during the workshop included: the criminalization and prosecution of preparatory offences, intelligence and investigation approaches to prevent and disrupt terrorist acts, the prevention and repression of

the financing of terrorism, conducting complex investigations, strengthening collaboration between investigators and prosecutors, use of intelligence as evidence in counter-terrorism trials, conducting cross-border investigations. The workshop concluded with an open discussion on the way forward and explored ways in which mechanisms and practices highlighted by the experts could be adapted to the Iraqi system.

The security developments in Iraq were referred to by participants and discussions also focused on

how to effectively address the new terrorist challenges. In particular, participants and experts exchanged views on possible legal and judicial approaches to address the challenge posed by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, including in relation to relevant Security Council resolutions.

Participants asked UNODC/TPB to continue playing a key role in supporting Iraq with legal assistance and capacity building training.

UNODC/TPB Provided Iraqi Officials with Technical Assistance on Foreign Terrorist Fighters

Notwithstanding the recent dramatic security developments in Iraq and difficulties with the implementation of capacity building activities in the country, UNODC/TPB, in close coordination with its Iraqi counterparts, organized two successful national workshops in Amman, Jordan, in August and October 2014 as part of the Japanese funded project on strengthening the legal regime of Iraq against terrorism.

Workshop on international cooperation on foreign terrorist fighters

The workshop on strengthening international cooperation in countering terrorism as provided by the universal legal instruments against terrorism and the relevant Security Council Resolutions, including resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014), that was held from 27 to 30 October 2014, was the first workshop addressing these two new resolutions adopted by the Security Council just a few weeks earlier.

The Iraqi delegation, chaired by the Under-Secretary for Intelligence of the Iraqi Ministry of Interior, consisted of 20 high level officials from various national entities, including the Ministry of Interior, Prime



Participants of the workshop on international cooperation on foreign terrorist fighters for Iraqi officials, 27-30 October 2014, Amman, Jordan

Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iraqi Central Bank, Iraqi Judicial Council, Chancellery of the National Security, the Iraqi High Commission of Human Rights, as well as representatives from national security institutions.

During four days of extensive work, the Iraqi participants and experts from Colombia, Jordan, United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as from the Security Council Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the League of Arab States and UNODC/TPB, discussed implementation of the new

Security Council resolutions, good practices and mechanisms of international cooperation to prevent and counter terrorism.

The workshop concluded with recommendations for consideration by the Government of Iraq, on practical measures to counter emerging challenges, including that of foreign terrorist fighters. Upon return to Baghdad, the Iraqi delegation began consultations to discuss the outcomes and recommendations of the workshop and steps to put them into practice.

The workshop in Jordan was part of a plan of action between the Government of Iraq and UNODC/TPB, the activities under

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which are generously funded by the Government of Japan. The

Branch plans several additional specialized technical assistance

activities for Iraq in the coming months.

UNODC/TPB Organized Two Capacity Building Activities in Egypt (i) on Terrorism-related Offences and (ii) on Strengthening International Judicial Cooperation Against Terrorism

In line with the timeframe of the Japanese funded project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in Egypt, the UNODC/TPB organized in Cairo, Egypt, two successful workshops for Egyptian criminal justice officials, in September and October 2014, respectively.

Workshop on strengthening international judicial cooperation against terrorism

UNODC/TPB organized a national workshop for Egyptian officials on strengthening international judicial cooperation against terrorism from 23 to 25 September 2014.

The workshop was attended by 28 national participants and 11 international experts from Algeria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, as well as from INTERPOL and the League of Arab States (LAS). Two national lecturers from Egypt also participated.

During the three-day workshop thorough and in-depth discussions took place with respect to all agenda topics, in particular on the judicial and administrative practices and the approaches that were adopted in national jurisdictions to ensure efficient mutual legal assistance and extradition requests. The role of international organizations, such as the United Nations and INTERPOL, was discussed. Egyptian authorities presented their relevant national legal framework and mechanisms on judicial cooperation against terrorism.

Experts and participants expressed their full appreciation of the activity, in particular the commitment of all participants of the workshop and the quality of



Workshop on terrorism related offences, 2-4 December 2014, Cairo, Egypt

discussions between national participants and their international counterparts.

Workshop on terrorism related offences

A workshop on the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism related offences, based on the UNODC/TPB *Digest of Terrorism Cases*, was held from 2 to 4 December 2014.

The Egyptian delegation consisted of 38 criminal justice officials (including five women) from various national agencies (i.e. senior judges from the Court of Cassation and the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Justice, prosecutors from the Office of the Prosecutor General, senior officers from the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence, and diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Six international experts from Jordan (senior prosecutor), Iraq (senior judge), Lebanon (senior investigating judge), Spain (intelligence officer), the United States of America (senior prosecutor) and the Special

Tribunal for Lebanon (pre-trial judge) made presentations to introduce relevant national frameworks, good practices and challenges in the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorist cases during the workshop.

