

Dear Under-Secretary-General,

New York, 9 July 2024

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2024, requesting information on the measures regional intergovernmental organisations have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organisations.

To reflect a gender perspective in the input to reports to the Secretary-General, as conveyed in your letter, the EU would like to recall its continued focus on gender responsive counterterrorism (CT) and on preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) policies. As an example,

lity, as countermeas against terrorism. Human rights are essential in guiding the EU's counterterrorism policy and

in the UN context.

action

The EU has a strong strategic and legislative framework in place in the field of Counter

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chair for a period of two more years, and the Global Coalition to defeat Da'esh.

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geographic pe ctive , Africa, where the threat level and violent extremism are fu he á M increasing.

On 29 February 2024, the EU and Egypt co-organised the 23rd Coordinating Committee of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, for the first time hosted by Kenya, who became a new GCTF member in September 2023, together with Kuwait, thus delivering on the EU's pledge to work with African partners on developing capacities and deepening CT cooperation in Africa. As part of that GCTF week, the EU co-organised a side event on CT in East Africa.

The EU is also working with Morocco on the Education for P/CVE

European Commission's Counterterrorism Agenda

The EU continued to implement the Counterterrorism agenda that was presented on December 2020 for the EU to step up the fight against terrorism and violent extremism and boost the EU's resilience to terrorist threats. The Agenda explains that the EU remains on high terrorist alert. To address this threat, the Agenda identifies the following main priorities, centred on 4 pillars/work strands - anticipate, prevent, protect and respond:

1. **5bh]W]dUh]b ['h\Y'hYffc]gh'h\ fYUž'** by building up strategic intelligence, early detection,
risk assessment and foresight capabilities/
2. **DfY jYbh]b [' UbX' Wc i bhYf]b [' fUX]WU']gUh]cb'** and **jjc`Ybh' YlhfYa]ga**, by countering extremist ideologies online, supporting local actors, and strengthening EU action on prisons, rehabilitation, and reintegration;
3. **DfchYW]b [` dYcd`Yž' d i V']W' gdUWYgž' UbX']bZfUghf i Wh i fYg**

An agreement was reached at technical level in the Council of Europe Committee on Counterterrorism (CDCT) on the text of the modified definition of terrorist offences, as proposed

criminal sources. It contributes to sustain peace and stability and build resilience. The initiative currently includes 64 partner countries grouped in eight regions. CBRN risk mitigation covers a broad range of activities that can include also links to critical infrastructure protection, climate security,

Counterterrorism Efforts in Priority
Countries

The EU's involvement in counterterrorism and security actions all around the world especially in neighbouring countries and in Africa reinforce the EU's role as the largest external cooperation partner in the world and a global security actor. We address both the long-term causes of terrorism and respond to emerging crisis linked to terrorism.

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE) is an important priority for the EU, both internally and outside the EU.

In 2024, new phases of projects on organised crime and terrorism from Afghanistan (EU ACT and LEICA) will ensure an **improvement** to law enforcement capacities in Central Asia, with a view of enhancing security both on a national and regional level, among others through strategic and operational exchanges on CT between the European law enforcement communities, operating in close coordination with other EU - funded global programs on Organised Crime and Counter-terrorism, that will be prioritised to deliver capacity-building activities in Central Asia. The EU is launching a new phase of the Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP), while continuing its programme on Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA). New programmes will address firearms trafficking from Afghanistan to Central Asia and support to PRR process of returnees in Central Asia. Special attention will be dedicated to strategic communication to counter online radicalisation and strengthen societal resilience to terrorist and violent propaganda.

Africa

The EU's vision is to tackle the increased terrorist threat in Africa through **addressing** the drivers of radicalization; weakening the terrorist groups by targeting their dissemination of propaganda, recruitment and financing; and providing significant, multidimensional support to African countries by strengthening our partners **on a national and regional level** – through capacity building efforts and improving the criminal justice chain actors (intelligence, the judiciary, law enforcement) and military systems in place.

The support comes via **training** to the attorney general's office and the central investigative police, EU is strengthening the law enforcement response to terrorism in Mozambique. Several projects

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are implemented in Africa in the framework of global initiatives: for example, the STRIVE JUVENILE project addresses the issue of Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups, in Mozambique and Nigeria; EU has supported to the Nigerian demobilization, de-radicalization and reintegration efforts for former associates of Boko Haram; under CT INFLOW, **the**

international community. Our support to the Multinational Joint Task Force - since 2016 worth