



Asamblea General

Distr. general
3 de abril de 2017
Español
Original: inglés

Septuagésimo primer período de sesiones
Tema 118 del programa
**Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas
contra el Terrorismo**

Capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas de ayudar a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de la Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo

Informe del Secretario General

I. Introducción

1. El presente informe se publica de conformidad con el párrafo 70 de la resolución [70/291](#) de la Asamblea General, aprobada el 1 de julio de 2016, durante el quinto examen de la Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo. En esa resolución, la Asamblea solicitó al Secretario General que examinase, en consulta con la Asamblea General, la capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas de ayudar a los Estados Miembros que lo solicitasen en la aplicación de la Estrategia de manera equilibrada, incluso fortaleciendo la cooperación con otras organizaciones internacionales y regionales y mejorando la movilización de los recursos necesarios para proyectos de desarrollo de la capacidad, con miras a presentar propuestas concretas a la Asamblea a este respecto, antes de mayo de 2017, para que las examinase en su septuagésimo primer período de sesiones.

2. Este examen se realizó en respuesta a esa solicitud y en consulta con la Asamblea General. El Presidente de la Asamblea convocó una reunión oficiosa el 22 de febrero de 2017, en la que presenté mi propuesta para reforzar la capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas de ayudar a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de la Estrategia y escuché las opiniones de los Estados Miembros. Además, en respuesta a una nota verbal de fecha 23 de febrero de 2017, 28 Estados Miembros y tres organizaciones en nombre de sus miembros (la Unión Europea, la Liga de los Estados Árabes y la Organización de Cooperación Islámica) presentaron comunicaciones por escrito.



3. La aprobación por consenso de la resolución [70/291](#) simbolizó la firme determinación de la comunidad internacional de actuar de consuno para hacer frente a la rápida evolución del fenómeno del terrorismo. Mediante esa resolución, la Asamblea General también demostró su papel fundamental en la actualización y aplicación de la Estrategia y sus cuatro pilares: a) medidas para hacer frente a las condiciones que propician la propagación del terrorismo; b) medidas para prevenir y combatir el terrorismo; c) medidas destinadas a aumentar la capacidad de los Estados para prevenir el terrorismo y luchar contra él, y a fortalecer el papel del sistema de las Naciones Unidas a ese respecto; y d) medidas destinadas a asegurar el respeto de los derechos humanos para todos y el imperio de la ley como base fundamental de la lucha contra el terrorismo¹. Desde la aprobación de la Estrategia en 2006, el objetivo de los exámenes bienales de la Asamblea ha sido lograr que la Estrategia sea un documento vivo, en consonancia con la evolución de las prioridades.

4. La finalidad del quinto examen de la Asamblea General, establecido en la resolución [70/291](#), fue actualizar la Estrategia para hacer frente de manera más eficaz a la evolución de la amenaza terrorista que sufre la comunidad internacional. A pesar de los progresos realizados por los Estados Miembros y sus recientes avances militares, grupos terroristas como el Estado Islámico en el Iraq y el Levante (Dáesh), Al-Qaida y Boko Haram siguen planteando una amenaza a la paz y la seguridad internacionales. Además, el terrorismo tiene un efecto devastador en el desarrollo sostenible, los derechos humanos y la acción humanitaria a nivel mundial, regional y nacional.

5. A fin de hacer frente a este problema, nuestra lucha contra el terrorismo ha de formar parte de un enfoque integral a nivel mundial que apoye la aplicación equilibrada de la Estrategia. Si bien este examen de la capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas de ayudar a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de la Estrategia pone de manifiesto que se ha avanzado, aún queda mucho más por hacer.

6. Inspirada en los propósitos y principios de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas, la reestructuración de la arquitectura antiterrorista de las Naciones Unidas que se propone en el presente informe nos permitirá aunar mejor nuestros esfuerzos y multiplicar los efectos de nuestras medidas contra el terrorismo en los planos nacional, regional e internacional. Este tipo de reestructuración no pretende modificar los actuales mandatos de las diversas entidades de las Naciones Unidas. Lo que debería conseguir es mejorar la capacidad de la Organización para ayudar a los Estados Miembros, respetando plenamente el principio de soberanía. Las propuestas son compatibles con el propósito de la reforma general de la gestión de las Naciones Unidas, que, entre otras cosas, consiste en lograr una mayor eficiencia, simplificación, coordinación y coherencia.

¹ Véase la resolución [60/288](#) de la Asamblea General, anexo.

II. Examen de la capacidad actual del sistema de las Naciones Unidas de ayudar a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de la Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo

A. Marco jurídico y normativo internacional contra el terrorismo

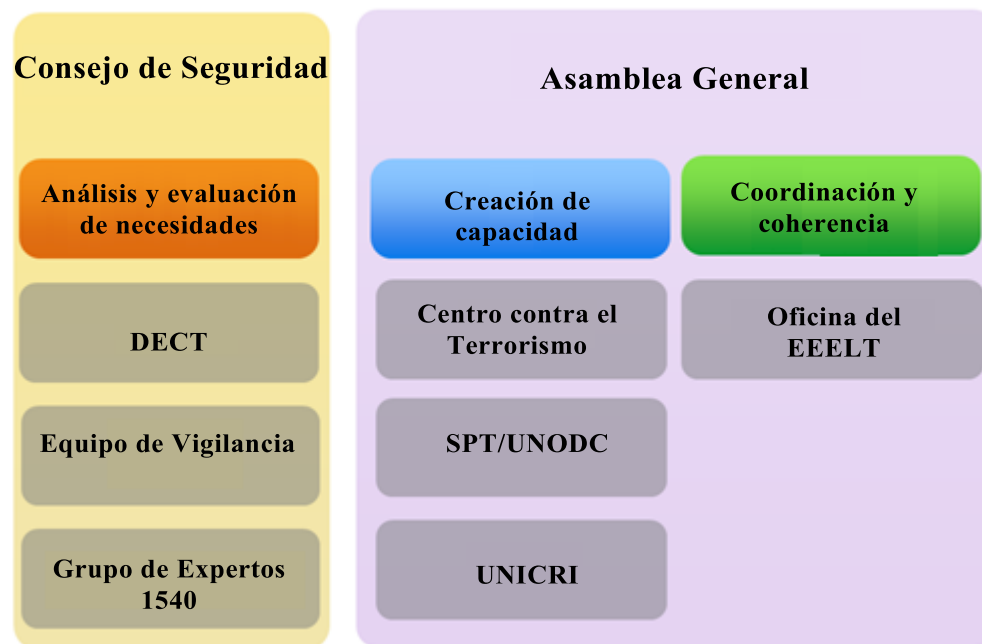
7. Los Estados Miembros han señalado en reiteradas ocasiones que el terrorismo es una grave amenaza a la paz y la seguridad internacionales. Hacer frente a esta amenaza es una prioridad de las Naciones Unidas, como lo demuestra el número cada vez mayor de resoluciones aprobadas recientemente por la Asamblea General, entre ellas la resolución [70/291](#), relativa al Examen de la Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, la resolución [71/38](#), relativa a las medidas para evitar la adquisición por terroristas de armas de destrucción en masa, la resolución [71/66](#), relativa a la prevención de la adquisición de fuentes radiactivas por terroristas, y la resolución [71/151](#), relativa a las medidas para eliminar el terrorismo internacional, al igual que por el Consejo de Seguridad, entre ellas la resolución [2309 \(2016\)](#), relativa a las amenazas terroristas a la aviación civil, la resolución [2322 \(2016\)](#), relativa a la cooperación judicial internacional en la lucha contra el terrorismo, la resolución [2331 \(2016\)](#), relativa a la trata de personas y el terrorismo, y la resolución [2341 \(2017\)](#), relativa a la protección de la infraestructura vital contra ataques terroristas.

8. La plena aplicación del marco jurídico internacional contra el terrorismo por todos los Estados Miembros contribuiría en gran medida a fortalecer la cooperación internacional contra esa amenaza. En su resolución [71/151](#), la Asamblea General alentó a todos los Estados Miembros a que redoblasen sus esfuerzos por resolver toda cuestión pendiente con miras a finalizar el proceso de elaboración del proyecto de convenio general sobre el terrorismo internacional.

B. Sinopsis sobre la arquitectura antiterrorista actual de las Naciones Unidas

9. A fin de aprovechar la ventaja comparativa de las Naciones Unidas como instancia de establecimiento de normas y con poder de convocatoria para apoyar las respuestas de los Estados Miembros a la evolución de la amenaza del terrorismo, los Estados Miembros han establecido una arquitectura antiterrorista, compuesta por órganos cuyo mandato emana tanto de la Asamblea General como del Consejo de Seguridad (véase la figura I).

Figura I
Principales órganos de las Naciones Unidas de lucha contra el terrorismo



Abreviaturas: Centro contra el Terrorismo, Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo; DECT, Dirección Ejecutiva del Comité contra el Terrorismo; EEELT, Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo; Equipo de Apoyo Analítico y Vigilancia de las Sanciones establecido en virtud de las resoluciones del Consejo de Seguridad [1526 \(2004\)](#) y [2253 \(2015\)](#); Equipo de Vigilancia; Grupo de Expertos 1540, Grupo de Expertos del Comité del Consejo de Seguridad establecido en virtud de la resolución [1540 \(2004\)](#); SPT, Subdivisión de Prevención del Terrorismo; UNICRI, Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia; UNODC, Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito.

10. Los órganos de las Naciones Unidas de lucha contra el terrorismo tienen encomendadas tres funciones principales: a) llevar a cabo una evaluación de las necesidades y un análisis de las deficiencias en materia antiterrorista, tarea de la que se encargan los órganos con mandato del Consejo de Seguridad y, en parte, los órganos de creación de capacidad en el contexto de la Estrategia; b) prestar asistencia técnica y de creación de capacidad en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo, lo que se realiza principalmente a través de los órganos con mandato de la Asamblea General, incluido el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito (UNODC), el Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia, el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos (ACNUDH) y la Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres (ONU-Mujeres); y c)

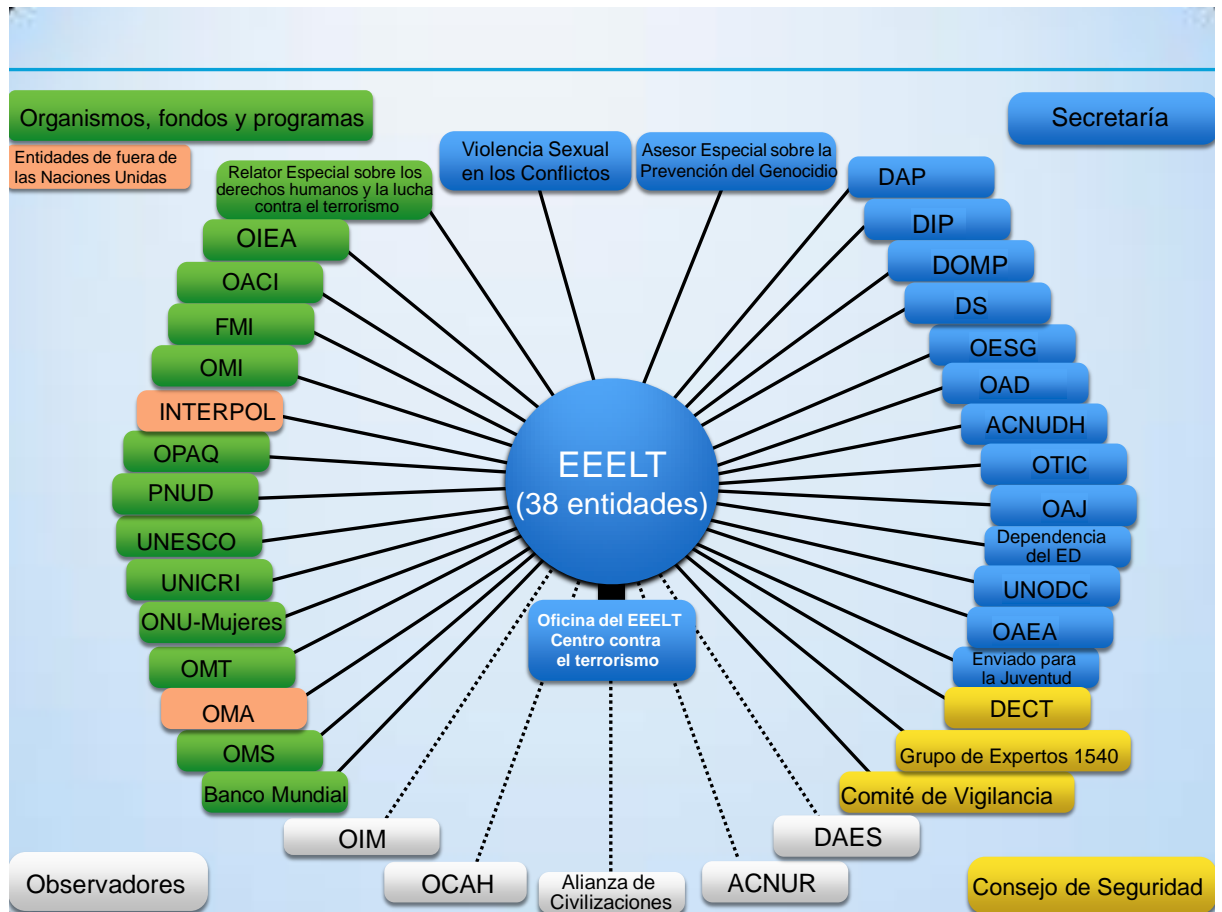
asegurar la coordinación y la coherencia de las iniciativas contra el terrorismo, tarea que corresponde a la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo del Departamento de Asuntos Políticos².

11. Las responsabilidades de lucha contra el terrorismo descritas en los diversos mandatos de estos órganos a veces se solapan. Por ejemplo, algunos órganos del Consejo de Seguridad, si bien facilitan iniciativas de creación de capacidad en materia antiterrorista de conformidad con sus mandatos, terminan desempeñando un papel organizativo y sustantivo en la ejecución de esas iniciativas. En ocasiones, órganos con mandato de la Asamblea General realizan evaluaciones parciales para detectar dificultades y oportunidades. También hay solapamientos temáticos, habida cuenta de que varias entidades diferentes tienen el mandato de ocuparse de temas similares de lucha antiterrorista, aunque sea desde ángulos distintos. Esas superposiciones, por ejemplo, en aspectos como la necesidad de respetar los derechos humanos en la lucha contra el terrorismo, la prevención de la radicalización, las cuestiones relacionadas con las víctimas del terrorismo, y la seguridad y la gestión de las fronteras, complican la coordinación de los esfuerzos de las Naciones Unidas.

12. El Secretario General estableció el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo en 2005 a fin de fortalecer la coordinación y la coherencia en materia antiterrorista. La Asamblea General, en su resolución [60/288](#) sobre la Estrategia Global de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, acogió con beneplácito la intención del Secretario General de que, dentro de los recursos disponibles, el Equipo Especial quedara institucionalizado en la Secretaría, lo que se materializó en el marco de la Oficina Ejecutiva del Secretario General. En 2009, la Asamblea, en su resolución [64/235](#), solicitó al Secretario General que proporcionase los recursos necesarios para ultimar la institucionalización del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo. Posteriormente, el Secretario General incorporó la Oficina del Equipo Especial al Departamento de Asuntos Políticos en diciembre de 2009.

² Véase <http://www.un.org/undpa/es/issues-terrorism>.

Figura II
Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo
(38 entidades de las Naciones Unidas y de fuera de la Organización)



Abreviaturas: ACNUDH, Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos; ACNUR, Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados; Alianza de Civilizaciones, Alianza de Civilizaciones de las Naciones Unidas; Banco Mundial; Centro contra el Terrorismo, Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo; DAES, Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales; DAP, Departamento de Asuntos Políticos; DECT, Dirección Ejecutiva del Comité contra el Terrorismo; Dependencia del ED, Dependencia del Estado de Derecho; DOMP, Departamento de Operaciones de Mantenimiento de la Paz; DIP, Departamento de Información Pública; DS, Departamento de Seguridad; EEELT, Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo; Equipo de Vigilancia, Equipo de Apoyo Analítico y Vigilancia de las Sanciones establecido en virtud de las resoluciones del Consejo de Seguridad 1526 (2004) y 2253 (2015); Enviado para la Juventud, Enviado del Secretario General para la Juventud; FMI, Fondo Monetario Internacional; Grupo de Expertos 1540, Grupo de Expertos del Comité del Consejo de Seguridad establecido en virtud de la resolución 1540 (2004); INTERPOL, Organización Internacional de Policía Criminal; OACI, Organización de Aviación Civil Internacional; OAD, Oficina de Asuntos de Desarme; OAEA, Oficina del Asesor Especial para África; OAJ, Oficina de Asuntos Jurídicos; OCAH, Oficina de Coordinación de Asuntos Humanitarios; OESG, Oficina Ejecutiva del Secretario General; OIEA: Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica; OIM, Organización Internacional para las Migraciones; OMA, Organización Mundial de Aduanas; OMI, Organización Marítima Internacional; OMS, Organización Mundial de la Salud; OMT, Organización Mundial del Turismo; ONU-Mujeres, Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres;

OPAQ, Organización para la Prohibición de las Armas Químicas; OTIC, Oficina de Tecnología de la Información y las Comunicaciones; PNUD, Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo; Relator Especial sobre los derechos humanos y la lucha contra el terrorismo, Relator Especial sobre la promoción y la protección de los derechos humanos y las libertades fundamentales en la lucha contra el terrorismo; UNESCO, Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura; UNICRI, Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia; UNODC, Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito; Violencia sexual en los conflictos, Representante Especial sobre la Violencia Sexual en los Conflictos.

13. El Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo ha aumentado en escala, pasando de las 22 entidades que lo integraban en 2005 a la actual composición, que incluye 36 entidades de las Naciones Unidas, entre ellas órganos, departamentos, oficinas, dependencias, organismos, fondos y programas con mandato de la Asamblea General y el Consejo de Seguridad, y 2 entidades de fuera de la Organización, a saber, la Organización Internacional de Policía Criminal (INTERPOL) y la Organización Mundial de Aduanas. Entre las recientes incorporaciones se encuentran ONU-Mujeres, el Asesor Especial sobre la Prevención del Genocidio y el Enviado del Secretario General para la Juventud (véase la figura II). Preside el Equipo Especial el Secretario General Adjunto de Asuntos Políticos, que actúa al mismo tiempo como Director Ejecutivo del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo.