Senior Assistant for International Cooperation, Judge Adel Fahmi, represented the Egyptian Minister of Justice during the opening and closing ceremonies of the workshop. In the opening ceremony, Judge Fahmi welcomed on behalf of the Minister of Justice all participants and experts, highlighting the importance of the cooperation between Egypt and UNODC/TPB in providing the Egyptian criminal justice officials with good practices in investigating, prosecuting, and adjudicating terrorism related offences. In the closing ceremony Judge Fahmi expressed the highest appreciation for the cooperation with UNODC/TPB, indicating the very high value of the workshops organized by the Branch in Egypt.

The Japanese Embassy in Cairo was represented by Mr. Naohiro Akagi and UNODC was

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represented by Mr. Masood Karimpour, the UNODC Regional Representative for the Middle East and North Africa.

During the three-day workshop, the participants learned about national, regional and international approaches to investigating and prosecuting terrorist financing and their main challenges. Very thorough and in-depth discussions

took place with respect to all of the agenda topics.

Egyptian participants shared their perspective and experiences regarding the national legal framework and mechanism for the prosecution and investigation of terrorist related cases. Open discussions took place in every session of the workshop on how mechanisms, experiences and

practices highlighted by experts could be useful for Egypt. This was also addressed as a separate topic at the end of the workshop.

Experts and participants expressed their full appreciation for this activity, in particular the commitment of all participants and the quality of discussions.

UNODC/TPB Assists the Sahel and Neighbouring Countries in Strengthening Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism

UNODC/TPB, jointly with the UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa, continued to support the Sahel and neighbouring countries in their efforts to counter-terrorism. This counter-terrorism support constituted an integral element of the "UNODC Contribution to the United Nations Integrated Regional Strategy for the Sahel".

The counterterrorism programme activities for the Sahel and neighbouring countries are co-funded by Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Spain and the United States of America.

The Sahel and neighbouring countries continue to face significantly increased terrorist attacks, carried out mainly by Jihadi terrorist networks such as the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Boko Haram and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO). These

countries are in urgent need of specialized technical assistance to strengthen rule of law-based criminal justice responses to terrorism.

In 2014, eight training workshops were delivered to over 150 criminal justice officials (judges, prosecutors and police officers) from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Mali and Senegal. These training workshops focused on the international and regional legal framework against terrorism, investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases, as well as on mechanisms of international and regional cooperation in criminal matters.

The fifth annual meeting of the Sahel Judicial Cooperation Platform was held in Bamako, Mali, from 17 to 20 November 2014. The meeting was attended by the national focal points and alternates of the Sahel Platform, representatives of the

Malian Ministry of Justice, Eurojust, EUCAP Sahel Mali (European Union civilian mission under the Common Security and Defence Policy to support the internal security forces in Mali), the West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors Network, as well as judges and prosecutors from the Sahel region. The event served as a forum for participants to share experiences and best practices related to international cooperation cases, identify ways to strengthen the links between the Sahel Platform and other judicial cooperation networks, discuss ongoing regional cooperation requests and identify ways to overcome possible challenges.

A major outcome of this fifth annual session of the platform is that Senegal has now formally become the fifth member of the platform, in addition to Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

UNODC/TPB Assisted Nigeria in Reinforcing Measures Against Terrorism

UNODC/TPB, jointly with the UNODC Country Office for Nigeria, continued implementing the partnership programme for strengthening criminal justice responses to terrorism.

The programme is currently in the final stages of its Phase II

(November 2013 – April 2015), pursuant to the strong endorsement from the Nigerian Government. A longer-term follow-up phase of the programme is being formulated and will be taken up for discussions with the Nigerian authorities in the first quarter of 2015.

The current phase of the Programme is funded by the European Union, which is implemented jointly with the Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). An additional component is funded by Japan.

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Participants of the capacity building for Nigerian judges, prosecutors and investigators

A central element of the programme is building the capacity of Nigerian judges, prosecutors, and investigators to undertake rule of law-based and human rights-compliant measures against terrorism. In this regard, the programme continued to work closely with the Direction of Public Prosecution of the Federal Ministry of Justice to provide in-depth training to prosecutors and thus reinforce prosecutorial work on several terrorism case files. The programme has already provided in-depth training to a core group of 44 prosecutors and legal advisors (21 prosecutors from the Direction of Prosecution and 23 legal advisors from Nigerian Federal Police and State Security Services). Fourteen of these prosecutors are now providing prosecutorial advice on new case files of terrorism and are taking cases to the Federal High Court. The

participating legal advisors of the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) and State Security Services (SSS) have been trained on early engagement with prosecutors and on providing effective legal advice/ guidance to investigators so as to secure successful prosecutions.

This core group of prosecutors and legal advisors also received specialized training on complying with the rule of law and human rights in performing their functions.

