

Niger/Nigeria bilateral workshop on “Prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration approaches for persons associated with Boko Haram

Opening remarks of

**HE Mr. T. S. Tirumurti
Chair**

**Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1373(2001) concerning counter-terrorism**

On behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, allow me to begin by commending Niger and Nigeria for your continued efforts to counter Boko Haram, Islamic State in West Africa Province, and other terrorist groups active in your respective territories

Today’s event provides a welcome opportunity for me, as the newly elected Chair of the Committee, to reaffirm the Committee’s support for your efforts to counter terrorism, and in particular for your proactive approaches to the prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons associated with terrorism

I would also like to thank the Government of Niger for hosting this event in these challenging circumstances

I would like to reiterate that the threat of terrorism is grave and universal and can only be defeated by collective efforts of all UN member states. Terrorism in one place can directly impact peace and security in another. Terrorism in all its forms and

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manifestations should be condemned and there cannot be any exception or justification for any act of terrorism, regardless of motivations behind such acts, and wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. The menace of terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization, or ethnic group.

The death of the Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau has provided a welcome opportunity to degrade that organization's capacities but has also increased pressure on your institutions to deal effectively with the thousands of individuals who are surrendering.

At the same time, ISWAP continues to menace communities, and ISIL continues its efforts to expand across the continent. With the ISIL affiliate in Lake Chad Basin

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in the custody of authorities, in order to prosecute, rehabilitate and reintegrate them, as appropriate

The efforts undertaken by both Nigeria and Niger to develop innovative responses which take into account the different experiences of persons who have been associated with Boko Haram and ISWAP are commendable

The work of the Multinational Joint Task Force, and the important role of the military in collecting evidence that could be used by criminal justice actors, should aim “ t

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We must all continue to stand in solidarity with the many victims of terrorism and seek justice for their sake

Let me conclude by reiterating my thanks to Niger and Nigeria and to reaffirm the continued support of the Committee and CTED for their efforts to counter terrorism

We look forward to the constructive dialogue with your experts and agencies on a range of topics