14. La institucionalización del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo en 2009 con cargo a recursos del presupuesto ordinario lo dotó de una pequeña capacidad institucional específica materializada en la Oficina del Equipo Especial, que se ubica en el Departamento de Asuntos Políticos. Entre las funciones básicas de la Oficina están garantizar la coordinación y la coherencia de las actividades generales contra el terrorismo del sistema de las Naciones Unidas; liderar las iniciativas colectivas a nivel de todo el sistema de las Naciones Unidas para apoyar la aplicación de la Estrategia; facilitar y apoyar las iniciativas y actividades de las entidades del sistema de las Naciones Unidas en las esferas de sus mandatos y conocimientos técnicos pertinentes para ayudar en la aplicación de la totalidad de la Estrategia; desempeñar funciones básicas de secretaría respecto a la labor sustantiva, organizativa, administrativa y de divulgación del Equipo Especial; y colaborar con los Estados Miembros, organizaciones internacionales y regionales, instituciones académicas y organizaciones de la sociedad civil para promover la aplicación de la Estrategia.

15. En 2006, todos los Estados Miembros de las Naciones Unidas reconocieron que la creación de un centro internacional para combatir el terrorismo podría considerarse parte de los esfuerzos internacionales de lucha antiterrorista, conforme a lo establecido en la Estrategia. En 2011, la Asamblea General, en su resolución [66/10](#), observó con aprecio la contribución de la Arabia Saudita y acogió con beneplácito el establecimiento del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo dentro de la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo. El Centro contribuye a la aplicación equilibrada de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia a través de su programa de trabajo quinquenal y su activa participación en los 12 grupos de trabajo del Equipo Especial. La Junta Consultiva del Centro, nombrada por el Secretario General para un período de tres años (actualmente en su segundo mandato, que termina en abril de 2018), está presidida

por la Arabia Saudita e integrada por 21 Estados Miembros geográficamente diversos y la Unión Europea (como invitada) cuya función es apoyar y orientar su labor³. La Junta Consultiva se reúne trimestralmente. El mandato de la Junta Consultiva figura en el anexo II del presente informe.

C. Capacidades de las Naciones Unidas: evaluación de las necesidades y análisis de las deficiencias en materia antiterrorista

16. Los tres órganos subsidiarios del Consejo de Seguridad se ocupan directamente de las amenazas terroristas y proporcionan evaluaciones y análisis de las deficiencias. El Equipo de Apoyo Analítico y Vigilancia de las Sanciones apoya al Comité del Consejo de Seguridad dimanante de las resoluciones [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) y [2253 \(2015\)](#) relativas al Estado Islámico en el Iraq y el Levante (Dáesh), Al-Qaida y las personas, grupos, empresas y entidades asociados. El mandato del Equipo de Vigilancia, que se describe en los párrafos 43 y 44 y el anexo de la resolución [2160 \(2014\)](#), y en los párrafos 88 a 95 y el anexo I de la resolución [2253 \(2015\)](#), incluye, entre otras cosas, las siguientes tareas: presentar informes al Comité; ayudar al Comité a examinar las propuestas de inclusión de nombres en la Lista de Sanciones contra el EIIL (Dáesh) y Al-Qaida y a revisar los nombres incluidos en ella, y prestar asistencia al Ombudsman en el desempeño de su mandato; reunir información en nombre del Comité; realizar estudios de casos; formular recomendaciones para asistir a los Estados Miembros; facilitar el intercambio de información; celebrar consultas con los Estados Miembros, las entidades de las Naciones Unidas y los agentes pertinentes; y cooperar con la INTERPOL y los Estados Miembros en la emisión de Notificaciones Especiales de INTERPOL y el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas.

17. El Comité contra el Terrorismo, establecido en virtud de la resolución [1373 \(2001\)](#) del Consejo de Seguridad, cuenta con la asistencia de la Dirección Ejecutiva del Comité contra el Terrorismo. La Dirección desempeña un papel fundamental en el sistema de las Naciones Unidas, dado que supervisa, facilita y promueve la aplicación por los Estados Miembros de las resoluciones pertinentes del Consejo de Seguridad relativas a la lucha contra el terrorismo, en particular mediante la evaluación de la capacidad de los Estados en materia antiterrorista y la detección de deficiencias, tendencias y dificultades en la ejecución. Habida cuenta de la delicada información que figura en esos informes, la Dirección solo puede transmitir sus evaluaciones, documentos normativos e informes analíticos a las entidades pertinentes si así lo aprueba el Comité. Los órganos con mandato de la Asamblea General no tienen un acceso periódico a esos informes para su labor de creación de capacidad.

³ La Junta Consultiva actual fue nombrada por el Secretario General en abril de 2015. El mandato de sus miembros vencerá el 30 de abril de 2018. Los miembros de la Junta son: Alemania, Arabia Saudita (Presidente), Argelia, Argentina, Bélgica, Brasil, China, Egipto, España, Estados Unidos de América, Federación de Rusia, Francia, India, Indonesia, Marruecos, Nigeria, Noruega, Pakistán, Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte, Suiza y Turquía. La Unión Europea es miembro invitado.

18. El tercer órgano subsidiario pertinente del Consejo de Seguridad es el Comité del Consejo de Seguridad establecido en virtud de la resolución 1540 (2004), que recibe apoyo de un Grupo de Expertos. En la resolución 1540 (2004), se pide a los Estados que se abstengan de suministrar cualquier tipo de apoyo a los agentes no estatales que traten de desarrollar, adquirir, fabricar, poseer, transportar, transferir o emplear armas nucleares, químicas o biológicas y sus sistemas vectores, en particular con fines de terrorismo. El Comité 1540 y su Grupo de Expertos supervisan la aplicación de esa resolución y funcionan como centro de intercambio de información para asistir a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de lo dispuesto en ella.

19. El Equipo de Apoyo Analítico y Vigilancia de las Sanciones, la Dirección Ejecutiva del Comité contra el Terrorismo y el Grupo de Expertos del Comité establecido en virtud de la resolución 1540 (2004) forman parte del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo. La estrecha cooperación entre esos órganos del Consejo de Seguridad y la Asamblea General sirve de apoyo a los Estados Miembros en sus esfuerzos por aplicar la Estrategia y el marco jurídico internacional contra el terrorismo.

D. Capacidad de las Naciones Unidas: asistencia para la creación de capacidad contra el terrorismo

20. Desde el quinto examen de la Estrategia, el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo ha procurado cada vez más reforzar la coordinación y la coherencia en la prestación de la asistencia de las Naciones Unidas en materia antiterrorista a través del denominado enfoque “ Toda la ONU ”.

Principales entidades antiterroristas de las Naciones Unidas y otras entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo

21. Puede considerarse que algunas de las 38 entidades que integran el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo son los principales órganos de las Naciones Unidas en materia antiterrorista, con mandatos específicamente centrados en combatir esta amenaza. Además de los tres órganos del Consejo de Seguridad descritos anteriormente, los proveedores más importantes de asistencia para la creación de capacidad antiterrorista son el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, la Subdivisión de Prevención del Terrorismo de la UNODC y el Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia. Otras entidades del Equipo Especial prestan asistencia para luchar contra el terrorismo y prevenir el extremismo violento en el marco de mandatos más amplios.

22. El Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo se está convirtiendo en un instrumento importante de las Naciones Unidas para la creación de capacidad y, en los últimos cinco años, ha recibido un total de 132 millones de dólares de más de 20 contribuyentes. La Arabia Saudita, que aportó 110 millones de dólares en dos generosas contribuciones, es el principal contribuyente. El Centro presenta informes trimestrales y anuales a su Junta Consultiva e informa a sus miembros cada tres meses. En 2014, el Secretario General, en consulta con la Junta Consultiva,

estableció seis prioridades fundamentales para el Centro, que figuran en una declaración de objetivos sobre su labor:

- a) Convertirse en un centro de excelencia con expertos sobre cuestiones relativas a la lucha contra el terrorismo que no quedan cubiertas en otras partes del sistema de las Naciones Unidas;
- b) Prestar asistencia para la creación de capacidad a los Estados Miembros y las organizaciones regionales a fin de apoyar la aplicación de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia de manera equilibrada;
- c) Adoptar un enfoque estratégico de creación de capacidad en la utilización de los recursos para lograr mejoras a corto, mediano y largo plazo;
- d) Facilitar apoyo a los equipos de las Naciones Unidas en los países, las misiones políticas especiales y las operaciones de mantenimiento de la paz con conocimientos especializados para que la lucha contra el terrorismo se incorpore a su labor, en plena conformidad con sus respectivos mandatos y las solicitudes de los Estados Miembros;
- e) Incentivar la lucha contra el terrorismo mediante la financiación conjunta de proyectos de creación de capacidad, buscando para ello aportaciones de otros donantes siempre que sea posible;
- f) Garantizar una gestión eficaz de los programas y proyectos.

23. Para la consecución de esas prioridades, el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo puso en marcha un programa quinquenal en 2016. El programa garantiza que las actividades del Centro no se solapen con las de otras entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo, sino que se beneficien de conocimientos especializados mediante iniciativas conjuntas. El Centro definió cuatro resultados amplios en relación con cada uno de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia y 12 productos específicos relativos a las esferas de actividad del Centro.

24. Esos 12 productos son los siguientes: la prevención del extremismo violento y los combatientes terroristas extranjeros (en relación con el pilar I); las estrategias contra el terrorismo, la lucha contra la financiación del terrorismo, la seguridad y gestión de las fronteras y la ciberseguridad (en relación con el pilar II); la Iniciativa para la Asistencia Integrada contra el Terrorismo, la lucha antiterrorista utilizando el enfoque “Toda la ONU”, la creación de redes y el apoyo a diferentes modalidades de cooperación (en relación con el pilar III); y los derechos humanos y las víctimas (en relación con el pilar IV).

25. La UNODC, por conducto de su Subdivisión de Prevención del Terrorismo y sus oficinas sobre el terreno, promueve la ratificación de los convenios y protocolos internacionales relativos al terrorismo y apoya a los Estados Miembros en su aplicación. Ofrece asistencia jurídica para el examen y la redacción de legislación nacional en materia de lucha antiterrorista y fomenta la capacidad de los sistemas de justicia penal para responder con eficacia al terrorismo. Todos los años, la Subdivisión presta asistencia a un promedio de 70 países. Desde 2003, ha contribuido a 688 nuevas ratificaciones de convenios y protocolos internacionales sobre terrorismo y a la revisión o elaboración de 156 instrumentos legislativos. Más de 26.000 funcionarios del sistema de justicia penal recibieron formación para

ampliar sus conocimientos y experiencia en cuestiones relacionadas con la prevención del terrorismo. La UNODC actúa en más de 150 países a través de su red de oficinas regionales y nacionales. Mentores y expertos en prevención del terrorismo trabajan desde más de 20 oficinas de la UNODC sobre el terreno que abarcan las regiones de Asia Meridional, Asia Sudoriental y el Pacífico, Asia Occidental y Central, África y el Oriente Medio, el Golfo, Europa Sudoriental y América Latina.

26. El Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia presta asistencia a organizaciones intergubernamentales, gubernamentales y no gubernamentales en la formulación y aplicación de políticas mejoradas para la prevención y el control de la delincuencia, que incluyen la lucha contra el terrorismo y la prevención del extremismo violento. El Instituto ejecuta este mandato mediante la investigación, la capacitación, las actividades sobre el terreno y la recopilación, el intercambio y la difusión de información en cooperación con otras entidades de las Naciones Unidas, organizaciones internacionales y asociados en la investigación. Las actividades actuales del Centro están ligadas principalmente al apoyo a los Estados Miembros para hacer frente a las condiciones que propician la propagación del terrorismo (pilar I de la Estrategia) y para velar por el respeto de los derechos humanos y el estado de derecho como base fundamental de la lucha antiterrorista (pilar IV).

27. Otras entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo, como ONU-Mujeres, la Organización para la Prohibición de las Armas Químicas, la UNESCO y el ACNUDH, apoyan las iniciativas del sistema de las Naciones Unidas destinadas a combatir el terrorismo centrándose en aspectos específicos de la respuesta a la amenaza, de conformidad con sus mandatos más amplios. Además, contribuyen a la coordinación y la coherencia generales de las iniciativas contra el terrorismo con su participación activa en los grupos de trabajo interinstitucionales del Equipo Especial.

28. Por ejemplo, el PNUD ha elaborado un enfoque normativo con el propósito de definir y promover soluciones de desarrollo duraderas para prevenir el extremismo violento. En diciembre de 2016, el PNUD puso en marcha un programa global cuatrienal sobre la prevención del extremismo violento para el período 2017-2020 con un objetivo mundial, regional, nacional y local, de conformidad con su mandato, sus ventajas comparativas y sus conocimientos especializados. El PNUD está movilizando 108 millones de dólares para financiar el programa en apoyo de estos esfuerzos.

29. La labor de la UNESCO para combatir el extremismo violento hace hincapié en la prevención, para lo cual se centra en atender a sus causas fundamentales y contribuir al primer pilar de la Estrategia. La UNESCO adopta un enfoque integrado e intersectorial para abordar las dificultades a que se enfrentan los jóvenes en relación con el extremismo violento mediante la promoción de políticas y programas de formación relacionados con los factores que favorecen la prevención de este fenómeno, la alfabetización mediática, la colaboración con los jóvenes y su participación, y la educación y sensibilización sobre el Patrimonio Mundial.

30. El ACNUDH promueve los derechos humanos y el estado de derecho como base fundamental de las políticas y estrategias nacionales, regionales e

internacionales de lucha contra el terrorismo a través de iniciativas de asistencia técnica y creación de capacidad, así como mediante la vigilancia y la promoción del respeto de los derechos humanos en la lucha antiterrorista, y la presentación de informes al respecto.

31. El programa mundial de ONU-Mujeres para prevenir el extremismo violento abarca cuatro componentes: investigación, formulación de políticas, respuesta (mayor acceso a la justicia y los servicios esenciales para las víctimas de violencia sexual y por razón de género en el contexto del extremismo violento) y participación (aumento de la intervención de las mujeres en las iniciativas para responder al problema del terrorismo y prevenirlo). A raíz de la aprobación de las resoluciones del Consejo de Seguridad [2122 \(2013\)](#) y [2242 \(2015\)](#), y teniendo en cuenta el Plan de Acción del Secretario General para Prevenir el Extremismo Violento, ONU-Mujeres se ha convertido en un miembro activo del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y preside el nuevo grupo de trabajo interinstitucional del Equipo Especial sobre estrategias para prevenir y combatir el terrorismo que tengan en cuenta las cuestiones de género.

Sinopsis sobre la asistencia para la creación de capacidad

32. Las entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo presentan informes acerca de más de 400 proyectos e iniciativas en materia de lucha antiterrorista y prevención del extremismo violento que están en curso y que han finalizado recientemente en todo el mundo. El apoyo de las Naciones Unidas a los Estados Miembros en cada uno de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia, condicionado por las prioridades específicas de los Estados Miembros beneficiarios y los donantes, ha cambiado a lo largo de los años. En la actualidad, 113 proyectos o iniciativas contra el terrorismo se encuentran en distintas etapas de aplicación en relación con el pilar I de la Estrategia, 58 proyectos en relación con el pilar II, 113 en relación con el pilar III y 21 en relación con el pilar IV. Sin embargo, algunos componentes de varios de esos proyectos abarcan esferas de diferentes pilares. Por ejemplo, muchos proyectos incluyen componentes relacionados con la perspectiva de género y la promoción y protección de los derechos humanos y el estado de derecho.

33. Desde el punto de vista geográfico, las Naciones Unidas proporcionan la mayor parte de su asistencia para la creación de capacidad en materia de lucha contra el terrorismo y prevención del extremismo violento en África Occidental, Asia Meridional, el Oriente Medio y Europa Oriental. Esta distribución geográfica se deriva de las peticiones de los Estados Miembros y la mayoría de esos proyectos e iniciativas corresponden a los pilares I y III, lo que demuestra la importancia de hacer frente a las condiciones que propician la propagación del terrorismo y la necesidad de adoptar las medidas necesarias para fomentar la capacidad de los Estados Miembros de combatirlo y prevenirlo. Los proyectos relativos al pilar II de la Estrategia han ido aumentando continuamente debido a una serie de nuevas amenazas planteadas por el terrorismo, como el fenómeno de los combatientes terroristas extranjeros, y debido a la pertinencia de aspectos como la gestión de las fronteras, la lucha contra la financiación del terrorismo, la protección de la infraestructura vital, incluido Internet, la cuestión de impedir que los terroristas

adquieran armas de destrucción en masa y el aumento de la capacidad de los Estados Miembros para intercambiar información.

34. Las actividades realizadas en el marco de cada uno de los pilares de la Estrategia son sumamente variadas e incluyen cursos de capacitación especializados, talleres y conferencias; la preparación de manuales, guías y compendios; el intercambio de buenas prácticas; y la prestación de asistencia específica en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo y la prevención del extremismo violento para elaborar, por ejemplo, estrategias, planes de acción y leyes pertinentes.

35. Las entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo también han desarrollado una serie de redes y plataformas virtuales contra el terrorismo para fortalecer la cooperación internacional, entre ellas la Plataforma Judicial Regional de los Países del Sahel de la UNODC y la red contra el terrorismo y la lista de asesores en materia antiterrorista del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo⁴. Puede consultarse en línea⁵ información adicional resumida acerca de los proyectos, los programas y las actividades importantes que están ejecutando las Naciones Unidas en la actualidad en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo y la prevención del extremismo violento.