The programme also assisted the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) to take up with various national stakeholders the way forward in implementing the National Strategy Against Terrorism, that was signed by the President in the first half of 2014.

Inter-agency collaboration to bring terrorists to justice was the main focus of a two day seminar jointly organized by ONSA, UNODC and CTED in Abuja. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for the first half of 2015.

During the first quarter of 2015, the Programme will continue capacity building activities for select groups of judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials dealing with counter-terrorism work. UNODC will also continue working with national authorities to elaborate customized training material on human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism.

Assistance was also provided to the Federal Ministry of Aviation to support the current civil aviation legislative reform aimed at updating the aviation related laws in accordance with international provisions and standards. This involves reviewing and making amendments to the Civil Aviation Act (2006), the Federal Airports Authority Act (2004), the Nigerian Meteorological Agency Act (2003), the Nigeria Airspace Management Agency Act (2003), the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology Act (1963) and the establishment of an Accident Investigation and Prevention Bureau. In this regard, two legislative workshops were conducted in Abuja, in July and September 2014. Contributing to the second workshop, experts from the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Federal Aviation Administration of the United States of America were present.

UNODC/TPB Supports Kenya to Strengthen Rule of Law-Based Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism

UNODC/TPB continued to provide support to the Government of Kenya on strengthening criminal justice responses to terrorism.

Two national training workshops were recently implemented by UNODC/TPB in cooperation with the Government of Kenya, focusing on international cooperation in criminal matters. Terrorist groups in

the region operate across borders. Mutual legal assistance, extradition and other forms of international cooperation in criminal matters are therefore essential elements of effective criminal justice responses to terrorism.

A national workshop on international cooperation in criminal matters related to serious

crimes was held in Nairobi, from 14 to 16 October 2014 and was carried out jointly by the UNODC/TPB, the UNODC Organized Crime Branch and the UNODC Regional Office for East Africa, in partnership with the Security Sector Programme of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development. The workshop was financed from voluntary contributions made by the United

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States of America and Turkey to UNODC's counter-terrorism programme for the region.

Responding to a request from the Kenyan Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and other relevant entities, the workshop focused on strengthening the national capacities to effectively formulate requests for mutual legal assistance and to facilitate the flow of information and evidence from foreign jurisdictions. It brought together 28 participants, including prosecutors from the capital and other regions, officials from the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice, the Financial Reporting Centre, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and the Revenue Authority. Experts from UNODC/TPB, Canada, Spain and the United States of America shared pertinent experiences, enabling participants to learn from good practices and challenges in countries with different legal systems.

A national training workshop on human rights aspects of extradition was held in Nairobi from 25 to 27 November 2014, and was financed from voluntary contributions made by Denmark to UNODC's counter-terrorism programme.

This workshop brought together 30 Kenyan officials from prosecution, anti-terrorism police and judiciary services, as well as the National Counter-Terrorism Centre and the



Participants at the specialized training on human rights aspects of extradition, 25-27 November 2014, Nairobi, Kenya

national human rights institution. Together with experts and practitioners from Canada, Nigeria, UNODC/TPB and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, workshop participants studied legal and practical problems, analysed real cases and hypothetical scenarios and engaged in a mock extradition hearing.

Modalities of international cooperation in criminal matters, particularly extradition, raise complex human rights questions, including application of the Non Refoulement principle and detention pending extradition. If these matters are not addressed expertly, refusal of international cooperation (and ultimately the

impossibility of prosecuting a terrorism suspect), or serious human rights violations, or both, can ensue the consequence and seriously undermine confidence in the legitimacy of counter-terrorism efforts. These were among the issues that the workshop addressed.

These issues are also dealt with in a chapter of the recently published UNODC training module on *Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism* available in English, Arabic and French.

http://www.unodc.org/documents/terrorism/Publications/Module_on_Human_Rights/Module_HR_and_CJ_responses_to_terrorism_ebook.pdf

UNODC/TPB Announces a Major Project on Strengthening the Legal Regime against Foreign Terrorist Fighters in the Middle East, North Africa and Balkan Countries

The growing challenge of individuals involved as foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) in activities of terrorist groups has raised major concerns among Member States, and particularly in countries of origin, transit and destination. Whilst the phenomenon of FTF is not a new one, it has today evolved on a scale previously unknown which urges Member States to take measures.

It is against this backdrop that UNODC/TPB has developed a five year project entitled "Strengthening the Legal Regime against Foreign Terrorist Fighters", with the generous support of Canada, the United States of America and, possibly, the European Union.

Pursuant to the adoption of Security Council Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014), on 15

August and 24 September 2014 respectively, under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the project seeks to complement and build upon UNODC/TPB's ongoing cooperation with Member States from the Middle East, North Africa (MENA) and Balkan region towards the development of an effective and sustainable legal regime against FTF, embedded in

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the rule of law, due process and human rights.

