



## **Head of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism strengthens cooperation with UNODC and OSCE in Vienna**

**Vienna, 5 October 2018** – Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov, the Head of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) concluded a visit to Austria, where he held meetings with bilateral counterparts to foster cooperation with Vienna-based organizations both within and outside the United Nations.

Mr. Voronkov met with Austrian high-level officials including Mr. Peter Goldgruber, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior and Mr. Andreas Riecken, the Counter-Terrorism Coordinator at the Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs. They exchanged views on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism when conducive to terrorism at the global, national and regional levels. Mr Voronkov thanked the Government of Austria for its support including in the context of its current Presidency of the European Union.

Addressing the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Under-Secretary-General emphasized that one of the top priorities of the United Nations (UN) is to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation at global, regional and national levels. He stated that the OSCE was a vital partner in global efforts against terrorism. “The UN and the OSCE share many priorities, including the commitment to counter and prevent terrorism with methods that do not compromise our respect for the rule of law and human rights,” he said.

Mr. Voronkov signed an action-oriented Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OSCE Secretary-General, Mr. Thomas Greminger to join forces on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism in a practical manner.

Mr. Voronkov also participated in a joint briefing with Mr. Yury Fedotov, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna (UNOV). The briefing informed Permanent Missions to the UN in Vienna, international and regional organizations and UN entities on the UN’s counter-terrorism efforts. In particular, Mr. Voronkov highlighted the important efforts that UNOCT was taking to follow-up on the outcomes of the first-ever High-Level Meeting of the Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States, held this June in New York.

In addition, Mr. Voronkov signed a Strategic Partnership Framework with USG Fedotov. “This Framework will help enhance collaboration with UNODC, which is a key implementing partner in many of UNOCT’s projects, including on aviation security, addressing PVE in prisons and cyber security”, said Mr. Voronkov. He also held bilateral meetings with representatives of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The Under-Secretary-General participated in the annual UN Budget Planning exercise, which was taking place in Vienna.

On the occasion of the visit, Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, the Director a.i. of United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) signed the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which establishes a set of guiding principles aimed at improving the coordination and coherence of the UN system to support Member States on the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

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