Aumento del volumen de la asistencia de las Naciones Unidas para la creación de capacidad contra el terrorismo

36. La presente sinopsis de la labor de las Naciones Unidas para crear capacidad contra el terrorismo desde la aprobación de la Estrategia hace más de 10 años muestra un aumento significativo del volumen de peticiones presentadas por los Estados Miembros a las entidades de la Organización para obtener asistencia relacionada con la lucha antiterrorista en los planos nacional, regional y mundial. En respuesta a ese aumento, se han ampliado el número y el alcance de los mandatos de las entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y han surgido nuevas entidades encargadas de responder a esas peticiones. Un ejemplo de ese mayor volumen es el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, cuya programación está financiada con recursos extrapresupuestarios y ha pasado de un presupuesto anual de aproximadamente 2,2 millones de dólares en 2013 a un presupuesto anual estimado de 20 millones de dólares en 2018 (incluidos los gastos de proyectos y personal). También demuestran esa tendencia el número cada vez mayor de resoluciones y declaraciones de la Presidencia relativas a la lucha contra el terrorismo aprobadas por el Consejo de Seguridad y la Asamblea General que asignan nuevas responsabilidades a las entidades del Equipo Especial, la ampliación de los miembros de este y el notable

⁴ La lista de asesores en materia antiterrorista está integrada por 81 expertos procedentes de 29 países que pueden llevar a cabo actividades urgentes y a corto plazo de creación de capacidad sobre el terreno en esferas tales como el desarrollo y la ejecución de estrategias y medidas nacionales y regionales de combate al terrorismo; la lucha contra la radicalización; la protección de la infraestructura vital y los objetivos vulnerables; y la orientación psicológica y la rehabilitación de las víctimas del terrorismo.

⁵ Véase

https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/sg_report20171104.pdf.

aumento de nuevos temas o nuevos aspectos de cuestiones más tradicionales que se tratan.

Ejemplo: la prevención del extremismo violento en relación con los pilares I y IV de la Estrategia

37. En 2016, la Asamblea General, en su resolución [70/291](#), asignó responsabilidades adicionales al Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo. En esa resolución, la Asamblea reconoció la importancia de prevenir el extremismo violento cuando condujera al terrorismo, recomendó que los Estados Miembros considerasen la posibilidad de aplicar las recomendaciones pertinentes del Plan de Acción, de conformidad con el contexto nacional, y alentó a las entidades de las Naciones Unidas, de conformidad con sus mandatos, a aplicar las recomendaciones pertinentes del Plan de Acción, en particular mediante la prestación de asistencia técnica a los Estados Miembros que la solicitaran. Asimismo, invitó a los Estados Miembros y a las organizaciones regionales y subregionales a que considerasen la posibilidad de elaborar planes de acción nacionales y regionales para prevenir el extremismo violento cuando condujera al terrorismo, de conformidad con sus prioridades y teniendo en cuenta, según procediera, el Plan de Acción, así como otros documentos pertinentes.

38. En consecuencia, el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo desempeña actualmente un papel fundamental en la coordinación de diversas actividades de las entidades de las Naciones Unidas para la prevención del extremismo violento en el contexto de los pilares I y IV de la Estrategia. Los Copresidentes de la Oficina del Equipo Especial, junto con la UNESCO y el Grupo de Trabajo del Equipo Especial sobre la Prevención del Extremismo Violento, también actúan como secretaria del grupo de acción de alto nivel del Secretario General para la prevención del extremismo violento, que está encabezando el desarrollo del enfoque “Toda la ONU” para prevenir este fenómeno. El Grupo de Trabajo ha celebrado amplias consultas y desarrollado seis entregables concretos:

- a) Un inventario de las actividades de las Naciones Unidas reflejadas en una matriz de proyectos de prevención del extremismo violento en los planos mundial, regional y nacional en relación con todas las esferas prioritarias del Plan de Acción;
- b) Una lista de los coordinadores de las Naciones Unidas para la prevención del extremismo violento en las entidades pertinentes de la Organización a fin de aumentar el intercambio de información y la cooperación entre las entidades del Equipo Especial que se ocupan de la cuestión;
- c) Una recopilación de las mejores prácticas, las lecciones aprendidas y las experiencias extraídas en un registro común sobre la prevención del extremismo violento;
- d) Un grupo de recursos globales sobre la prevención del extremismo violento integrado por expertos internacionales de todo el mundo;
- e) Un enfoque común, estratégico y sistémico de movilización de recursos para prevenir el extremismo violento;

f) La organización de un retiro de expertos interinstitucionales del Equipo Especial sobre la elaboración de planes de acción nacionales y regionales para prevenir el extremismo violento, de conformidad con la resolución 70/291 de la Asamblea General. El retiro se celebró los días 22 y 23 de febrero de 2017 en Manhasset (Estados Unidos de América)⁶.

E. Capacidad de las Naciones Unidas: asegurar la coordinación y la coherencia en la prestación de asistencia contra el terrorismo

39. El número creciente de actividades de creación de capacidad relacionadas con la lucha contra el terrorismo y la prevención del extremismo violento que ejecuta el Equipo Especial requieren una mayor coordinación y coherencia de los esfuerzos de las Naciones Unidas. Desde su implantación, el Equipo Especial ha intensificado constantemente la labor de coordinación y coherencia de su mandato de tres maneras: coordinando la formulación de políticas en materia de lucha contra el terrorismo y contribuyendo a las iniciativas de las Naciones Unidas para el establecimiento de normas; coordinando cada vez más las actividades de la Organización destinadas a crear capacidad contra el terrorismo en apoyo de los esfuerzos de los Estados Miembros para combatirlo; y procurando coordinar las iniciativas contra el terrorismo en los planos regional y nacional para lograr la máxima repercusión sobre el terreno.

Metodología: enfoque “Toda la ONU”

40. El Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo adopta el enfoque “Toda la ONU” con respecto a su mandato de coordinación y coherencia. La elaboración de un plan del Equipo Especial para ejecutar proyectos de creación de capacidad destinados a frenar el flujo de combatientes terroristas extranjeros, de conformidad con la recomendación del Consejo de Seguridad (véase [S/PRST/2015/11](#)), pone de manifiesto las ventajas de este enfoque. A fin de garantizar la inclusividad, el plan se elaboró siguiendo un modelo “de abajo arriba”. Las entidades del Equipo Especial presentaron proyectos, organizados por este entorno al “ciclo de vida” completo de la amenaza. La Dirección Ejecutiva del Comité contra el Terrorismo evaluó la importancia crítica de cada proyecto y un grupo de trabajo interinstitucional *ad hoc* del Equipo Especial integrado por todas sus entidades aprobó el plan, que incluye 37 proyectos que se refuerzan mutuamente. Esto permitió al Equipo Especial detectar esferas esenciales que podrían abordarse mediante proyectos conjuntos de creación de capacidad y no de forma separada por cada entidad. Uno de esos proyectos, sobre la importancia de disponer de información por adelantado de los pasajeros y el fomento de la capacidad al respecto, está siendo ejecutado conjuntamente por el Centro de las Naciones Unidas

⁶ El retiro congregó a 86 expertos superiores, sobre todo de las entidades del Equipo Especial, representantes de los Estados Miembros, investigadores y especialistas de centros de estudio y organizaciones de la sociedad civil y Coordinadores Residentes de los países pertinentes para examinar los problemas e intercambiar mejores prácticas y lecciones aprendidas en relación con principios generales, sustantivos y de procedimiento que podrían guiar la elaboración de planes de acción nacionales y regionales destinados a prevenir el extremismo violento.

contra el Terrorismo, la Dirección, la Organización Internacional para las Migraciones, la Organización de Aviación Civil Internacional, la INTERPOL y la Asociación de Transporte Aéreo Internacional. A pesar del llamamiento del Consejo de Seguridad a los Estados Miembros para que aporten recursos financieros al plan, la financiación ha sido limitada hasta la fecha. El Centro se ha comprometido a aportar 9,5 millones de dólares para ejecutar proyectos en el marco del plan y otros donantes han prometido 18,6 millones de dólares, lo que se traduce en una financiación total de aproximadamente el 23%. Pese a la elaboración de un plan adecuadamente coordinado que el Consejo ha definido como prioridad, siguen siendo necesarias actividades de divulgación para intensificar la respuesta de los Estados Miembros a un problema mundial urgente.

Proceso de coordinación y coherencia

41. El Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo ha elaborado un marco de coordinación que abarca los cuatro pilares de la labor de las Naciones Unidas, especialmente con el establecimiento de 12 grupos de trabajo interinstitucionales sobre las esferas prioritarias de la Estrategia, por ejemplo, los combatientes terroristas extranjeros, la seguridad de las fronteras, la protección de la infraestructura vital, la lucha contra la financiación del terrorismo, la prevención del extremismo violento y los derechos humanos. En 2016, los grupos de trabajo detectaron una serie de problemas y temas que merecían atención, lo que hizo que se crearan dos nuevos: uno sobre las cuestiones de género y otro sobre las comunicaciones.

42. Además de sus otras responsabilidades, la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo actúa como secretaria de los grupos de trabajo. La reunión interinstitucional estratégica anual de la Oficina y sus exposiciones informativas trimestrales a los Estados Miembros y las entidades del Equipo Especial refuerzan la coordinación y la coherencia. La Oficina coordina las contribuciones a los informes bienales del Secretario General sobre la aplicación de la Estrategia y los informes pertinentes encomendados al Secretario General por el Consejo de Seguridad, por ejemplo, los informes de conformidad con la declaración de la Presidencia del Consejo de Seguridad de fecha 13 de mayo de 2013 (S/PRST/2013/5) y las resoluciones [2195 \(2014\)](#), [2253 \(2015\)](#) y [2292 \(2016\)](#).

43. La Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo, como parte del Departamento de Asuntos Políticos, también presenta al Secretario General evaluaciones políticas sobre cuestiones relacionadas con la lucha antiterrorista, con lo que garantiza la coherencia de los mensajes institucionales, ayuda a establecer prioridades geográficas y temáticas en el combate al terrorismo y sensibiliza sobre los principales acontecimientos y tendencias.

Contenido de la coordinación y la coherencia

44. En el marco del enfoque “Toda la ONU”, la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo vela por la coordinación y la coherencia mediante el diseño, el desarrollo y la ejecución conjuntos de proyectos pertinentes de los grupos de trabajo del Equipo Especial y mediante la consignación y el intercambio de información en matrices donde se recopilan las actividades y los proyectos que llevan a cabo las entidades del Equipo Especial.

45. Un ejemplo útil del enfoque “Toda la ONU” promovido por el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo es la Iniciativa para la Asistencia Integrada contra el Terrorismo destinada a coordinar el apoyo de las Naciones Unidas a los Estados Miembros que lo soliciten a nivel regional y nacional. La Iniciativa ayuda a garantizar un enfoque holístico mediante la preparación de un marco integrado para crear capacidad en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo y la prevención del extremismo violento. La Iniciativa complementa la labor de las entidades del Equipo Especial sin sustituir o duplicar sus esfuerzos y se basa en ella. Su objetivo es catalizar la aplicación de las capacidades y los recursos existentes en el seno de las Naciones Unidas. La Iniciativa ha propiciado el firme compromiso político de organizaciones regionales y países asociados. Por otro lado, a través de ella, entidades del Equipo Especial han mantenido una cuidadosa colaboración con países beneficiarios, organizaciones regionales, donantes e instancias de las Naciones Unidas que tienen presencia sobre el terreno, como la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas para África Occidental y el Sahel y la Misión Multidimensional Integrada de Estabilización de las Naciones Unidas en Malí, con el propósito de armonizar prioridades, coordinar enfoques y lograr resultados.

F. Refuerzo de la cooperación con otras organizaciones internacionales y regionales

46. Además de reforzar la coordinación dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, el Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo actúa para desarrollar la colaboración con otras organizaciones multilaterales, de conformidad con lo solicitado por la Asamblea General. Los Estados Miembros, en la resolución 70/291 de la Asamblea, reafirmaron la necesidad de promover la cooperación internacional, regional y subregional y dar a conocer mejor la Estrategia con el objetivo de contrarrestar el terrorismo. Las organizaciones internacionales y regionales dedicadas a combatir el terrorismo son asociados fundamentales en nuestros esfuerzos comunes. Esas organizaciones tienen mandatos y formas diferentes de ayudar a los Estados Miembros, lo que contribuye a aplicar la Estrategia desde otros puntos de vista. Las organizaciones regionales y subregionales conocen muy bien el contexto local y constituyen un instrumento valioso para adaptar con eficacia cualquier asistencia o estrategia contra el terrorismo. La asociación con organizaciones regionales ayuda a multiplicar y mantener los efectos de la asistencia de las Naciones Unidas en materia antiterrorista.

47. A lo largo de los últimos años, las entidades de la Organización, de conformidad con sus mandatos, han cooperado cada vez más con organizaciones internacionales, regionales y de otro tipo para hacer frente al terrorismo y al extremismo violento. En los niveles estratégico y político, las Naciones Unidas están colaborando estrechamente con organizaciones como la Unión Africana, la Asociación de Naciones de Asia Sudoriental (ASEAN), la Unión Europea, el Consejo de Cooperación de los Estados Árabes del Golfo, la Liga de los Estados Árabes y la Organización de Cooperación Islámica en la definición de esferas temáticas y geográficas prioritarias para apoyar a los Estados Miembros.

48. En los niveles operacional y técnico, las entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo cooperan con organizaciones como la Unión Africana y su Centro Africano de Estudios e Investigación sobre el Terrorismo, la ASEAN, la Comunidad de Estados Independientes, la Comunidad Económica de los Estados de África Central, la Comunidad Económica de los Estados de África Occidental, la Autoridad Intergubernamental para el Desarrollo, la Liga de los Estados Árabes, la Organización de los Estados Americanos, la Organización para la Seguridad y la Cooperación en Europa, la Organización de Cooperación de Shanghái y la Comunidad del África Meridional para el Desarrollo en la elaboración de proyectos de creación de capacidad, por ejemplo, en esferas como el desarrollo de estrategias regionales contra el terrorismo, la búsqueda de una solución al fenómeno de los combatientes terroristas extranjeros, la lucha contra la financiación del terrorismo y los secuestros para exigir un rescate, y el fortalecimiento de los controles fronterizos. En este contexto, las entidades del Equipo Especial colaboran también con otros organismos multilaterales, como el Foro Mundial contra el Terrorismo, el Grupo de Acción Financiera y numerosas organizaciones de la sociedad civil.

49. A fin de reforzar la cooperación entre los centros nacionales, regionales e internacionales contra el terrorismo, incluido el intercambio de información, el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo ha creado una red, integrada actualmente por 32 centros nacionales, regionales y mundiales que trabajan en este ámbito. Hasta la fecha, la red contra el terrorismo ha prestado asistencia en la definición de 17 esferas nuevas para continuar con la colaboración. Sus miembros participan en sus conferencias bienales para intercambiar información y forjar alianzas. Durante los períodos entre conferencias, los integrantes de la red colaboran a través de un portal web seguro y diseñado al efecto.

50. La multiplicidad de entidades de las Naciones Unidas, que colaboran en diversos niveles con organizaciones internacionales y regionales en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo, plantea a veces problemas de coordinación. Una visión estratégica más coherente y centrada de los esfuerzos de las Naciones Unidas por combatir el terrorismo y prevenir el extremismo violento podría contribuir a superar esos problemas mediante un liderazgo eficaz y la consolidación de las alianzas existentes con esas organizaciones, así como mediante el establecimiento de otras nuevas.

G. Movilización de Recursos

51. A pesar de la creciente atención prestada por los Estados Miembros a la lucha contra el terrorismo y el extremismo violento, se deben adoptar más medidas destinadas a movilizar recursos financieros y técnicos en apoyo de las actividades antiterroristas de las Naciones Unidas.

52. El fortalecimiento de la coordinación y la coherencia interinstitucionales y la repercusión duradera y sostenible de la asistencia de las Naciones Unidas dependen del grado de apoyo proporcionado por los Estados Miembros. Esto es especialmente urgente en un momento en que un número cada vez mayor de ellos está recurriendo a la Organización para solicitar asistencia. Facilitarles un apoyo técnico que sea fiable y previsible es particularmente difícil, sobre todo para las entidades de las

Naciones Unidas que tienen asignado un porcentaje modesto de recursos del presupuesto ordinario. Son necesarios un liderazgo más firme y actividades coordinadas de recaudación de fondos en el marco del enfoque “Toda la ONU” para fomentar una mayor colaboración y tranquilizar a los contribuyentes sobre la ausencia de duplicaciones y solapamientos.

53. Hay que reconocer que los recursos financieros y técnicos de que disponen las entidades de las Naciones Unidas en la actualidad para apoyar a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de la Estrategia son modestos, en comparación con los que ellos movilizan en el plano nacional y bilateral. Por ejemplo, el presupuesto anual del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo para proyectos de creación de capacidad en todo el mundo ascenderá a aproximadamente 15 millones de dólares en 2018. El Centro ha procurado potenciar la movilización de recursos mediante la cofinanciación de proyectos para crear capacidad. Además de las contribuciones de la Arabia Saudita, que alcanzan un total de 110 millones de dólares, desde 2011 más de 20 Estados Miembros han realizado aportaciones para proyectos del Centro. Esta diversificación de las fuentes de financiación del Centro y de otros proyectos de lucha contra el terrorismo de las entidades de las Naciones Unidas sigue siendo una importante prioridad estratégica.

54. La UNODC, que constituye otro ejemplo, recibe apoyo anual de casi 20 donantes. Las contribuciones voluntarias a los proyectos de asistencia técnica de la UNODC directamente centrados en la lucha contra el terrorismo y su prevención ascienden a aproximadamente 25 millones de dólares anuales, de los cuales unos 15 se perciben a través de su Subdivisión de Prevención del Terrorismo. Los donantes también proporcionan fondos adicionales anuales para sustentar proyectos de asistencia técnica más amplios que incluyen componentes relacionados con la lucha contra el terrorismo, como el Proyecto de Comunicación Aeroportuaria y la iniciativa de educación para la justicia.

55. Por su parte, el Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia apoya en la actualidad a los Estados Miembros en 11 proyectos de creación de capacidad, 7 de los cuales se centran exclusivamente en aspectos específicos de la lucha contra el terrorismo, mientras que los otros 4 son más amplios. El presupuesto total de la cartera de programas del Instituto en materia antiterrorista asciende a aproximadamente 19 millones de dólares y su presupuesto estimado para el bienio 2016-2017 es de 11,6 millones de dólares. Actualmente, el programa de lucha contra el terrorismo del Instituto cuenta con el apoyo de cinco países y fundaciones.

56. La presentación de un panorama integral y coherente de los recursos financieros disponibles para la asistencia de las Naciones Unidas en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo y la colaboración a alto nivel con los Estados Miembros a ese respecto aumentaría la conciencia de la necesidad de un mayor apoyo. Además, aliento a los Estados Miembros a que respalden esos esfuerzos a fin de que la Organización pueda responder mejor a sus crecientes demandas de asistencia para la creación de capacidad.