The project comprises a series of specialized technical assistance and capacity building activities, with the aim of addressing the complex and interrelated challenges posed to national criminal justice systems by FTF, at the normative level (criminalization of incitement to join terrorist groups, recruitment and training of FTF, terrorists acting alone, the use of Internet for terrorist purposes and countering of terrorism financing), as well as at the operational level (encouraging the sharing of operational information and enhancing judicial international cooperation).

The project will target the MENA countries, specifically Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen, as well as countries from the Balkan region. Relevant

countries from Europe, as well as Turkey, which are also significantly affected by the FTF phenomenon, will be associated with this project at the regional level. At the same time, countries in the Central Asia region (plus Afghanistan) will be the beneficiary of a separate project to be implemented in conjunction with, and complementary to, this FTF MENA and Balkans project.

The foreseen activities will target a broad audience composed of legislators and policy makers, criminal justice officials, judicial police, judges and prosecutors.

The project implementation – which will be carried out in two phases – will be done in cooperation with relevant United Nations offices, such as the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive

Directorate, and in coordination with international and regional organizations such as the League of Arab States and the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law in Malta. This project will be launched in March 2015 with the first regional conference focused on the FTF threat: evaluation of the threat and identification of key issues and challenges in the national legislative frameworks. Phase two will be implemented from 2015 to 2019 and will be comprised of five thematic components, namely the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of FTF cases, the use of intelligence as admissible evidence, the use of special investigation techniques to counter terrorist activities on the Internet, preventing and countering the financing of terrorism in the context of FTF, and strengthening international and regional cooperation.

UNODC/TPB in Cooperation with the Hedayah Centre of Excellence Organized a Joint Regional Conference on Strengthening Legal and Policy Mechanisms to Prevent Radicalization and Violent Extremism

A regional conference, held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 21 to 23 October 2014, was organized by UNODC/TPB in cooperation with the Hedayah Centre of Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). The purpose of the Conference was to discuss criminal justice and policy-making strategies to prevent terrorism through countering radicalization and violent extremism in the Gulf, Afghanistan and Middle East region. The event provided a framework for presentations and in-depth discussions of practical aspects, such as building and implementing an efficient and rule

of law-based criminal justice strategy to prevent terrorism, identification of national and regional challenges in countering radicalization and violent extremism, the use of the Internet for recruitment and training purposes by terrorist organizations, as well as several round-tables on national contexts and experiences. The rights of victims during criminal proceedings and their role in countering terrorist narratives were also discussed using concrete examples. Senior experts from the participating countries all shared national experiences and expertise, highlighting their growing concerns with regards to violent

extremism. Many of them also requested UNODC/TPB support to develop appropriate, efficient and rule-of-law compliant national criminal justice strategies. This regional conference in Abu Dhabi was a follow-up to a previous regional event held in the UAE on 21-23 May 2013, on the legal aspects to prevent terrorism. It is part of the increasing cooperation and partnership of UNODC/TPB with Member States of the Gulf region, both at the bilateral and regional or international level, with several activities being planned for 2015.

UNODC/TPB in Cooperation with OSCE and CTED Organized an International Counter-Terrorism Event in Israel

In November 2014, UNODC/TPB teamed up with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to cooperate with Israel in its organization of a

counterterrorism-dedicated international event.

The International Conference on Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism was held in Tel-Aviv on 10-12 November 2014. It brought together senior criminal justice

officers and experts in the counter-terrorism field from 28 OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation (from Central Asia, Middle East, North America, Northern, Eastern and Southern Europe regions), as well as representatives of several key

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international and regional organizations. The participants examined critical issues and challenges faced by senior judges, prosecutors, investigators and other relevant officials when handling terrorism cases, and discussed and shared good practices and ways forward.

With an aim to contribute to increasing dialogue and co-operation among all OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation, the event focused on a variety of issues, including the use by criminal justice officers of the universal anti-terrorism instruments and United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs), such as 1373 (2001). In this respect, topics on the agenda included the issue of foreign terrorist fighters and the obligations stemming from the recently-adopted UNSCR 2178 (2014) that generated an interesting discussion among the participants. The investigation and prosecution of terrorism financing and money laundering was also debated in great detail.

The conference also analyzed relevant documents and good practices, such as those developed by the Global Counterterrorism Forum, including its “Hague Memorandum”. Delegates discussed at length methods of handling classified intelligence derived evidence in the court systems when dealing with cases



Participants at the international counter-terrorism event, 10-12 November 2014, Tel-Aviv, Israel

of terrorism. It emerged that many States faced a similar dilemma of how to convict terrorists within the justice system without jeopardizing its sources.

The outlines of the new Israeli national counterterrorism legislation, currently under discussion in the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, were presented to participants by the experts from the Israeli Ministry of Justice.

