

**Joint open briefing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the
1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee on**

“ISIL in Africa: nature of threat and responses”

7 April 2022, 3.00 p.m. 6.00 p.m.

Session II: Overview of responses, progress achieved, and challenges

Statement

of

**Mr. Weixiong Chen,
Acting Executive-Director,**

Counter-

coordinate actions against those terrorist groups and elements which do not stop at national borders, and indeed thrives in porous frontier zones.

In those areas, civilian law enforcement entities are often inadequately equipped.

In many cases, no such entities are present.

were developed within the framework of a CTED-led UN Global Coordination Compact project.

Although significant hurdles remain, we have observed the progress made in this area by the States of the Sahel.

A further major challenge — especially in the Lake Chad Basin Region — is to determine how to promote the surrender of members and associates of Da'esh in West Africa Province and Boko Haram in order to degrade the capacity of those groups while also ensuring the protection of vulnerable communities and victims.

If the need to secure justice — including for victims — is not adequately and holistically addressed, overly expedient approaches aimed solely at achieving a rapid cessation of hostilities could conflict with longer-term efforts to achieve sustainable peace and reconciliation.

The Security Council has called for a comprehensive approach to prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, which reinforces the rule of law, takes justice into account, and recognizes the impact of terrorism on victims and communities.

The past eight months have brought a massive wave of apparent defections from Boko Haram, caused by the death of its leader, at the hands of ISWAP.

The States concerned must find ways to address the significant opportunities and risks that this development represents.

The Governments concerned could seize this opportunity to rebuild and to rehabilitate the individuals concerned.

In the first instance, it is necessary to decide whether prosecution of the individuals concerned is appropriate.

Such decisions of course depend on the availability of sufficient information.

And the sustainability of such efforts depends on having a system in place to safeguard the rights of all persons affected, ranging from the accused to the victims.

It also requires addressing conditions conducive to terrorism, including underlying grievances, intercommunal conflict and climate shocks; as well as continued efforts to counter terrorist narratives and recruitment to terrorism.

We must also ensure respect for human rights and for the need to promote development, trust, and transparency.

CTED is pleased to learn about the continued efforts of Member States to address these many complex challenges and remains committed to working closely with its partners to assist them in those effort