H. Dificultades

57. La función del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo ha sido fundamental en los progresos que se han realizado durante el último decenio para intensificar los esfuerzos de coordinación y coherencia de las Naciones Unidas, promover una ejecución equilibrada de la Estrategia y prestar asistencia para la creación de capacidad. No obstante, habida cuenta de la naturaleza cambiante de la amenaza, la Organización debe adaptar su actuación y mejorar continuamente sus iniciativas contra el terrorismo. Además, siguen existiendo varias dificultades prácticas que afectan a la eficiencia de su labor.

58. A lo largo de los últimos diez años, han aumentado de manera exponencial las solicitudes de asistencia presentadas por los Estados Miembros a las Naciones Unidas para hacer frente a la amenaza terrorista, que es cada vez más transnacional y multidimensional en los planos mundial, regional y nacional. El número y la dimensión de los mandatos de lucha contra el terrorismo encomendados a las entidades de las Naciones Unidas, la exigencia de articular medidas adecuadamente coordinadas y la necesidad de recursos para ejecutar la labor de creación de capacidad con efectos reales sobre el terreno han crecido también exponencialmente durante el mismo período.

59. La complejidad y el alcance de la amenaza, que en la actualidad afecta a todas las esferas básicas de la labor de la Organización, se han ampliado igualmente, lo cual exige una mayor sinergia entre la Sede de las Naciones Unidas y las entidades que tienen presencia sobre el terreno para obtener efectos tangibles. Por otro lado, como demuestra el énfasis de los Estados Miembros en la necesidad de abordar la prevención del extremismo violento en el contexto de los pilares I y IV de la Estrategia, es fundamental que la respuesta al terrorismo sea integral, estratégica y de largo plazo.

60. La evolución del panorama del terrorismo y de la lucha contra este fenómeno no ha ido acompañada de los cambios institucionales necesarios para que las Naciones Unidas lideren de manera firme y dedicada los esfuerzos por combatirlo. El Presidente del Equipo Especial debe conciliar sus enormes responsabilidades de lucha contra el terrorismo con las que desempeña como Jefe del Departamento de Asuntos Políticos. Las múltiples funciones asignadas al Secretario General Adjunto de Asuntos Políticos limitan el tiempo de que dispone para realizar funciones de lucha contra el terrorismo, así como para mantener contactos más frecuentes y en profundidad sobre esta materia con altos funcionarios del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, y con los Estados Miembros y otras organizaciones internacionales y regionales.

61. Una sólida arquitectura antiterrorista de las Naciones Unidas debe, en última instancia, tener como objetivo la optimización de los métodos de trabajo para que la asistencia que se presta a los Estados Miembros sea más eficaz y tenga una mayor repercusión. En este contexto, la ausencia de un alto funcionario de la Organización dedicado a tiempo completo a la lucha contra el terrorismo ha impedido una institucionalización sistemática del enfoque “Toda la ONU” para respaldar los esfuerzos de los Estados Miembros en este ámbito y una mayor capacidad de movilizar recursos y coordinar las actividades de recaudación de fondos en un momento en que los donantes han reducido sus contribuciones debido a necesidades

contrapuestas. Estos factores también afectan el potencial de las Naciones Unidas para apoyar de manera más eficaz la aplicación de la Estrategia, aumentar la cooperación internacional y, en definitiva, tener una mayor repercusión en la lucha contra el terrorismo y el extremismo violento, y en su prevención.

III. Propuestas para reforzar la capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas: una nueva oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo

62. Pese a que se ha progresado mucho en el refuerzo de la coordinación y la coherencia del apoyo prestado por las Naciones Unidas a los Estados Miembros para aplicar la Estrategia, se puede hacer todavía más. En mi reunión informativa oficiosa con la Asamblea General el 22 de febrero de 2017, propuse trasladar la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo que existen actualmente, y su personal, así como todos los recursos presupuestarios y extrapresupuestarios conexos, del Departamento de Asuntos Políticos a una nueva oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo encabezada por un Secretario General Adjunto. El nuevo Secretario General Adjunto actuaría como Presidente del Equipo Especial y como Director Ejecutivo del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo.

63. Este alto funcionario lideraría estratégicamente las actividades de las Naciones Unidas contra el terrorismo, participaría en el proceso de adopción de decisiones y garantizaría que el origen y los efectos intersectoriales de este fenómeno se reflejasen en la labor de la Organización.

64. La oficina tendría cinco funciones principales: a) liderar los mandatos de lucha contra el terrorismo de la Asamblea General que se me encomienden desde las distintas entidades del sistema de las Naciones Unidas; b) reforzar la coordinación y la coherencia entre las 38 entidades del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo a fin de garantizar la aplicación equilibrada de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia; c) mejorar la prestación de asistencia de la Organización a los Estados Miembros para la creación de capacidad contra el terrorismo; d) aumentar la visibilidad y la promoción de las actividades de las Naciones Unidas contra el terrorismo, así como la movilización de recursos destinados a esas iniciativas; y e) velar por que se dé la prioridad oportuna a la lucha contra el terrorismo en todo el sistema de las Naciones Unidas y por que la importante labor de prevención del extremismo violento se asiente firmemente en la Estrategia.

65. La oficina también tendría como objetivo mantener una relación estrecha con los órganos del Consejo de Seguridad y los Estados Miembros, fortaleciendo las alianzas existentes y forjando otras nuevas mediante viajes periódicos y la asistencia a reuniones relacionadas con la lucha contra el terrorismo.

66. Esta nueva oficina respetaría las competencias y los mandatos establecidos de los órganos de la Asamblea General y el Consejo de Seguridad. La oficina no tendría ninguna función de supervisión de los órganos subsidiarios del Consejo de Seguridad y presentaría informes a la Asamblea General por conducto mío.

67. Asimismo, la oficina respetaría plenamente los principios de soberanía nacional y no injerencia. No tendría competencia para vigilar o supervisar los esfuerzos de los Estados Miembros por aplicar la Estrategia y el resto del marco jurídico internacional contra el terrorismo, ni para interferir en ellos. Todas las actividades de la nueva oficina se realizarían en apoyo de los Estados Miembros, que tienen la responsabilidad primordial de aplicar la Estrategia, y se llevarían a cabo a solicitud suya. El propósito de la oficina sería intensificar la colaboración con los Estados Miembros en la lucha contra la amenaza transnacional del terrorismo.

68. Los puestos actuales de la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo se trasladarían a la nueva oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo. Si bien en la actualidad el personal del Equipo Especial y del Centro se financia en parte con recursos del presupuesto ordinario, la mayoría de los puestos se sufragan con cargo a recursos extrapresupuestarios. Los acuerdos de contribución vigentes y las funciones y la composición de la Junta Consultiva del Centro se mantendrían. Un total de 6 puestos se financian en este momento con cargo a recursos del presupuesto ordinario, mientras que 29 puestos, incluido el de Director Adjunto de categoría D-1, y un Funcionario Subalterno del Cuadro Orgánico, se sufragan con cargo a recursos extrapresupuestarios. El nuevo puesto de Secretario General Adjunto y un nuevo puesto de P-3 de Auxiliar Especial del Secretario General Adjunto se financiarían con cargo al presupuesto ordinario. El mandato del nuevo puesto de Secretario General Adjunto exigirá que su titular sea una persona muy calificada y con dilatada experiencia, que posea un conocimiento profundo del contexto estratégico de la lucha contra el terrorismo y de la prevención del extremismo violento.

IV. Medidas por parte de la Asamblea General

69. La Asamblea General tal vez desee:

- a) Aprobar la creación de un puesto de Secretario General Adjunto y un puesto de P-3 de Auxiliar Especial;
- b) Aprobar la creación de una oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo, separada del Departamento de Asuntos Políticos, en relación con la sección 3 del presupuesto por programas para el bienio 2016-2017, encabezada por el nuevo Secretario General Adjunto que dependerá directamente del Secretario General;
- c) Aprobar la transferencia de la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y del Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo que existen actualmente, incluidos su presupuesto por programas y sus recursos extrapresupuestarios, a la oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo, y aprobar, asimismo, su consolidación.

Opiniones y propuestas de los Estados Miembros

70. El 22 de febrero de 2017, el Presidente de la Asamblea General convocó una reunión oficiosa de la Asamblea para permitirme celebrar consultas con los Estados

Miembros sobre el fortalecimiento de la capacidad del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, de conformidad con lo solicitado en el párrafo 70 de la resolución 70/291. Después de presentar mi propuesta de trasladar la Oficina del Equipo Especial sobre la Ejecución de la Lucha contra el Terrorismo y el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo, así como su personal actual, a una nueva oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo encabezada por un nuevo Secretario General Adjunto, 42 delegaciones⁷ hicieron uso de la palabra.

71. Muchos Estados Miembros se comprometieron a apoyar mi propuesta y realizaron comentarios constructivos al respecto, que se centraron en cinco temas principales: a) el respeto de la soberanía de los Estados Miembros y la transparencia en el establecimiento de la oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo; b) la imparcialidad y la sostenibilidad de la oficina a largo plazo; c) la división del trabajo y la coordinación entre las entidades antiterroristas de las Naciones Unidas; d) la implementación de las disposiciones sobre la prevención del extremismo violento de la resolución 70/291 y la aplicación equilibrada de todos los pilares de la Estrategia; y e) la mejora de las actividades internas de coordinación de las Naciones Unidas en el ámbito de la lucha contra el terrorismo y de las iniciativas de divulgación a órganos externos.

72. Posteriormente, y en respuesta a mi solicitud, 28 Estados Miembros y tres organizaciones en nombre de sus miembros (la Unión Europea, la Liga de los Estados Árabes y la Organización de Cooperación Islámica)⁸ presentaron comunicaciones por escrito, que figuran en el anexo I del presente informe.

73. Una gran mayoría de Estados Miembros expresaron su apoyo a mi propuesta de crear una nueva oficina de lucha contra el terrorismo encabezada por un Secretario General Adjunto. En cuanto a la manera en que se efectuará esta reforma, un elevado número de Estados Miembros subrayaron la necesidad de garantizar la transparencia y la inclusividad, así como el respeto de los principios de soberanía nacional y no injerencia. Asimismo, los Estados Miembros hicieron sugerencias valiosas sobre la estructura, la dotación de personal y el mandato de la oficina, las responsabilidades del nuevo Secretario General Adjunto que la encabezaría y la forma en que el Centro de las Naciones Unidas contra el Terrorismo debía seguir organizándose y cumplir su mandato, entre otros aspectos relacionados.

⁷ Afganistán, Albania, Arabia Saudita (a título nacional y en nombre de la Organización de Cooperación Islámica), Argelia, Argentina, Australia (en nombre de Australia, Canadá y Nueva Zelandia), Bangladesh, Bélgica, Brasil, Chile, China, Cuba, Egipto, Estados Unidos de América, Federación de Rusia, Francia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Islandia, Israel, Japón, Jordania, Kazajstán, Kenya, Líbano, Maldivas, Marruecos, México, Noruega, Pakistán, Perú, Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte, República Árabe Siria, República Islámica del Irán, Rwanda, Suiza, Túnez, Turquía, Uruguay y Venezuela, así como la Unión Europea.

⁸ Los 28 Estados Miembros son los siguientes: Afganistán, Australia, Canadá, Colombia, Cuba, Egipto, Emiratos Árabes Unidos, Estados Unidos de América, Federación de Rusia, Filipinas, Francia, India, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Marruecos, Nigeria, Noruega, Nueva Zelandia, Pakistán, Perú, Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte, República Árabe Siria, República Islámica del Irán, Suiza, Tailandia, Túnez, Turquía y Ucrania. Las tres organizaciones son las siguientes: la Liga de los Estados Árabes (representada por Omán), la Organización de Cooperación Islámica (representada por la Arabia Saudita), y la Unión Europea.

74. Varios Estados Miembros señalaron que la nueva oficina no debía desligar la lucha contra el terrorismo de su contexto político y que, por lo tanto, debían mantenerse los mecanismos de coordinación estrecha con el Departamento de Asuntos Políticos.

75. La mayoría de los Estados Miembros destacaron la necesidad de velar por que esa reforma contribuyera a la aplicación equilibrada de los cuatro pilares de la Estrategia y al refuerzo de la coherencia y la coordinación de las actividades de las Naciones Unidas contra el terrorismo. En este contexto, la mayoría de los Estados Miembros hicieron hincapié en la necesidad de garantizar que la prevención del extremismo violento siguiera siendo parte integrante del mandato de la oficina, en el marco de la Estrategia.

76. En cuanto a los recursos de la nueva oficina, varios Estados Miembros señalaron la necesidad de garantizar la sostenibilidad y la previsibilidad financiera a fin de fortalecer la capacidad de las Naciones Unidas para proporcionar asistencia a los Estados Miembros que la soliciten. Un grupo de países observaron que las contribuciones extrapresupuestarias debían limitarse a la prestación de ayuda técnica.

77. Quisiera expresar mi agradecimiento a los Estados Miembros por el apoyo manifestado a mi propuesta y por sus comentarios constructivos, de los que he tomado nota. Espero con interés mantener un diálogo abierto, inclusivo y transparente con todos ellos en las próximas semanas con el propósito de favorecer un acuerdo por consenso para reforzar la arquitectura antiterrorista de las Naciones Unidas.

78. Esta propuesta representa la primera gran reforma institucional de las Naciones Unidas desde que asumí el cargo de Secretario General. Como señalé en la reunión oficiosa de la Asamblea General el 22 de febrero, esta iniciativa se fundamenta en la urgencia de hacer frente a un peligro claro y actual que amenaza la paz y la seguridad internacionales y en la necesidad de crear una nueva alianza con los Estados Miembros para luchar contra el terrorismo y prevenir el extremismo violento. Deseo reafirmar mi pleno compromiso de trabajar con los Estados Miembros de manera transparente e inclusiva para garantizar la credibilidad y la eficacia de las actividades de las Naciones Unidas contra el terrorismo.

Annex I

Written replies from Member States for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Afghanistan

1. The Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to create an office of counter-terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, to lead the overall efforts of the United Nations to combat international terrorism with more efficiency and effectiveness. We consider this initiative to be a timely decision, in the light of the current security environment worldwide, in which the terrorist threat continues to grow rapidly. As the Office of the Secretary-General is now in the process of gathering additional input from Member States on the mandate of the proposed office, we wish to provide the following recommendations.

2. First: we believe the creation of the office and the appointment of an Under-Secretary-General to lead it would help provide for a clear and direct line of address for States as they carry out their national efforts to adequately combat terrorism in all its aspects. The creation of the office and the appointment of an Under-Secretary-General to lead its work would help to speed up and streamline decision-making processes.

3. Second: we need to make sure that we have the right person in the right place. There is a need for tailor-made terms of reference for this position. We believe that the person assuming the position of Under-Secretary-General needs to be someone with extensive experience in the area of counter-terrorism and, on that basis, to come from a country that has been proactively engaged in combating this threat over an extensive period of time.

4. Third: we concur with the view that enhancing the United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building role for Member States should be a key element in the mandate of the proposed office. In this respect, the Under-Secretary-General should work, in close coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), to assess and provide requisite technical assistance to States for the fulfilment of their counter-terrorism obligations.

5. Fourth: we believe the activities of the new office should be guided by a clear commitment to ensure a “balanced and consistent implementation” across all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy — consistent with the broad consensus on this issue among the membership of the Organization. In our assessment, progress in meeting the goals of the Global Strategy has, thus far, lacked proper consistency in relation to each of the four pillars.

6. Preventing and combating terrorism constitutes a core element of the Global Strategy, within which States are called on to “ensure full cooperation in the fight

against terrorism, in accordance with obligations under international law, in order to find, deny safe-haven and bring to justice ... any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist attacks.”

7. In this respect, it is hoped that the activities of the proposed office will also focus on ensuring effective action on the part of States to meet their obligations, in adherence to the spirit and tenets of the Charter of the United Nations.

8. Fifth: the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism has significant value in the context of the United Nations overall counter-terrorism architecture. It seeks to address some of the internal sources of violence and extremism in various settings. That said, we are pleased to note that due consideration is being given to the incorporation of the prevention of violent extremism agenda in the activities of the office. We also stress the importance of national ownership regarding the implementation of goals on the prevention of violent extremism by Member States, within the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

9. Sixth: we believe the proposed office should seek to ensure greater synergy, coordination and coherence among various United Nations counter-terrorism bodies and agencies, as well as effective implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions and international counter-terrorism conventions.

10. The Government of Afghanistan reiterates its full support for the initiative of the Secretary-General to create an office on counter-terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, and looks forward to continuing our dialogue and cooperation with the Office of the Secretary-General during the next steps forward in the operationalization of the said office.

Australia

1. The proposal outlined by the Secretary-General on 22 February 2017 during the informal meeting of the General Assembly is one which has Australia’s full backing and support.

2. Australia agrees that the mandate for the Under-Secretary-General position, and the newly created office, should be firmly rooted in ensuring the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including the prevention of violent extremism. The new office might be referred to as the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Implementation Office and should include a dedicated team on the prevention of violent extremism.

3. Australia sees the role of any new office as one dedicated to:

(a) The delivery of enhanced counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism capacity-building assistance to Member States;

(b) Ensuring better strategic coordination both within the United Nations and with key external actors, such as the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum;

(c) Ensuring a high-level authoritative public United Nations voice on counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism.

4. United Nations standards of human rights and respect for international law must continue to guide its counter-terrorism efforts and must be applied to the mandate of the new office.
5. Australia expects that any new Under-Secretary-General role would be filled by a senior, highly qualified and credible individual in this field.
6. Forward budget planning should be undertaken to ensure the long-term sustainability of the office.
7. Australia would support adoption of a General Assembly resolution as the mechanism to confirm the establishment of any new office and Under-Secretary-General position.