This significant event, and a first of its kind for Israel, presented an ideal opportunity for strategic discussions of counterterrorism issues found today at the top of the

agenda of many governments throughout the world. Many States in Europe and Middle East are already looking into ways of addressing the implications of the return of their citizens from conflict hotspots, such as Syria and Iraq, but this predicament is also increasingly felt across other OSCE participating States. Thus, by bringing these countries together, the event created an opportunity to initiate a very important dialogue to bridge this gap. Participants concluded by voicing a strong will to continue future counter-terrorism cooperation in this format.

UNODC/TPB Strengthens Criminal Justice Capacities to Protect Victims and Witnesses in Terrorist Cases in South Asia

UNODC/TPB is working in close partnership with South Asian governments to strengthen criminal justice systems for the protection and support of victims and witnesses in cases related to terrorism. To this end, UNODC/TPB, in collaboration with the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and hosted by the Governments of Bangladesh and Nepal respectively, conducted two



Participants at the workshop on strengthening criminal justice capacities to protect victims and witnesses in terrorist cases

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national workshops, one in Bangladesh (25-26 August) and one in Nepal (11-12 September), as well as one regional workshop (15-16 September) in Kathmandu, Nepal. The workshops were financially supported by the Government of the United States of America. The objective of the workshops was to support the governments in the region in the development of an effective and comprehensive national and regional framework to better protect and support victims and witnesses, and assist criminal justice officers involved in criminal proceedings, including those related to terrorism.

Over 20 officials from several ministries of justice, home and foreign affairs and criminal justice practitioners from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka participated in the regional workshop, as well as a representative from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The national workshops brought together approximately 35 policy makers from the relevant ministries, security agencies, financial units, criminal justice practitioners (law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges), National Human Rights Commission, as

well as civil society representatives, all of whom provided substantive input to the event. They were joined by international experts from Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, UNODC/TPB and CTED.

During the workshops, a global legal framework against terrorism, international standards, principles, good practices, and comparative national models on victims and witness protection and support in terrorism cases, as well as international cooperation in criminal matters, were addressed through presentations, short films, and working group discussions. The workshops also provided a platform to share the experience of victim associations and the significance of counter-terrorism narratives in preventing extremism. It was recognized that the media, victim associations and related civil society organizations can play a pivotal role in complementing governments' efforts. National experiences of the participating countries, including existing legal provisions and protection measures, as well as challenges in their implementation, were presented during the workshops. The participants found the deliberations relevant and

useful for adaptation to the local context. The comparative national models (including Indonesia, Spain, Australia and the United States) were considered of great interest in the national contexts. Cost-free or low-cost measures which protect and support victims and witnesses were also well received. Overall, it was recognized that the specialized contributions of experts would assist policy makers and practitioners in adopting national legislation and establishing institutional mechanisms on witness and victim protection and support.

Delegations of Member States at the regional workshop also indicated that the discussion should be taken forward on a regional level by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. UNODC/TPB is committed to continue dialogue and provide technical support to national legislative processes to requesting countries, particularly Bangladesh and Nepal, and will further conduct national and regional workshops. Both the Governments of Bangladesh and Nepal expressed their commitment towards the adoption of legislation on protection and assistance of witnesses and victims of serious crimes, including terrorism.

Trainers from India Conduct a Course on the UNODC/TPB Counter Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum

From 10 to 12 November 2014, UNODC/TPB co-organized with the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (NPA), a national workshop in Hyderabad, India, under TPB's Training the Trainers Initiative.

The event was a follow up to a July workshop under this initiative, in which UNODC/TPB trained judges, prosecutors, faculty members of the NPA and judicial academies throughout India on various thematic areas in counterterrorism. As a follow-up to that workshop, a selected group of trainees was asked to train participants for the



Participants on the course on the UNODC/TPB Counter Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum, 10-12 November 2014, Hyderabad, India

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November workshop under the guidance of UNODC/TPB.

The course on the global legal framework against terrorism and relevant criminal justice response measures was conducted by six Indian officers trained by UNODC/TPB, including four faculty members of the NPA as well as two judges. Two guest speakers from the National Investigation Agency, a key Indian agency charged with the investigation and prosecution of terrorism cases, also gave presentations. The global legal framework against terrorism, as well as specific thematic areas of counter-terrorism, such as international cooperation in

criminal matters, countering the financing of terrorism and the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes were addressed through presentations and working group discussions. The workshop was attended by 29 officials from throughout India, representing the faculty of training academies, the judiciary, investigation and prosecution services.

The workshop proved to be successful in achieving the goals set and the majority of the participants (85%) reported the workshop's strong relevance to their respective organizations' needs. The "Training the Trainers" concept was supported, as 62% of the participants affirmed their

willingness to share the skills and knowledge acquired during the workshop in a training of their own, for their colleagues. Following this event, the NPA is planning to hold three more workshops in 2015 on international issues related to counterterrorism. UNODC/TPB will conduct a course on investigative techniques in counterterrorism cases while respecting human rights. Two courses will be conducted by the Indian trainers and will be funded by the NPA. This attests the successful incorporation of the UNODC/TPB training content into the curricula of the Academy.

