



Press release

UN Secretary-General urges the international community to work more closely together to anticipate and prevent the terrorist attacks of tomorrow

New York, 29 June 2018 – The first-ever UN High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism concluded today in New York. During the two days, over 1,000 people from around the world including security officials, law enforcement officials, diplomats, policy makers, international and regional organizations and civil society organizations discussed how to strengthen international cooperation to combat the evolving threat of terrorism. The conference, bilateral meetings and the twenty-five side events organized this week contributed to strengthening multilateral collaboration, exploring and building new partnerships, sharing experience and learning about innovative approaches to prevention through community engagement.

At the end of the Conference, Secretary-General António Guterres offered his conclusions on the way forward. “To stay ahead of the terrorists, I call on the international community, the private sector and academia to share knowledge, expertise and resources to prevent new technologies becoming lethal terrorist weapons,” he said. He added that he is considering the idea of establishing a Global Network of Counter-Terrorism Coordinators to share expertise and best practices. The UN will also liaise with Member States to organize regional events on key thematic issues to keep the momentum and support collective efforts until the next conference in 2 years’ time accompanying the review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

“We must promote an all of government and all of society approach to preventing and countering terrorism, involving a broad range of partners at national, regional and global levels,” said António Guterres. He emphasized that we need to do more to address the conditions that are conducive to terrorism and violent extremism such as the lack of opportunity, exclusion, inequality, discrimination and serious violations of human rights. He stressed that we must also engage women in counter-terrorism who have an absolutely vital role to play.

Finally, the Secretary-General reiterated the readiness of the United Nations System to support Member States in implementing relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions to keep citizens of the world safe. “We need to ensure our joint capacity building activities are delivering impact on the ground.”

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, the Head of the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism said that the UN is ready to do more to help Member States to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism. He also stated that civil society are natural partners to strengthen resilience of communities to terrorism. Mr. Voronkov emphasized that an “all of UN approach”, strengthening collaboration with regional organizations, and ensuring coordination and coherence through the UN Global Compact are central to the fulfilment of the mandate of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism.

More information is available at: www.un.org/counterterrorism/hlc or follow the conversation on social media at [#UNitetoCounterTerrorism](https://twitter.com/UNitetoCounterTerrorism)