Canada

1. The Government of Canada welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General in swiftly moving forward towards implementation of paragraph 70 of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#) concerning the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
2. The Government of Canada strongly supports efforts to modernize and improve the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture. We welcome the consultative approach adopted by the Secretary-General and encourage continued transparency and collaboration throughout this process.
3. Canada supports the proposal of the Secretary-General to establish a dedicated office of counter-terrorism. We agree that there is a need for increased coordination of the Organization's counter-terrorism efforts and enhanced coherence of United Nations efforts with those of other international bodies.
4. Canada considers it important that the United Nations has a strong champion who can advocate for and ensure the implementation of all four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced and coordinated fashion.
5. In this regard, Canada emphasizes the need to rebalance international efforts, including those of the United Nations, in order to ensure enhanced efforts on the prevention of violent extremism and the promotion of human rights. As was established in the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, international efforts to date have been heavily focused on pillars II and III of the Global Strategy. Ensuring a renewed emphasis on pillars I and IV should be a core task of the new coordinator.
6. To this end it will be essential that the coordinator have credibility across all pillars and with the broad range of actors involved in international efforts to prevent violent extremism, counter violent extremism and counter terrorism. The coordinator must have the qualifications to work in close collaboration with partners and stakeholders from all sectors, including civil society (including women, youth and children), development, social policy, human rights, law enforcement, justice and the military — garnering confidence and trust as effectively with civil society as with security sector actors.

7. As a major donor to United Nations capacity-building efforts, Canada also agrees that there is a need to bring about more coherence and streamlining in the capacity-building efforts of the Organization's various agencies in order to reduce duplication and ensure that each agency can focus on its areas of relative strength. The coordinator should also ensure that the counter-terrorism programmes of United Nations agencies are rigorously assessed, evaluated and measured for impact so as to ensure that the desired objectives are being achieved (working with appropriate partners in the most cost-effective and efficient way possible). Much of the infrastructure needed for this to happen already exists, what is lacking is clear mandates, defined relationships and institutional agreements that allow one organization to leverage another's expertise in advance of common and agreed upon strategic objectives (for example, the use of the field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) or access to its technical expertise).

8. Canada notes that the current proposal does not clearly delineate the mechanisms for functional coordination between the proposed office of counter-terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). In order to ensure that the two bodies work in a complementary fashion, Canada considers that there should be institutionalized mechanisms that ensure regular coordination. Basic degrees of coordination, such as establishing procedures for sharing Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)/CTED assessments with relevant United Nations entities, would go a long way towards enhancing the ability of United Nations bodies to provide targeted and tailored technical assistance to Member States in gaps identified through these assessments.

9. Canada has long advocated for reforms to the United Nations system that will bring about greater effectiveness, accountability and coordination, and that do not create new costs. As the office of counter-terrorism is established, prudent budget planning and a diversified donor base will be keys to its sustainability.

10. In addition to our written input, we have the honour to refer to the statement delivered by Ambassador Gillian Bird, Permanent Representative of Australia, on 22 February 2017 on behalf of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Colombia

1. Colombia, reiterating that terrorism is unacceptable and unjustifiable in all its forms and manifestations, supports the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. With this objective, countries should work together, strengthening their capacity and coordinating their efforts against this threat.

2. For each one of the four pillars presented in the Global Strategy, there are some recommendations that can be applied to start working on a better balanced implementation of this document.

Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

3. **Understand the context:** before addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, Governments should understand local conditions and actors.

Plans and programmes must be adapted before being adopted, to be adjusted to local conditions and challenges.

4. **Promote comprehensive approaches:** an individual measure to address conditions conducive to terrorism will not be enough. Measures should be part of larger and comprehensive approaches to improve the well-being of communities. These efforts must be intended to promote social and economic development, not only to stop terrorism. Social evolution can promote societies to reject violence and terror, while embracing dialogue and understanding.

Measures to prevent and combat terrorism

5. **Strengthen the criminal justice systems against terrorist offences:** criminal justice systems must be a deterrent against terrorism. Without the support of the rule of law, measures to prevent and combat this threat will never be enough.

6. **Cooperate in novel ways:** cooperation between countries is almost guaranteed nowadays. However, in order to assure its effectivity and relevance, it should be innovative and include non-conventional channels, such as permanent internships, working scholarships and social networks, among others.

7. **Fight terrorism and crime together:** terrorism and transnational organized crime are perceived as differential criminal phenomena. However, in recent years these threats have formed close links, creating a criminal alliance with the capacity to affect any State. Therefore, it is important to create international awareness about this relationship and its consequences, and to develop joint responses to effectively fight this threat. To contain its operative capacity, the fight against terrorist organizations should include the fight against criminal groups, emphasizing the action against their finances and the money obtained through criminal activities. Effective control of the international financial system and the informal value transfer system will bring about an important reduction of the financial capabilities of terrorists, which will reduce their capacity to take action against States.

8. **State control of the territory:** criminal structures take advantage of non-controlled territories. To avoid this, States must control the complete territory of the countries, not only with their military presence, but also with the permanent provision of public services, education, culture and security. When a community is close to the authorities, it is harder for criminal organizations to find recruits and act against local laws.

Measures to build the capacity of States to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system

9. **Create an international compendium of programmes and initiatives within the United Nations system to prevent and combat terrorism:** the variety of agencies responsible for the fight against terrorism within the United Nations, makes difficult the interaction with States. If all of the offered initiatives were to be compiled under one agency it might be easier to understand the workings of the programmes, articulate efforts within them and adapt them to local needs. Within the compendium, it might be possible to include initiatives designed by non-governmental organizations, the academy and civil society. It also can be a scenario to exchange information, experiences and good practices.

10. **Use technology to bring the United Nations closer to Member States:** platforms and social networks offer different alternatives to connect experts and practitioners. Videoconferences, chat rooms, e-learning spaces, among other alternatives, can strengthen the relationship between the United Nations and Member States. These tools can also facilitate the capacity-building process for States with budgetary restrictions.

Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism

11. **Promote the respect of human rights in the military forces and law enforcement agencies:** during the recruitment and formation process for military forces and law enforcement agencies it is important to highlight respect of human rights. This is not only intended to combat terrorism, but also to guarantee the rule of law in the fight against all the criminal activities that affect societies.

12. **Highlight the successes of the fight against terrorism:** fighting against terrorism is a hard duty and, as such, its successes must be highlighted and celebrated. Presenting the troops and law enforcement agencies with the results achieved by other authorities, while combating terrorism, respecting human rights and the rule of law, might increase their morale and commitment in the fight against this threat.

13. **Give voice to the victims:** there have been cases, when fighting terrorism, where authorities have abused their power and affected the human rights of civilians. It could be useful to present these cases, giving a voice to the victims and telling their story, in order to make the military and law enforcement agents understand the impact and the responsibility they have in guaranteeing the rule of law.

Cuba

1. Cuba condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever, by whomever and against whomsoever committed, including those acts in which States are directly or indirectly involved. Acts of terrorism are unjustifiable, whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them.

2. Our country maintains its unwavering commitment to the integrated implementation of all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It was therefore actively involved in the fifth biennial review of the Global Strategy held by the General Assembly in June 2016.

3. Cuba is currently considering the recent proposal of the Secretary-General for the establishment of a new structure to address terrorism, which would involve, inter alia, setting up a new office of counter-terrorism within the framework of the United Nations.

4. In this regard, Cuba wishes to place on record the following preliminary considerations:

(a) We strongly support the collective efforts of the United Nations in the fight against terrorism. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a

key instrument in the international campaign against this scourge. The General Assembly should continue to play a central role in that respect;

(b) The new structure should focus on more effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, without prejudice to the central implementing role of Member States;

(c) Clearly, the new structure must be based on full respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in international law, particularly respect for sovereign equality and non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, and under no circumstances may it constitute a mechanism for the monitoring of States;

(d) The mandates of the new structure should facilitate implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars in a balanced and comprehensive manner;

(e) Discussions on the establishment of the new structure must be transparent and inclusive and take place within the General Assembly. Decisions on this matter should be taken with the agreement of all Member States;

(f) The Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism is a valuable contribution that is complemented by, but can never be a substitute for, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

(g) The new structure should take due account of the fundamental importance of international cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Egypt

1. Egypt supports the idea of establishing a post of Under-Secretary-General as head of the proposed office of counter-terrorism. However, accepting the establishment of this post is directly linked to agreement on its mandate.

2. The mandate of the post should include a provision to ensure that the incumbent of this post will not interfere in any form in the domestic affairs of Member States, in particular in their efforts to counter terrorism, including through monitoring or instructing, and that he/she shall respect the principle of sovereignty and shall assist Member States only upon their request. This assurance should also be reflected explicitly in the resolution of the General Assembly establishing the post.

3. The Arab countries should be well represented in both the office of the new Under-Secretary-General and in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force through the regular budget.

4. It is important that the new Under-Secretary-General be included as a member of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to enable him/her to participate in taking decisions on issues of strategic consequence.

5. The structural reform of the Secretariat related to counter-terrorism should include eliminating or ending any sort of duplication or contradiction between the

functions or activities being undertaken by the United Nations entities in charge of countering terrorism.

France

1. The United Nations currently plays a major role in many core counter-terrorism issues, including by:

(a) Creating international standards through Security Council resolutions (a significant number of Security Council resolutions have thus been adopted in recent years, particularly since the rise of Daesh in 2014);

(b) Conducting terrorism threat analysis, primarily led by the 1267 Committee Monitoring Team, which produces many high-quality reports;

(c) Evaluating the implementation of State obligations and identifying capacity-building needs, as a result of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED);

(d) Providing capacity-building support for Member States by means of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre.

2. However, as the result of its exchanges with its main partners, Member States, United Nations entities, other international organizations and civil society, France has become aware that there now exists a shared perception that we can do more and, especially, that we can do better. Faced with a continually evolving threat of terrorism, we must adapt our response. Three core functions that are not currently fulfilled in a satisfactory fashion by the United Nations are:

(a) The strategic focus necessary to develop the priorities and vision of the Secretary-General at the operational level, building on the expertise of the various entities of the United Nations system;

(b) The internal coordination necessary to ensure that all entities and agencies work together;

(c) The level of visibility and communication with regard to the outside world needed to strengthen the coherence of the United Nations response.

3. The proposal of the Secretary-General to establish an office of counter-terrorism headed by a high-level coordinator (Under-Secretary-General) would fully satisfy current needs and demands. The reorganization proposal submitted to the General Assembly on 22 February 2017 would not only ensure that the functions identified above were better performed, but also that the prevention of terrorism and radicalization was duly taken into account by all stakeholders.

4. France thus unambiguously supports this proposal and welcomes the transparent and inclusive consultation process undertaken by the Secretary-General and his team to date. We hope that the report of the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 70 of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#) will be submitted to the Member States as soon as possible, ideally by the end of March 2017. We stand

ready to support the efforts of the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly to make this reform a success.

5. A more detailed joint contribution by the States members of the European Union, with which France fully aligns itself, will be sent to the Secretariat before the 9 March deadline.

India

1. Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations is one of the gravest and most complex challenges faced by Member States, both collectively and individually, in a long time. In today's day and age, terrorist networks use modern platforms, including social media and cyberspace, and exist in parallel worlds alongside us, threatening the very existence of humanity and our way of life in more ways than we can imagine. Almost all terrorist networks are sustained by transboundary networks for ideology, recruitment, propaganda, funding, arms, training and sanctuary. These organizations are not bound by the borders, norms, legal frameworks and bureaucracy that bind Member States and the United Nations at all levels. Therefore, no single nation alone can tackle this menace decisively. There is no stronger case for more multilateral action, more coordination and more cooperation on any matter among all stakeholders than terrorism.

2. In this regard, the creation of an office of counter-terrorism and the post of coordinator is a much awaited first step. It is important that it is set on a solid and strong foundation for achieving the goal of establishing a strong United Nations brand on counter-terrorism at the political, normative and operational levels; enhanced multilateral cooperation and honest exchanges between Member States in the multilateral format and norm setting and the sharing of best practices across regions and platforms for better coordination and collaboration in dealing with threats from transnational terrorist networks. It is crucial that the individual who occupies the proposed post of Under-Secretary-General for counter-terrorism be able to take positions and speak on behalf of "all of the United Nations" and begin the critical task of building an "all United Nations" approach in dealing with the terrorist threat at the multilateral level, including:

(a) A certain convening power/authority/role on counter-terrorism matters with the different United Nations bodies, including not only General Assembly-mandated bodies, bodies of the Department of Political Affairs and the Economic and Social Council, but also bodies mandated by the Security Council, so as to be on the top of issues to be dealt with, and to set the counter-terrorism agenda on behalf of and in consultation with Member States;

(b) In addition to the cooperation with regional bodies like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization regional counter-terrorism structure, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the African Union, which is envisaged, there should also be cooperation with crucial international organizations such as the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which work in the fields of terrorist financing and investigating funding of terrorist networks. Coordination with all such organizations

should be strengthened to bring greater coherence and effectiveness in the United Nations response to the terrorist threat;

(c) Enhanced political and technical engagement with Member States so as to build strong relations in advancing their collective counter-terrorism agenda;

(d) To develop, and to be considered by all, as the United Nations voice on counter-terrorism issues, not merely one voice on counter-terrorism; this is especially important for building the United Nations narrative for the ordinary people at large.

3. India supports the proposal of the Secretary-General for the creation of an office of counter-terrorism in order to address the need to enhance coordination of United Nations counter-terrorism efforts. India will extend all possible support in bringing the proposal to its fruition.

Islamic Republic of Iran

1. The creation of the office of counter-terrorism and the new post of Under-Secretary-General to coordinate counter-terrorism related activities across the United Nations system can contribute to the enhancement of the Organization's capacity as a whole and bring stronger coherence to the entire United Nations system. It can also expand the capacity of the United Nations to better address the root causes of terrorism and violent extremism. In this process, we also underline the significance of a sustainable approach to counter-terrorism by taking long-term policy directions and reinforcing the capacity of Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, particularly by focusing on preventive measures.

2. In the preamble of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, there is a reaffirmation that the "international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism in a decisive, unified, coordinated, inclusive and transparent manner". Transparency and inclusiveness are among the core principles that should be upheld and mainstreamed in all areas of United Nations counter-terrorism activities, including the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and its Advisory Board. In our view, the Counter-Terrorism Centre is one of the main bodies, which needs to be well reformed in this process to reflect those main principles. Given the important role of the Centre in providing capacity-building projects to Member States, transparency and inclusiveness should be the main characteristics in dealing with sovereign Member States apart from any irrelevant political or other considerations. The new structure should also improve in a way that encourages active engagement of all Member States in the activities of the Centre without distinction, paving the way for voluntary and other forms of support from a larger number of the general membership.

3. We are of the view that the Centre should be bound by United Nations rules and long-standing respected traditions. The Centre, at its inception, could have seen some exceptions in this regard, but after years of operation as part of the United Nations system, it needs to be enhanced to the level of other normative United Nations entities. Therefore, the members of its Advisory Board should be elected or appointed in a transparent process, after consultation with regional groups, and for a

limited time period, with due regard to geographical distribution, ensuring the widest form of representation by the Member States. This would provide the basic requirements for equal opportunity for the entire membership in the active participation and effective engagement in its activities. This is something that we expect to see in the clear development of any draft proposal by the Secretariat. A detailed draft proposal to meet those conditions will bring about confidence in Member States and coherence in the ability of the United Nations system to deliver quality services with regard to the high objectives of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including capacity-building measures. While voluntary contributions play a key role in implementing counter-terrorism projects, any attempt to create an exclusive arbitrary decision-making apparatus within the United Nations is a clear deviation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

4. For a balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, guaranteeing the professionalism, impartiality and transparency of the proposed office of counter-terrorism in providing technical assistance, the following conditions seems to be inevitable: (a) funding for any new structure or office should be met through the regular budget, or at least a mix of regular budget and voluntary contributions; (b) extrabudgetary contributions are highly welcomed, but need to be limited to the provision of technical assistance only; (c), the General Assembly should allocate sufficient and sustainable funding from the regular budget for capacity-building to meet the needs of Member States, upon request, in an impartial, balanced and sustainable manner.

5. My delegation supports the ongoing process, based on the mandate of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#), and is ready to engage with other partners to find best viable ways to strengthen the counter-terrorism structure with a view to countering terrorism as the “global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security”.

Kenya

1. The adoption by Member States of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 established horizontal cooperation and coordination structures within the United Nations, in particular through the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. During the review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at its tenth anniversary in 2016, Member States noted that, due to many challenges, the United Nations system response to counter terrorism was not functioning optimally in terms of coherence and coordination. They called for measures to improve this response, as captured in paragraph 70 of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#).

2. This paper reaffirms Kenya’s commitment to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including its four pillars, in a balanced manner and expresses its solidarity with the call by Member States for more coherence and coordination of global efforts against terrorism. We believe that the leadership of the United Nations is crucial in fostering inter-organizational cooperation within and between nations and regions in the fight against terrorism. The United Nations provides a unique framework for understanding and comprehending the complexity of the ever-evolving transnational threat posed by

terrorism to international peace and security. This calls for a United Nations system with the necessary horizontal cooperation networks and capacity to manage the many intertwined inter-organizational challenges. At a minimum, this entails a strong, unified leadership of United Nations efforts in addressing the transnational menace.

3. Terrorism is a networked transnational threat. Kenya, from its own experience, believes that the United Nations system should embrace a truly comprehensive network approach to decimate the threat.

On coordination and coherence

4. There have been persistent concerns on how to optimally coordinate the over 30 United Nations entities with unique primary mandates and funding mechanisms in the fight against terrorism. Studies have shown that coordination problems generally occur when two or more agencies share the same policy responsibilities for a common set of problems. In addition, competition over the control of policy can lead to conflict among agencies and the development of parallel/duplicitous, redundant and costly systems. Furthermore, agencies in a shared policy space can become rivals when they seek funding from the same limited sources.

5. While it has been noted that coordination problems inhibit the overall effectiveness of agencies to respond to a problem, solutions can be realized through cooperative policymaking. This is what the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force has been doing over the last 10 years, as attested in the report of the Secretary-General. The report calls for an “All of United Nations” collective approach to systematically implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as well as measures to implement the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

6. Kenya, from its own experience, believes that the following options will further enhance the coherence and coordination of the United Nations system in counter-terrorism activities, including its efforts to assist Member States to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner:

(a) We support the Secretary-General’s proposal to create a dedicated office of counter-terrorism headed by an Under-Secretary-General, accountable to the General Assembly. The office will provide unified leadership to the 38 entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and will reduce their ability to compete over policy space given their different mandates. It will provide an avenue for various United Nations entities to recognize their shared interests and objectives in counter-terrorism through an open exchange of information among them;

(b) The evolving nature of terrorism as a transnational threat that exploits globalization and advances, through the use of modern communications and transportation technology, to recruit, fundraise and finance itself through credible trading enterprises, calls on the United Nations system to respond in a unified manner. Its calls on the United Nations system to invest its resources efficiently by encouraging its entities to invest more in dual-purpose initiatives, such as dual-use information systems, joint training and data repositories on best practices against the evolving threat;

(c) The need for the United Nations system to expand its policy focus to include long-term planning and the establishment of durable linkages and international cooperation with regional and subregional entities, other international organizations, academia and civil society to promote cooperative regimes against terrorism in all its forms. Sustainable ways of mobilizing resources and capacity-building for Member States will be achieved through such cooperative regimes with leadership by the United Nations. However, all such initiatives must be nationally owned, regionally anchored and internationally supported;

(d) The activities of the office of counter-terrorism must be coherent in carried out in an inclusive manner, including the overarching United Nations goals on peace and security, development and human rights. It must align its vision and activities with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda regarding peace, justice and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, as well as an emphasis on prevention strategies in counter-terrorism.