UNODC/TPB Organized a Workshop for Afghan Officials on Supporting Victims of Terrorism

Recognizing that the role of victims as essential in the effective investigation and prosecution of terrorist cases and the importance of developing a system of support and assistance to victims both before, during and after criminal legal proceedings, UNODC/TPB organized a workshop on supporting victims of acts of terrorism and protection of human rights standards in line with national and international legal instruments and good practices. This workshop, held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic from 25 to 27 November 2014, was organized with the support of the UNODC Country Office in Afghanistan and the UNODC Programme Office in Kyrgyzstan. The activity falls within the framework of Pillar 1 of the Joint Plan of Action (2014-2016) between UNODC and the Government of Afghanistan, which aims at providing technical assistance in the area of preventing and combating terrorism.

The workshop highlighted the importance of strengthening the criminal justice system of Afghanistan so as to ensure victims' cooperation in terrorist cases by earning their confidence and avoiding secondary victimization, by including physical and emotional protection,

financial compensation, and respect for their human rights. Participants included national experts from Afghan institutions and civil society organizations, including representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Office of the Attorney General, Supreme Court, Parliament (Upper House), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan Independent Bar Association and Afghanistan's Independent Human Rights Commission. In addition, experts representing the London Metropolitan University and the

Police National Legal Database (PNLD) participated in the workshop.

During the three-day workshop, the existing legal mechanisms and framework in Afghanistan concerning the support and protection of victims were discussed. Particular focus was given to the relevant international legal framework and identified good practices. In this regard, attention was paid to the Global Counterterrorism Forum's Madrid Memorandum on "Good Practices for Assistance to Victims of



Participants at the workshop on supporting victims of acts of terrorism, 25-27 November 2014, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

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Terrorism Immediately after the Attack and in Criminal Proceedings”, adopted in September 2013. International standards and recommendations on human rights concerning the protection of victims already incorporated into national

legislation were identified and existing gaps between the current provisions and mechanisms in Afghan legislation and the international provisions were highlighted during the discussions. Recommendations were elaborated taking into account the national

legal framework for supporting victims of acts of terrorism which will serve as guidelines to strengthen and enhance the protection afforded to victims of terrorism.

UNODC Facilitates a Training Course to Strengthen Collaborative Investigation and Prosecution of Terrorism-related Cases in the Philippines

From 27 to 31 November 2014, in partnership with the Anti-Terrorism Council (ATC) of the Philippines, UNODC facilitated a training course on collaborative intelligence, investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases, held in Cagayan de Oro City, Mindanao. Thirty experienced officials from different agencies responsible for counter-terrorism, including the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, the Philippine National Police, the National Bureau of Investigation, the Armed Forces of Philippines, the Anti-Money Laundering Council and the Department of Justice, participated in the training.

The course - which was part of the UNODC-ATC long-term partnership to strengthen the Philippines' criminal justice response to terrorism - was carried out in the framework of the European Union-UNODC Joint Initiative for Supporting Southeast Asian Countries to Counter Terrorism. Under the collaborative training programme, all counter-terrorism agencies were brought together, under the ATC auspices, to jointly elaborate the curriculum and training programme for law enforcement and judicial officials who directly handle terrorism-related cases. The training manuals, which are in line with the Philippines' counter-terrorism policy, also



Participants at the training course to strengthen collaborative investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases, 27-31 November 2014, Cagayan de Oro City, Mindanao, the Philippines

incorporate the relevant UN counter-terrorism frameworks including on human rights and the rule of law.

To ensure full ownership and sustainability of the training programme, all participating agencies nominated officials who were trained in 2012 in order to be equipped with professional training skills. Since 2013, a roster of sixteen national trainers have delivered four roll-out courses to more than 120 officials in Manila, Tagaytay, Davao and Cagayan de Oro.

Throughout the recent five-day workshop in Cagayan de Oro City, participants deepened their knowledge on terrorist threats and effective implementation of counter-terrorism laws, while gaining insights into other agencies' work. The interactive discussions, combined with group exercises, enabled them to identify areas for further enhancement in their

collaboration, particularly on how to better share information and to effectively gather and present admissible evidence in court.

According to a prosecutor of Iligan City of Mindanao, "For prosecutors, our work relies on intelligence and investigation officers. I have learned so much about how they operate and see more ways to strengthen our collaboration. The training makes us realize how much our success depends on one another".

An intelligence officer from Cagayan de Oro City Police added that "This activity helped me get out of my field to understand prosecutors better. I see that if we work hand in hand our information would have better value and increase a chance of successful prosecution."

