Open Briefing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) with the Member States of South and South-East Asia pursuant to Security Council resolution 2395 (2017) Committee on South and South-East Asia

14 February 2022, 10.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m. EST (15:00 16:00 (VIE) / 9:00-10:00 (NY))

10.10-11.10 Session I: Introductory panel on United Nations dialogue with Member States of South and South-East Asia

## Mr. Masood Karimipour, Chief, Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC

I am pleased to report that UNODC has established partnerships with and has been delivering terrorism prevention technical assistance to South Asian and South-East Asian states, thanks to our field-based presence and engagements on the ground.

We also continue to enjoy excellent partnership with the CTC and contributing to one One way we do this is by regularly contributing to CTC country visits, including those in South Asia and South-East Asia, such as those to Maldives, Sri Lanka and the Philippines.

Specifically, the CTED assessments inform the development of some of our CT programming and in turn, we have been able to work with Member States in

Importantly, the need for technical assistance remains, as the terrorism threat continues to evolve, including due to the pandemic.

According to the recent report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team (S/2022/83), while some Member States in South-East Asia have indeed reported successes in disrupting ISIL- and Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorism, concern nevertheless remains

The report also points out that the ongoing covid19 pandemic, while on the one-hand, impeding cross-border travel and thus decreasing threats arising from flows of fighters and wider terrorist travel, on the other hand, it also continues to increase opportunities for online recruitment and radicalization.

Fortunately, the complementarities and synergies between CTED and UNODC serve to enhance the effectiveness of technical assistance being provided to countries in the region.

## Joint CTED/UNODC Programming in South Asia and South-East Asia

One vehicle through which this is done is through joint programming.

For example, UNODC, in collaboration with CTED and OCT, continues to partner with the Government of Indonesia on the joint project <u>Strengthening supervision and</u>

## <u>community-based treatment for rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-terrorist</u> offenders by probation and parole officers

on behalf of the CTC in 2019.

The project aims to enhance the management and community supervision of terrorists and violent extremist offenders in Indonesia, in support of their successful disengagement, rehabilitation and reintegration into communities.

We look forward to continuing to partner with CTED and OCT on Phase III of the programme.

<u>UN Global Initiative on Handling Electronic Evidence</u>, which also includes the International Association of Prosecutors. Although this project is global in scope, it has included, and in some cases applied to, South Asian and South-east Asian countries.

This initiative has informed the development of numerous practical tools and resources, including the Electronic Evidence Hub on our online SHERLOC portal, as well as a guide specifically tailored to Pakistan ( *Practical Guide to the Handling of Electronic Evidence across Borders* .)

Countries in the region also continue to participate in the initiative including in the process of updating the (2007) UNODC Model Law on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

Just last year, we also launched - together with CTED

In the case of the Philippines, UNODC staff who are based in the region supported the Advance Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) deep dive mission and the development of a roadmap for the UN CT Travel Programme, in 2020.

## **UNODC** assistance in South Asia and South-East Asia

In addition to joint CTED-UNODC joint programming and tool development, I would like to briefly highlight a few select examples of other assistance provided by UNODC in the region.

Recently, we have developed two regional online networks of PVE practitioners.

The first,