Liechtenstein

1. Liechtenstein thanks the Secretary-General for the transparent and inclusive consultative process launched on the basis of paragraph 70 of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#) and, in this regard, welcomes his proposal to create a new office for counter-terrorism. Liechtenstein attaches high importance to having adequate Secretariat structures in place to allow for the comprehensive and balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and for improved promotion of the prevention of violent extremism in accordance with the relevant Plan of Action. With respect to the Secretary-General's proposal, Liechtenstein would like to submit the following comments.

2. The Secretary-General has put prevention at the top of his political agenda and enjoys broad support on the part of the United Nations membership in that regard. Liechtenstein welcomes the fact that the Secretary-General proposes to firmly embed the prevention of violent extremism among the core responsibilities of the new office for counter-terrorism. The prevention of violent extremism agenda is a key component of a comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism, which should be reflected in all aspects of work of the new office, including in the terms of reference of the leadership structure, through the allocation of dedicated staff, in the office's reporting as well as in the allocation of funding to operational activities. Increasing the share of the regular budget in the overall budget of the new office could assist this process. Strengthening the prevention of violent extremism agenda within the United Nations system is soundly based on other key commitments and obligations of Member States, including in the areas of sustainable development and human rights, and will contribute to their realization.

3. Creating a new office for counter-terrorism is an opportunity to put human rights at the forefront of the United Nations response to international terrorism and to ensure a more balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy across its four pillars. The United Nations system must speak with one voice on the need to respect fundamental rights and freedoms while countering terrorism. The new office, its leadership and staff, should lead by example on this issue, also with respect to other United Nations counter-terrorism activities. To that effect, the

leadership and staff of the new office should build on and benefit from existing expertise within the United Nations system and establish effective forms of cooperation with relevant stakeholders from civil society, in particular those representing youth, women, victims, religions and academia. In the area of capacity-building, effective cooperation with other United Nations actors, including with those also responsible for counter-terrorism activities, should be sought to the extent possible.

4. The new office will also have a particular responsibility in contributing to the efforts of the United Nations system to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. While the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as a whole can make a substantive contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and commitments, pillars I and IV are of particular importance in this regard. The new office should be fully committed to promoting their implementation as a matter of priority and to providing stronger financial support for activities under these pillars, with a view to arriving at a better overall balance in the funding of activities under the Global Strategy.

5. Liechtenstein looks forward to the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted on the basis of his consultations and stands ready to engage constructively in the upcoming discussions.

Morocco

1. Morocco welcomes the holding of an informal meeting on 22 February 2017, at the request of the Secretary-General, to consult Member States on strengthening the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [70/291](#).

2. It welcomes the seriousness, good will and commitment of the Secretary-General in providing new impetus to the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture, only one month after assuming his duties, and his focus on working closely in consultation with Member States on such an important and sensitive issue that concerns all Member States.

3. The fifth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy noted the existence of anomalies, incoherence, redundancy and duplication in the counter-terrorism work of the United Nations. Hence, at the conclusion of the review, the General Assembly adopted resolution [70/291](#), in which it called for reinvigorating the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner. The objective is to increase synergies and coherence and to reduce overlap and fragmentation in the work of the United Nations in this area.

4. Morocco expresses its strong support for the relevant proposal of the Secretary-General to establish an office of counter-terrorism that would be headed by an Under-Secretary-General.

5. Given that terrorism poses an ongoing global threat, it is imperative to break with the piecemeal approach, which has shown its limitations, and to work towards

a new approach that is holistic, comprehensive and proactive. The latter can succeed only if its implementation is entrusted to a senior official on a full-time basis, within the framework of an integrated structure that is capable of meeting the challenge of countering terrorism in all its dimensions.

6. The future Under-Secretary-General should have a thorough understanding of the complexity of the various facets of terrorism and of the regions that are greatly affected by terrorism and, in particular, be able to establish direct contacts with Member States in a spirit of cooperation, understanding and exchange of experience, far from any interference in the internal affairs of Member States and with respect for their sovereignty and territorial integrity, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

7. Terrorism threatens the whole of humanity, its values and its civilization. The office of counter-terrorism should therefore not depend on voluntary contributions. Its funding must be a part of the regular budget in order to avoid any adverse effects on staff performance and on the implementation of United Nations programmes and activities.

8. The future senior United Nations counter-terrorism official will also need to pay special attention to the prevention of violent extremism, as part of a comprehensive vision to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

9. That official must be supported by civil servants who are experts on the issues of terrorism and violent extremism. Hence, it will be important to ensure equitable representation in the new office. It should be noted that Moroccan experts have in-depth and proven knowledge in this area.

10. As part of its counter-terrorism strategy, Morocco has adopted an approach based on bilateral cooperation, regional and subregional coordination and multilateral engagement, both within the United Nations and within the framework of international initiatives and forums.

11. It has put in place a national strategy to combat terrorism and violent extremism, based on prevention and action, consistent with the provisions of the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Moroccan strategy has incorporated a component that works both to suppress, through the mobilization of security and justice services, as well as prevent, through the adoption of political, economic, social, cultural, educational and religious reforms. The reform of the religious sector, in particular through the training of young male and female preachers in the precepts of Islam, is based on the values of dialogue, tolerance, moderation, coexistence and respect for others, which are enshrined in Islam. Similarly, there is also a programme for the deradicalization, rehabilitation and integration of foreign terrorist fighters.

12. Morocco is ready to work with the United Nations, through bilateral and triangular arrangements, in order to provide the necessary assistance and to share its experience and expertise with States upon request.

13. The importance of the centrality of the United Nations in the fight against terrorism should not come at the expense of an open and proactive approach by the new Under-Secretary-General towards initiatives and forums that have demonstrated their serious commitment to the fight against terrorism over the years.

Such is the case with the Global Counterterrorism Forum, which is co-chaired by Morocco and the Netherlands.

14. During the seventh ministerial meeting of the Forum, held in September 2016 in New York, the Director of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) were invited to participate in the meeting. The objective was to involve the United Nations in the work of the Forum.

15. Finally, Morocco will spare no effort to ensure the success of this endeavour by the Secretary-General and will send its proposals at a subsequent date, as requested, in order to enrich the new United Nations counter-terrorism architecture.

New Zealand

1. The Government of New Zealand welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to implement the request of the General Assembly as contained in paragraph 70 of its resolution [70/291](#) and supports his proposal to establish a dedicated office of counter-terrorism, as described in his letter of 3 February 2017.

2. While New Zealand values the work the United Nations does on counter-terrorism, we think improvements could be made to make it more effective. We see the establishment of the office of counter-terrorism and the position of Under-Secretary-General as a first step towards more effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

3. We stress that the mandate of the office of counter-terrorism and the Under-Secretary-General should be focused on the balanced implementation of all four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including the prevention of violent extremism.

4. The key aspects of the office and the role of the Under-Secretary-General should be to:

(a) Improve coherence and coordination both within the United Nations and with external actors, including the Global Counterterrorism Forum and civil society. The Under-Secretary-General should be the clear United Nations focal point and spokesperson for engagement on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism;

(b) Provide leadership on policy development and strategic communications;

(c) Enhance the United Nations capacity-building role, especially in relation to small States.

5. New Zealand supports the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and has continually stressed the importance of both prevention and the promotion of human rights. It will be important that a highly qualified individual be appointed into the position of Under-Secretary-General role, with experience across all four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

6. While, as set out in the Secretary-General's proposal, there would be no supervisory role of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

(CTED), further cooperation and information sharing with the office of counter-terrorism should be encouraged to avoid duplication.

7. As the Secretary-General has stressed, the role should not involve any supervision or monitoring of Member States but instead build a new partnership with them in both countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism.

Nigeria

1. Nigeria believes that the proposed office of counter-terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, with a direct reporting line to the Secretary-General, would give the United Nations more coherence and provide for better strategic leadership in internal and external communication in the fight against terrorism.

2. Nigeria also believes that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre should be encouraged to continue to provide support to Member States in terms of capacity-building as well as liaising with them in the development and implementation of various programmes for rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of violent extremism, internally displaced persons and refugees.

Norway

1. The spread of radicalization and returning foreign terrorist fighters is a matter of serious concern, not only in the Middle East region, but also on a global scale. Threats from non-State actors in the form of terrorism and violent extremism are growing and converging. The nature of conflict is becoming increasingly complex. We must prevent terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms.

2. Norway noted, with great interest, the Secretary-General's remarks to the Security Council open debate on conflicts in Europe on 21 February 2017, highlighting that, within Europe, there are serious unresolved, protracted conflicts, while new threats and challenges are emerging. Populism, nationalism, xenophobia and violent extremism are both causes and effects of conflict. More than ever, we need an effective, cohesive and adaptable United Nations that is equipped to tackle the new security challenges.

3. Norway supports the proposal for a strategic coordinator for counter-terrorism activities and countering violent extremism. The strategic coordinator should be appointed at the Under-Secretary-General level. Ideally, the architecture of the office and the work of the Under-Secretary-General should cover both counter-terrorism activities and the prevention of violent extremism in order to bring greater coherence and a high-level focus to these interrelated issues.

4. The mandate of the Under-Secretary-General should be clear, non-duplicative and contain a strong reference to the prevention of violent extremism agenda — reinforced by encouraging a holistic whole-of-society approach.

5. One key qualification for the position of Under-Secretary-General should be that she or he has experience in both development and security as well as the ability to work inclusively and cooperating effectively with a range of stakeholders, including civil society actors.

6. We would also welcome the appointment of a strategic coordinator/Under-Secretary-General with a proven record that is consistent with the values outlined in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006) and the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (2016).
7. The responsibilities of the Under-Secretary-General should reflect an appropriate balance across all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
8. The office of the Under-Secretary-General must collaborate and interact with civil society and other non-governmental stakeholders in order to be effective. It should also engage with actors on the ground and serve as a clearinghouse of information between relevant entities, including those in the field.
9. Moreover, it is crucial that the strategic coordinator/Under-Secretary-General draw upon the expertise that the United Nations has on a wide variety of issues, as well as streamline and coordinate core activities related to conflict prevention, development, education and other fields considered essential for countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism.
10. The appointment would further improve the ability of the United Nations system ability to implement all four pillars of its Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a cohesive and coordinated manner, thereby enhancing its ability to pool and mobilize resource and support from Member States.
11. Once again, we would like to thank the Secretary-General for his commitment to improving the ability of the United Nations to counter terrorism and violent extremism. We look forward to working with you and Member States to implement your vision in the most appropriate way.

Pakistan

1. Pakistan welcomes the efforts to review the existing counter-terrorism architecture, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [70/291](#).
2. In paragraph 70 of its resolution [70/291](#), the General Assembly called on the Secretary-General "to review, in consultation with the General Assembly, the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States, upon their request, in implementing the Strategy in a balanced manner, including by strengthening cooperation with other international and regional organizations and improving the mobilization of resources necessary for capacity-building projects". This paragraph clearly provides the ambit of review and reform of the counter-terrorism architecture.
3. In addition, in the same paragraph of resolution [70/291](#), the General Assembly, while requesting the Secretary-General to carry out a review, also requested him to "provide concrete suggestions to the Assembly" for its consideration.
4. In this regard, review of the capability of the United Nations system should include an assessment of its strengths and weaknesses, including details regarding the nature of, and gaps in, existing funding of the United Nations in assisting Member States in implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism

Strategy. Furthermore, we request the Secretary-General to reflect in his report the percentage of funds available for capacity-building from budgetary and extrabudgetary resources, as well as the percentage of earmarked and non-earmarked funds.

5. The creation of a new structure/office for enhancing the capability of the United Nations ability to assist Member States, upon their request, in implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is inextricably linked to its mandate and capability. Our priorities for mandate are clearly outlined in this submission. Also included are our views on adequate staffing and resources from the regular budget, which are important determinants of the capability of a new structure to carry out its mandate in an effective, balanced and sustained manner.

Mandate

6. In the preambular section of resolution [70/291](#), the General Assembly stated that, “terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group”. It is imperative that the United Nations not only uphold this principle but also discourage any effort to the contrary.

7. The General Assembly, in paragraph 6 of resolution [70/291](#), clearly assigns the primary responsibility of implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to the Member States. Therefore, the main role of any United Nations structure created to assist Member States in implementation of that Strategy must focus on enhancing the Organization’s capability, coordination and coherence to effectively address the needs of Member States upon their request.

8. Any newly created structure/office must not seek to monitor or assess Member States’ implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as the same remains within the purview of respective Member States.

9. The principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, as contained in Article 2(7) of the Charter of the United Nations, must be fully respected. It is imperative that any new structure should not be used to establish new norms.

10. The separation of mandates of the General Assembly and the Security Council should be clear and unambiguous.

11. We believe that without addressing the underlying and root causes of terrorism, we will only be fighting its symptoms. We have always advocated that protracted unresolved conflicts, the unlawful use of force, aggression, foreign occupation, denial of the right to self-determination and political and economic injustice, as well as political marginalization and alienation contribute to the spread of terrorism. Therefore, it is important not to delink terrorism from its political context.

12. We consider it important to maintain close interface of a stand-alone structure/office of counter-terrorism with the Department of Political Affairs, and to ensure that its views are heard in high-level decision-making processes of the United Nations.

13. The mandate and capability of any new structure/office of counter-terrorism must reflect the need for balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, without prioritizing one pillar over the other.

14. No funds of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Centre should be used to pay for any of the costs attached to the creation of a new structure/office of counter-terrorism and the Centre's funds should be dedicated to its projects. The structure and role of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Centre should also be maintained.

Capability

15. We take note of the proposal of the Secretary-General to create an office of counter-terrorism and, consistent with the request made by Member States in paragraph 70 of General Assembly resolution 70/291, believe that various options could be provided for their consideration, including, in particular, variations of his preliminary proposal, based on proper/adequate staffing requirements of a stand-alone office of counter-terrorism.

16. We believe that any structure created for effective coordination and coherence of the counter-terrorism-related work of United Nations bodies must have the requisite wherewithal, both in terms of human and financial resources, to assist Member States in implementing the Global Strategy in a balanced and sustained manner.

17. Pakistan, therefore, requests the Secretary-General to provide different versions of his proposal for effective functioning of a stand-alone office of counter-terrorism, in particular its ability to carry out its mandate across the four pillars of the Strategy.

18. It is essential to ensure autonomy, impartiality, predictability and sustainability of any new structure/office of counter-terrorism. In this regard, it is important that funding for any new structure or office should be met by the regular budget and that extrabudgetary contributions should be limited to the provision of technical assistance.

19. However, to ensure that any new structure/office of counter-terrorism has the capability to assist Member States in an impartial, balanced and sustained manner, it is imperative to allocate sufficient and sustainable funding from the regular budget for the capacity-building needs of Member States, upon their request.

20. Pakistan therefore requests the Secretary-General to propose how, and to what extent, resources and funds can be generated from the regular budget of the United Nations for meeting the capacity-building needs of the Member States, upon their request.

Peru

1. States should adopt a joint comprehensive strategic vision for combating terrorism. The practical implementation of the strategic vision at the national, regional and international levels should be based on the United Nations Global

Counter-Terrorism Strategy and respect for international law and international humanitarian law and should enjoy strong support from the United Nations system.

2. The office of counter-terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General reporting directly to the Secretary-General, should make the actions of the system more visible, effective, coherent and coordinated, in particular between the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the Counter-Terrorism Centre.

3. The work of the prevention of violent extremism unit should reflect the mandate covered by the first pillar of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which concerns the important matter of addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, such as hate speech and the recruitment of foreign terrorist fighters.

4. The activities of the combating terrorism unit should reflect the objective of the second pillar by focusing on addressing the various aspects and manifestations of the threat, such as the misuse of civil society organizations to promote and disseminate terrorist ideologies for the purposes of recruiting followers, obtaining funds or even justifying the actions of terrorist entities and their leaders.

5. The human rights, rule of law and cross-cutting issues unit should deal with the issues covered by the fourth pillar of the Strategy and also provide care for victims of terrorist attacks.

6. The office of counter-terrorism should maintain the balance between the four pillars of the Strategy as a matter of crucial importance. In that connection, there should be greater emphasis on prevention and building the capacity of States, in line with the third pillar of the Strategy, which underscores the role of international cooperation and the exchange of experiences and information.

The Philippines

1. The Philippines concurs with the following elements of General Assembly resolution [70/291](#):

(a) Strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes;

(b) Significance of a sustained and comprehensive approach, including through stronger efforts, where necessary, to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, bearing in mind that terrorism will not be defeated by military force, law enforcement measures and intelligence operations alone;

(c) Engaging relevant local communities and non-governmental actors, highlighting the role of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism and involving the youth in the promotion of a culture of peace;

(d) Denying terrorist groups safe haven, freedom of operations movement and recruitment, and cooperating to exchange information in preventing foreign terrorist fighters from crossing borders.