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UNODC/TPB and CTITF Support Colombia in Investigating and Prosecuting Financing of Terrorism

During the last six years, the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) has been implementing in Colombia an in-depth programme on countering terrorism and its financing. UNODC/TPB designed several advanced technical tools, practical simulations and good practices aimed at enhancing national capacities to prevent and fight against these crimes. Mock trials, mock criminal investigations, a case management tool for comprehensive financing of terrorism investigations, a legislative guide as well as an Observatory of Jurisprudence, are some good examples of UNODC/TPB's efforts to support successful interventions of criminal justice officials.

As a positive result of UNODC/TPB work, a criminal justice official recently involved in the third mock trial on the financing of terrorism, implemented by UNODC/TPB in Bogotá, provided the fifth condemnatory sentence ever issued in Colombia on terrorist financing charges.

More specifically, the Seventh Criminal Judge of the Specialized Circuit of Bogota found responsible two criminal organization leaders of financing terrorism according to Article 345 in the Criminal Code of Colombia, and sentenced them to 13 years in prison. The sentence's main facts linked these criminals with the trafficking and subsequent provision of firearms to FARC. In its preamble, the Judge highlights the relevance of the



Participants of the mock trial exercise in Bogotá, Colombia

International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism adopted by the General Assembly in 1999, and the 1373 Resolution adopted by the Security Council in 2001. He also made explicit reference to the case management tool designed by UNODC/TPB for Colombia to conduct comprehensive and effective investigations of this crime.

The third edition of the mock trial tool was recently implemented in Colombia thanks to funding from the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center (UNCCT), and carried out under the auspices of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)'s Working Group on Countering the Financing of Terrorism, chaired by UNODC/TPB.

Indeed, UNODC/TPB technical assistance provided to Colombia represents an important breakthrough in investigations and court proceedings. The condemnatory sentences on financing of terrorism pronounced by judicial authorities were considered nonexistent until very recently.

So far, five (5) of them have been already identified by the Observatory of Jurisprudence (<http://observatoriojurisprudencia.unodc.org.co/>), another technical tool developed by UNODC/TPB in Colombia. The relevance of these findings transcends the national scope, and reach the regional and sub-regional context, where these judicial decisions are still non-existent.

Through this strategic alliance with UNCCT and CTITF, in 2015, UNODC/TPB will transfer the knowledge and methodology of the mock trial tool to additional countries. In particular, UNODC/TPB will implement an additional edition of the mock trial through its first simulation exercise in Argentina in 2015, including the development of a tailor-made case file.

However, a continuous large and in-depth work on countering terrorism offences will still be needed. UNODC/TPB remains committed and will continue strengthening the specialized technical capacities of the Republic of Colombia to mitigate terrorism threat in the country and region.

UNODC in Partnership with SEARCCT Conduct a Research on Radicalization that May Lead to Terrorism in Three Southeast Asian Countries

On 9 December 2014, UNODC and the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism

(SEARCCT) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia launched in Bangkok a joint

research project on radicalization and violent extremism in Southeast Asia, with the aim of

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contributing to de- and counter radicalization efforts in the region.

The research, led by SEARCCT's Research and Publication Division, will examine the radicalization processes and motivational factors of extremists in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Utilising qualitative methods via roundtable discussions and focus group interviews of experts, the research will seek to understand the concept of radicalization, identify the mode of radicalization that takes place and in particular, its 'drivers' and 'trigger points'. Outcomes of the research will also include recommendations on how to

prevent people from being radicalised and disengage extremists already involved in violence.

The roundtable discussions and focus group interviews have already been completed in all three countries. The events and bilateral meetings, attended by a wide array of government officials, academics, civil society representatives and counter-terrorism experts, generated informative exchanges on various aspects of violent extremism, including how to identify radical pathways and trigger factors, disengagement processes in extremism and different rehabilitation strategies.

The research project is being carried out under the framework of the European Union - UNODC Joint Initiative for Supporting Southeast Asian Countries to Counter Terrorism. Its overall objective is to deepen regional trend analysis on radicalization, provide policy recommendations and promote advocacy and awareness on de- and counter- radicalization in the region. The research outcomes will be disseminated to senior policy makers through a regional seminar to be held in the first quarter of 2015, with the aim of supporting their analysis and policy development on de- and counter- radicalization in Southeast Asia.

UNODC/TPB published Two New Modules on the Counter-Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum

UNODC/TPB has recently published two new modules which are part of its Counter-Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum:

- ***Module on Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism***
- ***Module on Transport related (Civil Aviation and Maritime) Terrorism Offences***

Both modules are currently available in English and French. The *Module on Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism* is also available in Arabic.