2. The following are the programmes and initiatives of the Philippine National Police in preventing terrorism:

(a) Target hardening: this uses the synergy of partnerships involving the community, police, local government leaders and all other concerned sectors in preventing terrorist attacks from happening or minimizing impact;

(b) Law enforcement: this pertains to the arrest of persons involved in terrorist attacks such as the case of the bombing of the Davao Roxas night market on 2 September 2016 and the case of the improvised explosive device found near the United States Embassy on 28 November 2016;

(c) Countering violent extremism: this includes the issuance of media posts, the posting of bomb threat awareness/explosive company (EC) materials alerts, counter-radicalization and deradicalization activities and techniques on countering the use of social media by terrorists;

(d) Intelligence fusion: this includes the attendance by representatives of the law enforcement agency at meetings with the International Police (Interpol) and participation in the Counter-Terrorism Leaders' Forum, among others;

(e) Crisis management: the Philippine National Police has issued three memorandums pertaining to crisis management, including: (i) Memorandum Circular No. 2016-035, "Task Force Manila Shield"; (ii) Memorandum Circular 2016-059, "Police Operational Procedure on the Conduct of Condition Situation Response System";

(f) Border control: this pertains to the capacity of the security forces to patrol and control and maritime borders.

3. On pillar I (Address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism), the Philippines, through Republic Act No. 10697 or the "Strategic Trade Management Act", seeks to ensure that the country is free from weapons of mass destruction. Effective measures are in place to establish domestic controls to prevent their proliferation.

4. The countering violent extremism activities conducted by the Philippine National Police reflect the thrust of pillar 2 (Preventing and combating terrorism). The Salaam Police Centre of the Directorate for Police Community Relations conducted a total of 60 counter-radicalization and deradicalization activities nationwide through community dialogues, peace forums, Islamic symposia, interfaith rallies, the signing of peace covenants, the settlement of clan wars or "Rido" settlements, and the distribution of information materials to different areas nationwide. These activities were designed to strengthen the Philippine National Police personnel as well as to bolster the Muslim community's knowledge and understanding on how to effectively address terrorism issues.

5. The Philippines respectfully recommends the following:

(a) More effective means of preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, means of delivery and related materials;

(b) It is the principal responsibility of Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, while encouraging the further elaboration and development of national, subregional and regional plans, as appropriate, to support the Strategy's implementation;

(c) Capacity-building programmes and initiatives aligned with pillar 3 (Building the capacity of States and strengthening the role of the United Nations), specifically for law enforcement, policymakers and practitioners. Enhanced dialogue among stakeholders with a view to placing national perspectives at the centre of capacity-building measures is also suggested;

(d) As an input to pillar 4 (Ensuring respect for human rights and compliance with the rule of law), it is recommended that support and assistance be provided to victims of terrorism through financial, medical and psychosocial support, and through the criminal justice process.

Russian Federation

1. The Russian delegation welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General, in his letter of 3 February 2017, to reach out to the Member States on the issue of establishment of an office of counter-terrorism and other related institutional arrangements.

2. We support the intention of the Secretary-General, as voiced at the informal meeting of the General Assembly on 22 February 2017, to issue the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 70 of resolution [70/291](#) as soon as possible prior to the date set by the Assembly.

3. We also believe that the issue of institutional arrangements proposed by the Secretary-General, by nature and importance, deserve the special attention of the General Assembly. Therefore the Russian delegation's preference is to thoroughly and expeditiously address the proposals by the Secretary-General in this respect, including by the taking of a relevant decision by Assembly (with prior engagement of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee, as appropriate).

4. In case additional elements arise with respect to 70 of resolution [70/291](#) related to capability of the United Nations to support Member States in implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, it would be practicable to detach those from the issue of institutional arrangements.

5. As for the substance of the matter, the letter of the Secretary-General of 3 February 2017 is, in our view, a solid basis for the upcoming report.

6. We would be ready to support the idea of establishing the office of counter-terrorism headed by an Under-Secretary-General, who would coordinate counter-terrorism-related activities across the United Nations system and report to the General Assembly through Secretary-General. The following elements are essential in this regard.

7. The arrangements, as presented by the Secretary-General, are rightly directed at improving the efficiency of United Nations counter-terrorism efforts without changing the different mandates in the field of counter-terrorism. We encourage improvement of the coordination between the bodies mandated by the Security Council and by the General Assembly, which may be effectively achieved within working groups and the 38 entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the ISIL/"Al-Qaida" Monitoring Team,

participating in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to be chaired by the new Under-Secretary-General.

8. Our principled position is that the new office should duly prioritize, in a systematic and full manner, the thematic areas of counter-terrorism, for instance, those of curbing the activities of foreign terrorist fighters and preventing the spread of terrorist ideology, including through the use of information and communications technologies (ICTs). This work should be done in the way consistent with the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent reviews. We are encouraged by the assurances of the Secretary-General that the four pillars of the Strategy would be given equal and balanced consideration by the office of counter-terrorism.

9. That is also relevant to the concept of “preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism”, which has been given increased attention recently. It should be taken into account that the response of Member States to the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism advanced by the former Secretary-General was not unequivocal. The Plan of Action was neither endorsed nor welcomed by the General Assembly. The preventing violent extremism agenda is, in any event, complementary to the preventive pillar of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and subordinate to the broader counter-terrorism context, and is not a separate independent topic. The outline set by the Secretary-General in his letter of 3 February 2017 points to the right direction in this regard, including the intention to keep the preventing violent extremism agenda within the framework of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and to ensure its “added value” in terms of counter-terrorism goals.

10. We also fully share the Secretary-General’s conviction that the new office shall not impinge upon national sovereignty. Any activities of the office and the new Under-Secretary-General should be in support of and upon the request of Member States, who have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the Global Strategy.

11. The Russian delegation is looking forward to the report of the Secretary-General in anticipation that it would be drafted in the same balanced manner as the concept presented in his letter of 3 February.

Switzerland

1. Switzerland thanks the Secretary-General for his proposal to reinforce the efforts of the Organization and support States with the comprehensive, coherent and effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Switzerland considers this proposal as a necessary first step.

2. Switzerland fully supports the establishment of a new entity, which we suggest calling the “office for the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy” (hereinafter “the office”). The office would be headed by an Under-Secretary-General possessing, either individually or by virtue of his/her team, expertise in matters relating not only to security, but also to peace, development, international law, particularly to human rights and international humanitarian law, and the rule of law. The expertise mentioned above should be fully taken into account when organizing this new office.

3. The office should strive to guarantee the comprehensive and balanced implementation of the four pillars of the Strategy, but also to ensure linkages with different global agendas concerning prevention, human rights and the promotion and maintenance of peace.
4. In accordance with the principle of delivering as one, Switzerland supports strengthening cooperation among all the United Nations entities, including Headquarters and United Nations country teams, that are involved in the implementation of the Strategy. Furthermore, Switzerland also calls for close cooperation between the Office and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), in order to better utilize existing synergies and avoid duplication of efforts.
5. Switzerland emphasizes the role of civil society and of the communities affected by violent extremism and terrorism, not only as recipients, but also as actors in the implementation of the Strategy. Switzerland also attaches great importance to cooperation between the office and multilateral international or regional actors, such as the Global Counterterrorism Forum and the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund.
6. Switzerland is of the view that the new Under-Secretary-General should endeavour to consider the issue of sustainable financing for the office and clarify the existing structures and processes to ensure that the United Nations is fully able to support States in their efforts to implement the Strategy.
7. Switzerland reiterates its full support for that proposal and considers that having a short General Assembly resolution to endorse the proposal of the Secretary-General would be an appropriate measure. Switzerland stands ready to provide any further information.

Syrian Arab Republic

1. My Government welcomes the proposal of the Secretary-General, which reflects his belief that counter-terrorism must be treated as a matter of utmost priority at this juncture. Terrorism is the greatest threat to international peace and security, and hinders national development plans and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the Organization.
2. The proposal would make counter-terrorism one of the highest priorities of the United Nations. Doing so would mark a paradigm shift in how that global threat is addressed, and would be in keeping with the call that the Syrian Arab Republic has been making for decades. This paradigm shift is now imperative in view of the terrorism directed against the Syrian Arab Republic and other countries, which, unfortunately, is sponsored, funded and facilitated by the Governments of Member States.
3. The proposed office for counter-terrorism will not be effectively and genuinely independent unless it is protected from the political considerations and agendas of the Governments of certain Member States and their efforts to politicize its work or impose a working method that hinders it from achieving its objectives.

4. Accordingly, the proposed office should, from the very outset, be funded through the United Nations regular budget under the collective oversight of the General Assembly, in order to protect it from the political and financial pressure exerted by the Governments of certain Member States. The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre will remain an affront to collective action within the framework of the United Nations. It is inconceivable that this Centre should be funded in the amount of more than \$100 million by the Government of Saudi Arabia even as that same Government violates Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism by giving billions of dollars in funding to armed terrorist groups in the Syrian Arab Republic. It is also spending hundreds of millions of dollars on religious centres around the world to spread extremist Wahhabi ideology that promotes hatred of other religions and calls for death and destruction. Those centres recruit hundreds of young people and send them to the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq as foreign terrorist fighters to join the ranks of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Nusrah Front and terrorist groups associated with them.

5. In that regard, my Government trusts and hopes that the new Under-Secretary-General who will head the office of counter-terrorism will be appointed according to specific standards and considerations, including the neutrality, competence and integrity of the candidate for the post. The candidate should also be a national of a country the Government of which abides by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Organization's working methods, particularly with regard to the equality of Member States in sovereignty and rights, and someone who rejects double standards and remains aloof to political and financial pressure, considerations and polarization. Above all, the candidate must be committed to the pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the relevant Security Council resolutions.

6. While my Government encourages the Secretary-General to use the powers vested in him by the Charter in order to take the necessary measures to combat terrorism effectively, it believes that eradicating terrorism must begin with the consolidation of international efforts in that regard and genuine political will on the part of the Governments of all Member States to eliminate terrorism. It should be clear to the Secretary-General that the Governments of certain Member States continue to violate the Charter and refuse to abide by the Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism, some of which were adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter. I should like to recall, for example, resolution Security Council resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#), the second paragraph of which sets forth a number of obligations for Member States, including ensuring that funding is not made available to ISIL, Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups and entities; preventing the supply of weapons to them; and preventing their entry into or transit through the territories of these States. However, the Governments of certain Member States, particularly Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, continue to violate the aforementioned resolution and to employ terrorist groups within and outside Syrian territory. Those States also continue to use terrorism as a political and military tool to achieve specific agendas, a policy that has led to an increase in the number and variety of terrorist attacks throughout the world, and they continue to threaten international peace and security.

7. My Government is of the view that abiding by and applying the following principles will guarantee the success of the Secretary-General's proposal to create a United Nations office of counter-terrorism:

(a) There must be a commitment to the principles and provisions of the Charter and the rules of procedure for the distribution of powers and mandates within the framework of the United Nations and its various bodies, especially with regard to the Security Council's mandate to maintain international peace and security;

(b) Due importance must be given to implementing the relevant Security Council resolutions in a serious and transparent manner, including by: conducting a comprehensive review of the work and reports of various departments, teams and bodies involved in counter-terrorism; ensuring that they develop recommendations and conclusions that are realistic, defined and not overly technical; regulating the diversity and complexity of the mandate holders, departments and teams working on counter-terrorism; and controlling unproductive expenditure in these areas;

(c) Above all, it must be acknowledged that combating terrorism through international collective action means that the political will and commitment of all Member States must be marshalled in support of this objective, and that Member States must refrain from any action that violates the relevant Security Council resolutions and eschew the use of terrorism as a political and military tool to interfere in the internal affairs of Member States and to undermine their security, stability and legitimate Governments;

(d) It is necessary to identify the aim and genuine intentions behind the regular use of the term "violent extremism" in conjunction with the term "terrorism", particularly given that the international community has not yet been able to agree on a specific definition of terrorism, which the Governments of Member States are using as a political weapon. My Government believes that violent extremism is linked to terrorism and that the former is both a root cause and a product of the latter. Accordingly, the priorities must continue to be defining terrorism and identifying ways to combat it. There is no such thing as "non-violent extremism"; any extremism paves the way for hatred, violence and terror!

8. The challenges facing the international community in the fight against terrorism are great and fraught with danger. The problem of foreign terrorist fighters, tens of thousands of whom have been recruited and brought to my country from over 101 Member States of this international organization according to United Nations reports, alone warrants a serious examination of the extent to which the Governments of certain Member States of this Organization abide by their counter-terrorism obligations.

9. The incitement to hatred, extremism and violence, and the recruitment of terrorists and the directives to terrorist cells throughout the world that appear in the media and social media and on the Internet should suffice to hold accountable some Governments and actors that indulge in such dangerous conduct under the pretext of upholding the human right of expression, yet they show no regard for the basic right to live in peace.

10. A review of the funds and sources of funding and financial support of these terrorist groups should provide adequate grounds to demand that the Governments

of certain States commit to cutting off the funding of terrorist organizations. That funding comes from the direct support provided by those Governments and from the indirect support derived from the trade in oil, gas and antiquities between those same Government and the terrorist groups, particularly ISIL and the Nusrah Front.

11. There is therefore only one question that must be answered before approving any new proposals relating to United Nations counter-terrorism efforts: would it have been possible for hundreds of armed terrorist groups and tens of thousands of terrorists to continue committing acts of terrorism against the Government, army and people of the Syrian Arab Republic for more than six years without external support from the Governments of certain known States and without the indulgence of other known States for terrorists and their sponsors?

12. A transparent, sincere answer to those questions underscores the importance of the Secretary-General's proposals, which come at a critical time, as my country, the Syrian Arab Republic, and many others are afflicted by the scourge of terrorism.

Thailand

1. Thailand welcomes the effort to better coordinate the works of various United Nations bodies and mechanisms in charge of counter-terrorism by creating an office of counter-terrorism. Thailand also recognizes the importance of integrating the work of all key actors and believes that unified United Nations policy and action through the newly created office will bring stronger coherence to the counter-terrorism related activities carried out by Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

2. Thailand believes that office of counter-terrorism will play a vital role as the central point of contact for all United Nations entities, Member States, regional organizations, non-United Nations agencies, civil society and other players in efforts to counter terrorism. Thailand has no doubt that the office will help improve the system-wide coordination of United Nations bodies, as well as outbound coordination with relevant stakeholders, which will, in turn, help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the United Nations system in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

3. However, the role and responsibilities of the office of counter-terrorism should not duplicate the responsibilities of the existing Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), but should seek to complement each other to create synergy and enhance practical cooperation.

4. Thailand encourages the office to emphasize and balance its work across all four-pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as to promote an inclusive and holistic approach to countering-terrorism through development, education, engaging communities, empowering youth and enhancing the role of women. Thus, the Under-Secretary-General undertaking the new position should have experience in both development and security and with a demonstrated ability to work inclusively with a range of stakeholders.

5. As transparency is one of the working principles of the United Nations, one of the jobs of the new office should include the ability to design and develop a

framework to ensure more effective monitoring and evaluation of all aspects of related United Nations programming and project activities, as well as implementation and follow-up. This will not only keep track of all the activities conducted as a part of counter-terrorism, but also ensure that the efforts to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy are synchronized, monitored and improved.

Tunisia

1. While we support the initiative of reforming the current United Nations architecture by establishing an office of counter-terrorism, led by an Under-Secretary-General, Tunisia considers that bringing more coherence and coordination across counter-terrorism activities carried out by the related United Nations entities and other relevant partners is at the core of its mission.

2. Tunisia believes that preventing violent extremism cannot be envisioned as an add-on component in our common fight against terrorism and that, hence, it should be considered as a central tenet of our long-term strategy to combat this threat. In this regard, Tunisia is of the view that preventing violent extremism, as firmly rooted within the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, should be one of the main components of the responsibilities of the new Under-Secretary-General.

3. Tunisia welcomes the appointment of a consensual Under-Secretary-General who embodies the standards of integrity, impartiality and competence and demonstrates extensive experience, expertise and deep knowledge in prevention and countering terrorism. We are confident that the future designated Under-Secretary-General will have the required qualifications and leadership that would meet our expectations to develop efficient and coordinated United Nations responses to overcome these challenges.

4. As one of the countries affected by the scourge of terrorism, Tunisia is looking forward to constructively engaging with this timely initiative and further sharing its insights toward the effective functioning of the proposed office.

Turkey

1. Turkey would like to reiterate that it supports in principle any initiative aimed at enhancing coordination and coherence as well as streamlining of United Nations counter-terrorism efforts. We have full confidence in the wisdom of the Secretary-General on the new structure and its leadership.

2. In this regard, Turkey welcomes the commitment of the Secretary-General to a fully transparent and consultative process for the preparation of the aforementioned report. Since counter-terrorism is a global threat to which no country is immune, Turkey believes that the views and sensitivities of all States should be taken into account. Moreover, this process, aimed at reviewing and enhancing the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in their counter-terrorism efforts, should be led in a transparent and consultative way throughout.

3. Turkey believes that the report should provide a clear and comprehensive picture of the current activities of the United Nations system in the field of counter-terrorism and of the entities involved, outlining the structural challenges and gaps that render reform necessary.
4. The mandate of a possible new entity and of its head should be well defined, leaving no room for ambiguity or misinterpretation. In particular, it should not include any form of monitoring or assessment of performances of individual or groups of Member States.
5. Assistance to Member States, including capacity-building, upon their request, for the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy across its four pillars should be the main task. In this regard, while activities aimed at preventing violent extremism and individual radicalization within the framework of pillars I and IV of the Strategy are necessary, measures to combat terrorism and to build States' capacities to this end remain crucial in view of the level of the current terrorist threat.
6. On the other hand, preventive efforts in the framework of pillars I and IV should focus on combating intolerance, social exclusion and all forms of xenophobia.
7. The new entity should pursue a close, regular and sincere dialogue with Member States.
8. Close coordination mechanisms with the Department of Political Affairs should be maintained, since terrorism cannot be addressed in isolation from political contexts.
9. Further streamlining of United Nations counter-terrorism activities in order to avoid any sort of duplication and, in this regard, close coordination between the head of the new entity and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) is essential.
10. The status of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre as the main capacity-building arm in counter-terrorism should be preserved.
11. Throughout the process, it should be kept in mind that the proposed new entity will have to handle delicate matters. The contributions of the countries suffering the most from terrorism should be taken into account. Turkey remains ready to contribute to this process.