The Counter-Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum is one of the technical assistance tools developed by UNODC/TPB for transferring the knowledge and expertise needed to strengthen the capacity of national criminal justice officials to put the universal legal framework against terrorism into practice. The curriculum has been developed to serve as both a training tool for UNODC/TPB-led capacity building activities and a training handbook that can be adapted by national trainers to serve as part of national criminal

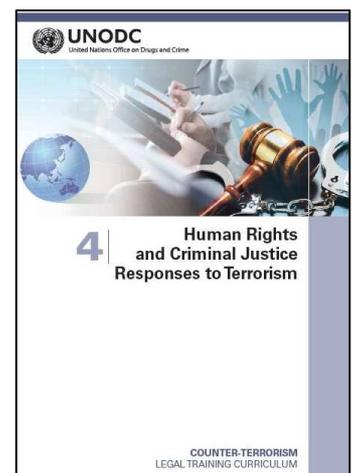
justice curricula, thus helping to support a "train the trainers" approach.

The curriculum consists of several modules, each dealing with specific thematic areas of the legal and criminal justice aspects of countering terrorism. Two modules had previously been prepared and are already being widely used, i.e. *The Universal Legal Framework Against Terrorism* and *International Cooperation in Criminal Matters: Counter-Terrorism*. The Branch is already utilizing the two new modules in the delivery of technical assistance and hopes that these new tools will serve as an important resource to Member States in strengthening their legal regimes against terrorism.

Module on Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism

The *Module on Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism* has been prepared in collaboration with the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights and with input from and review by experts and

practitioners from around the world.



The new module aims at increasing understanding among criminal justice officials of global and regional human rights norms and good practices, and their practical application in terrorism cases. It builds on the recognition that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are essential elements of any effective counterterrorism strategy. The United Nations General Assembly states in the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy that "effective counterterrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals, but

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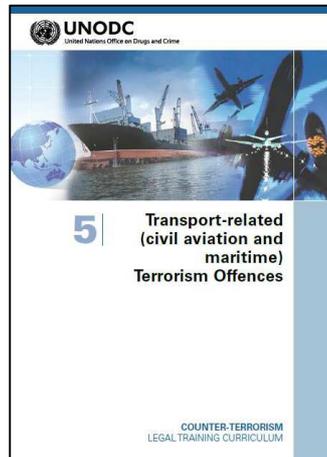
complementary and mutually reinforcing” (A/RES/60/288).

The module examines human rights questions typically arising in the various stages of the criminal justice process in terrorism cases, from the criminalization of terrorist acts in legislation, to the investigation, detention of suspects, trial, and punishment of defendants found guilty. It highlights pertinent international human rights norms and includes good practices identified by Member States. The module analyses relevant cases that were decided by international human rights bodies, highlighting the lessons that can be derived from them and giving the Module a very practical approach, which is ideal for use by criminal justice practitioners.

Module on Transport related (Civil Aviation and Maritime) Terrorism Offences

The module on *Transport related (Civil Aviation and Maritime) Terrorism Offences* has been

prepared in collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization and with the input from and review by experts and practitioners from around the world.



The module helps address the serious global threat presented by terrorist acts against aircraft and ships, their passengers, cargo or crew, or against airports and sea ports. The importance of

responding to transport-related terrorism offences is reflected by the fact that 12 of the 19 international instruments against terrorism have been adopted specifically to address crimes concerning international civil aviation or maritime navigation.

The module assists Member States in the implementation of these instruments, by analyzing and explaining the application of the provisions contained in these instruments and assisting policy makers, legislators, and criminal justice officials with their ratification, incorporation into national law, and implementation. It is especially useful in understanding and applying the latest universal legal instruments relating to maritime security (adopted in 2005) and civil aviation (adopted in 2010 and 2014).

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The **Terrorism Prevention Branch** of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime delivers counter-terrorism legislative and capacity-building assistance to Member States, upon request, aimed at strengthening national capacity to implement the universal legal regime against terrorism.

LEGAL AND CAPACITY-BUILDING AREAS

- Universal Legal Framework against Terrorism;
- Investigation, Prosecution and Adjudication of Terrorism-related Cases;
- Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes;
- Victims of Acts of Terrorism;
- Preventing and Suppressing Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism;
- Transport-related (Civil Aviation and Maritime) Terrorism Offences;
- Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism;
- Countering the Financing of Terrorism;
- International Cooperation in Criminal Matters related to Terrorism.

DELIVERY METHODS

WORKSHOPS

at the national, sub-regional and regional level, through which criminal justice officials receive specialized knowledge enhancement and training on preventing and countering terrorism;

ONLINE COUNTER-TERRORISM LEARNING PLATFORM

an interactive tool for training criminal justice officials on countering terrorism that offers:

- 1) tailor-made online training;
- 2) a worldwide community of practitioners, enabling networking and the sharing of good practices;

MOCK TRIALS AND INVESTIGATIONS

of terrorism cases, terrorist financing and linkages to serious related crimes, providing practitioners with an opportunity to simulate trials and criminal investigations based on real-life scenarios

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

to support Member States with the incorporation of the provisions of the international legal instruments against terrorism into national legislation through legislative analysis, drafting and national workshops;

STUDY TOURS

for criminal justice officials to get acquainted with counter-terrorism good practices.

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