Ukraine

1. Ukraine consistently supports the need to enhance coherence, coordination and leadership of the United Nations system in dealing with the threats posed by terrorism and violent extremism, including by conducting a reform of the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture and establishing an office of counter-terrorism.
2. We proceed from understanding that the creation of an office of counter-terrorism as a separate structural department of the Secretariat, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, will improve the coordination of counter-terrorism efforts within

the United Nations system and contribute to the proper implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as well as Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

3. Main requirements for the mandate of the office of counter-terrorism were outlined in the joint statement on Principles for United Nations Global Leadership on Preventing Violent Extremism, issued on 14 October 2016 on behalf of 73 states, including Ukraine, during the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

4. In particular, to safeguard that the United Nations stance on countering terrorism remains strong, the United Nations, as represented by the office of countering terrorism, has to:

(a) Show strategic leadership and commitment to action, tackling the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism on a basis of an "All of United Nations" approach;

(b) Ensure appropriate resources and expertise to produce policy advice on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism and on the targeting of programme resources;

(c) Explain the strategic rationale and benefits of activities countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism at the Headquarters level, regionally and in the field, while employing communications tools to deliver targeted messages, and support to Member States in their efforts to do so, including when developing campaigns with counter and alternative narratives;

(d) Strengthen its strategic policy and programme guidance to Member States based on an understanding of risk, vulnerabilities and gaps, including through close cooperation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and forums;

(e) Enhance collaboration among all United Nations entities, particularly in the field.

5. Ukraine shares the view about the need for the adoption of an appropriate decision of the General Assembly to ensure the flawless transfer of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre from the Department of Political Affairs to the newly established office of counter-terrorism.

6. Another important task is ensuring a balanced geographical staff representation in the office of counter-terrorism, particularly with regard to professional positions.

7. In our view, it is vitally required that the incumbent candidate for the position of Under-Secretary-General, who will head the office of counter-terrorism, has to demonstrate high professional competencies and extensive experience in the respective field and, particularly, impartiality, in order not to be influenced by different actors. We think that these requirements completely stipulate with the core values of the United Nations: integrity, professionalism and respect for diversity.

8. A draft General Assembly resolution, which should encompass basic functions, tasks, powers and principles of work of the office of counter-terrorism, has to be a subject for additional consideration by Member States.

United Arab Emirates

1. The United Arab Emirates welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to enhance the counter-terrorism architecture at the United Nations. In this context, the United Arab Emirates supports the proposal of the Secretary-General to create a new office of counter-terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General. The **United Arab Emirates** wishes to stress the following points.

2. The United Arab Emirates believes that it is vital to provide a clear mandate for the office of counter-terrorism that aims to enhance coordination, coherence and cooperation within the United Nations counter-terrorism-related activities. The United Arab Emirates wishes to stress that the mandate of the office should respect the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the principle of national sovereignty, and should ensure their full implementation in the light of the rising threat of non-State actors in a complex and rapidly evolving global order.

3. The United Arab Emirates stresses the importance of prioritizing prevention in the mandate of the Under-Secretary-General. In this regard, the prevention of extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism, should be a central aspect of the mandate. The Under-Secretary-General shall ensure that preventing extremism activities are truly “value-added” in terms of counter-terrorism goals.

4. The United Arab Emirates hopes that the Under-Secretary-General will work to promote cooperation with external international entities that work on counter-terrorism, including the Global Counterterrorism Forum.

5. The United Arab Emirates stresses that the role of the Under-Secretary-General should prioritize the provision of assistance to Member States, upon their request, in implementing the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner.

6. The United Arab Emirates call for Arab representation on the staff of the new office.

7. The United Arab Emirates looks forward to further engaging with the Secretary-General on this proposal, and also wishes to express its full support for and readiness to work with the Secretary-General towards the effective establishment and functioning of the office of counter-terrorism.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

1. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland would like to praise the drive and determination of the Secretary-General in prioritizing the request of the General Assembly to examine the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture. We support this initiative, which will enable effective and streamlined delivery of both counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism activity. We

also support in principle the key functions outlined in the concept note of the Secretary-Generals.

2. We would reiterate that a United Nations approach to countering terrorism that excludes prevention would be a failure. Preventing violent extremism is an area with immense potential added value for the Organization, because it is a challenge that goes beyond peace and security policy alone, into the other United Nations pillars, including development and human rights. We therefore hope and expect that the prevention of violent extremism will remain a core part of any new office mandate, within the parameters of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

3. For further guidance on the vital functions to prevent violent extremism we hope to see from the United Nations, we would refer to the joint statement of Principles for United Nations Global Leadership on Preventing Violent Extremism that was co-signed by 73 Member States on 14 October 2016.

4. On structure, we are particularly interested in the future staffing model, and fully support the creation of sub-teams to support and coordinate United Nations activity in each of the four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. We believe a sub-team on preventing violent extremism/and conditions conducive to violent extremism should remain an integral part of the new office proposal, in particular in order to directly oversee implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and to coordinate all activity of the Organization in this field. The financial support of the United Kingdom, through the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, is a strong possibility to support such roles.

5. We also fully support the appointment of a senior (Under-Secretary-General) United Nations coordinator to champion and embed counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism policy and programmes throughout the United Nations system. We encourage the appointment of a credible and well-qualified candidate who is able to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in its entirety. It is also vital that the candidate be able to work with all Member States and other regional organization working in this field.

6. We reiterate that any new Under-Secretary-General, and the new office of counter-terrorism, should strive to address terrorism and its prevention comprehensively. The United Nations should, as always, not single out any particular religious or ethnic group in pursuing these matters. Violent extremism must be prevented and countered in all its forms, and United Nations human rights standards and international law must be respected at all times.

7. The exact mandate of this new Under-Secretary-General, and the precise structure of the new office of counter-terrorism, including the prevention of violent extremism, clearly requires careful consideration, but we are fully supportive of the functions outlined thus far. We look forward to working with the new office on this important initiative.

8. I would like to finish by indicating full the support of the United Kingdom for the written contribution of the European Union that you will have also received on this matter.

United States of America

1. United Nations counter-terrorism efforts require streamlining, and call for greater coordination among United Nations entities and with external partners. A senior United Nations official is also needed to provide leadership for the Organization's increasing workload related to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and oversight to eliminate redundancies. The United States of America strongly supports the proposal of the Secretary-General to appoint an Under-Secretary-General to serve as his senior adviser on counter-terrorism. The role of the Under-Secretary-General will be to improve the Organization's ability to address contemporary terrorist threats. The United States wants to see the United Nations advance its Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including by seeking progress equally on all four of its pillars. We also want the Organization to make counter-terrorism efforts part of its core work to advance peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and the rule of law.

2. We encourage the Secretary-General to propose the office as "coordinator of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy." In addition to a clear articulation of the role of the office in its terms of reference, this title will help ensure that the new Under-Secretary-General focuses on improving coordination and a balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It will also allow a clearer division of labour between the mandate of the Security Council on counter-terrorism issues and the new office.

3. The work of the coordinator should neither impinge upon the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate (CTED) nor have any supervisory responsibilities over CTED. However, we expect the Under-Secretary-General to work closely with the Executive Director, including regularly engaging with the Security Council and the Counter-Terrorism Committee. The Committee's multi-stakeholder meetings on key topics and the country assessments and recommendations of CTED are valuable tools that the coordinator can use to enhance strategic planning of capacity-building and technical assistance programmes for Member States.

4. The United States supports the proposal of the Secretary-General to establish a post of Under-Secretary-General to serve as the chair of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and as the Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre should be moved from the Department of Political Affairs and placed directly under the Under-Secretary-General. To ensure minimal additional costs, we encourage the Secretary-General to retain the experienced staff of both the Task Force and the Centre. Noting the significant extrabudgetary contributions that currently fund the Centre and the Task Force operations, we encourage the new Under-Secretary-General to ensure the efficient use of funds, including the streamlining of operations, as appropriate. In addition, the Under-Secretary-General should also report to the Advisory Board of the Centre, which can provide the Under-Secretary-General with a regular forum in which to engage Member States as well as to receive resource contributions from Member States for the new offices activities.

5. The Under-Secretary-General should provide strategic planning for the 38 entities of Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, expand the donor base and resources, facilitate engagement between United Nations Headquarters and United Nations country teams, serve as a spokesperson and represent the Organization on issues related to the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and engage Member States at a high level in capitals. The Under-Secretary-General should facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, as recommended by the General Assembly in resolution [70/291](#). The coordinator should also work closely with other regional and expert forums, including the Global Counterterrorism Forum, to take advantage of work under way and avoid unnecessary and costly duplication of efforts.

6. To be most effective, the United States proposes the following qualifications for consideration. The candidate should:

(a) Have achieved ministerial or equivalent rank, and have management qualifications and communications skills necessary to effectively rationalize and coordinate the work of the 38 entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

(b) Enjoy credibility with the security, development, and human rights sectors;

(c) Have a demonstrated record of professionalism and integrity, with a good record on countering corruption and increasing transparency.

European Union

1. The European Union and its Member States support the proposal of the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture, both to create a post for a new Under-Secretary-General to implement, in a balanced manner, all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and to reform some of the current offices into a more strategic entity, as presented at the informal meeting on 22 February 2017. This should count as a necessary first step in a process aimed at improving the role of the United Nations and its impact in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Our arguments and suggestions are as follows.

Preventing violent extremism agenda

2. We strongly support the elements of the proposed office of counter-terrorism, including the role of the Under-Secretary-General, to address the prevention of violent extremism as a core part of their responsibility for implementation of the entire United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Working under pillars I and IV of the Strategy on conditions conducive and human rights and the rule of law, a United Nations approach to the prevention of violent extremism can unlock resources and expertise and create impact around the world that have been sorely lacking from much of the United Nations approach to counter-terrorism over the last decade. It bears repeating that preventing violent extremism has been welcomed as an initiative by the General Assembly. We fully endorse efforts by the United Nations to react to this agenda — and to the urgent terrorist threats so many of us face — by embedding

efforts to prevent violent extremism into the work of the new office. That means a comprehensive approach, often outside the counter-terrorism sphere. In implementing a comprehensive agenda, the proposed office and Under-Secretary-General need to pay specific attention to involvement of civil society, youth, women, local communities and victims of terrorism. A United Nations approach to counter-terrorism that neglects the prevention of violent extremism agenda, as captured under pillars I and IV of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy would be a failure. Strengthening the United Nations ability to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism is for the benefit of the entire United Nations membership.

3. **Suggestion 1:** the responsibilities of the proposed Under-Secretary-General and office need to reflect a clear balance and emphasis across all four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and be mindful of the strategic message that it sends. The mandate needs to reflect and promote a “whole of society” approach to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, drawing on the expertise of the United Nations in a wide variety of issues, including human rights, gender and development.

4. **Suggestion 2:** the prevention of violent extremism agenda should not only be reflected in the mandate of the Under-Secretary-General, it should also be supported by the subsequent staffing arrangements, including the staff dedicated to preventing violent extremism.

5. **Suggestion 3:** one key qualification for an applicant for the Under-Secretary-General position should be that s/he has not only counter-terrorism and security experience, but also an understanding of wider United Nations policies such as human rights, gender equality and development, as well as a demonstrated ability to work inclusively, cooperating effectively with a range of stakeholders, including civil society actors, youth, women, local communities, victims of terrorism, the private sector, religious leaders and academia.

Strategy and long-term financial sustainability

6. We support the establishment of the proposed office and the post of Under-Secretary-General for the office in order to provide better coherence and leadership in the strategic challenges we face. The added value of this new arrangement should be strengthening the ability of the United Nations to address counter-terrorism and to prevent violent extremism for the benefit of the entire membership of the Organization. We expect the new Under-Secretary-General to prioritize United Nations actions, to measure their impact and to evaluate their outcome against the proposed deliverables. We expect the Under-Secretary-General and office to have a mature and professional approach towards strategizing capacity-building, including by developing a framework for monitoring and evaluation of relevant programming and project design, implementation and follow-up, including through cooperation with actors outside the proposed office. Within the proposed office there will be a need to clearly distinguish between the responsibilities of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (capacity-building, taking into account the important role played by other entities across the United Nations system in providing technical assistance and assessment of capacity-building needs) and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (coordination and policy work), including through considering having separate leadership and staffing in order to ensure financial

sustainability of the office in the medium- to long-term, deconflict mandates and make appropriate use of the different skills and expertise required in each area.

7. **Suggestion 4:** the responsibilities of the proposed Under-Secretary-General and office (capacity-building side) should include impact measurement, including through the development of a framework for integrating monitoring and evaluation into all aspects of relevant programming and project design, implementation and follow-up.

8. **Suggestion 5:** the organizational structure of the proposed office should be evaluated in the medium- to long-term, including with the aim of separating technical assistance capabilities from those tasked with overall coordination and policy work.

Coordination

9. We have continuously advocated for better United Nations coordination and coherence at the policy and capacity-building levels.

10. At the internal level: the proposed Under-Secretary-General should address the need for better institutional communication and cooperation among the relevant United Nations entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), and those entities that can best support prevention, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations field offices. Within the mandates of the existing entities, the proposed Under-Secretary-General will have to invest on a daily basis in creating more linkages, fostering a spirit of systematic cooperation between the bodies mandated by the Security Council and the office and having a coherent cycle of assessment, programming, delivery, impact measurement and reporting. Coordination between the Counter-Terrorism Committee/CTED and the proposed office will be of the utmost importance in order to break the silos and avoid duplicated efforts, as well as competing or contradicting actions within the United Nations system. The entities of the United Nations should work complementarily on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism policies and capacity-building, supporting each other and exchanging views and information.

11. At the external level: (a) there is a need for better external coordination between the United Nations and other international and regional organizations and forums, like the Global Counterterrorism Forum, in particular in the area of capacity-building and exchanging good practices. The United Nations field offices and entities should play a more active role through clear guidance from the proposed Under-Secretary-General and office; (b) as indicated in the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, there is a need for enhanced communication of the United Nations focus and activities regarding counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism to external stakeholders, in order to avoid duplication, create synergy and enhance practical cooperation with other international and regional organizations, forums and non-governmental actors: this means more than just representing the United Nations, it will require active liaising, exploring ways to enhance cooperation and communication. Overall, greater external coordination will also enhance the counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism profile of

the United Nations, thereby establishing a United Nations counter-terrorism brand in the outside world and among citizens.

12. **Suggestion 6:** the proposed Under-Secretary-General and office should be tasked with creating a more efficient method of engaging: (a) at the internal level with relevant United Nations entities, including crucial actors on the ground, such as United Nations field offices and United Nations funds and programmes, so that they take the lead in the field, and also more effectively feed information to the proposed office; and (b) at the external level with other international and regional organizations and forums, such as the Global Counterterrorism Fund, to allow for a better coordinated and better communicated effort by the whole of the United Nations.

13. **Suggestion 7:** the proposed Under-Secretary-General should consider implementing the recommendation contained in the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism to "launch a United Nations global communication strategy" on the United Nations efforts to prevent violent extremism, "grounded in United Nations core values of peace, tolerance, and human dignity" (para. 58 (e)).

League of Arab States (sent by Oman on behalf of the League of Arab States)

1. The Arab Group believes that the new Under-Secretary-General the position is a positive step for the United Nations system to tackle more efficiently counter-terrorism related issues. Furthermore, the Group believes that accepting the establishment of this post is directly linked to an agreement on its mandate.

2. The Arab Group stresses that the new post should have a clear mandate with a detailed job description.

3. The mandate of the post should include a provision to ensure that the incumbent of this post will not interfere, in any form, in the domestic affairs of Member States, in particular in their efforts to counter terrorism, and that he/she shall respect the principle of sovereignty and assist Member States only upon their request. This assurance should also be reflected explicitly in the resolution of the General Assembly establishing the post of Under-Secretary-General.

4. The Arab Group emphasizes that the Security Council and the General Assembly resolutions, including the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, represent the normative policy framework for the mandate of the new Under-Secretary-General.

5. The Arab Group believes that the Global Strategy-related assistance and capacity-building efforts in all Member States, upon their request, must be the cornerstone of the responsibilities of the new Under-Secretary-General, and, thus, the Group understands that the status of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and its financial resources shall not be changed.

6. Bearing in mind that the four pillars of the Strategy should be implemented in a comprehensive and balanced manner, and based on national priorities of Member States, the Arab Group believes that prevention of violent extremism conducive to

terrorism, within the four pillars of the Strategy, is key and should also be a part of the responsibilities of the new Under-Secretary-General.

7. The structural reform of the Secretariat related to counter-terrorism should include eliminating or ending any sort of duplication or contradiction between the functions or activities being undertaken by the United Nations entities in charge of countering terrorism.

8. The Arab Group is of the view that the Under-Secretary-General should have meaningful resources. The Group would like to draw the attention of the Secretary-General to the fact that the availability of financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations is a crucial condition for the autonomy and impartiality on the new Under-Secretary-General; it is evident that the autonomy of the Under-Secretary-General would be enhanced by sustainable funding to carry out his/her agreed mandated tasks.

9. The Arab Group stresses the importance of the adequate representation of the Arab countries in the office of the new Under-Secretary-General, from the regular budget.

10. The Arab Group believes that the qualifications of the new Under-Secretary-General are very important in implementing his or her mandate.

11. In this regard, the Arab Group would welcome the appointment of a consensual individual, who embodies standards of integrity, impartiality and competence, and demonstrates extensive experience, expertise and deep knowledge in the prevention and countering terrorism, as well as the ability to forge political compromises.

12. It is important to encompass the new Under-Secretary-General as a member of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) so as to enable him/her to participate in taking decisions on issues of strategic consequence.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (sent by Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation)

1. The **Organization of Islamic Cooperation** (OIC) believes that the review of the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture is a positive step for the United Nations system in order to tackle counter-terrorism-related issues more efficiently. In this regard, OIC believes that the creation of an office of counter terrorism, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, is directly linked to an agreement on its clear mandate and to a detailed job description.

2. The mandate of the proposed post should include a provision ensuring that the incumbent of this post will not interfere in any form in the internal affairs of Member States, in particular in their efforts to counter terrorism, that he/she shall respect the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the principle of sovereignty, and shall assist Member States only upon their request. The mandate should also not include any form of monitoring or assessment of Member States. OIC intends to explicitly reflect this assurance in the resolution of the General Assembly on this issue. It is imperative that any new structure or office should not be used to establish new norms.

3. While OIC notes the stand-alone status of the office on counter-terrorism, it believes that the office should maintain a close interface and coordination with the Department of Political Affairs, as terrorism cannot be addressed in isolation from political contexts.
4. The structural reform of the Secretariat related to counter-terrorism should enhance coordination and coherence and prevent duplication and overlapping between the functions or activities being undertaken by the relevant United Nations entities in charge of countering terrorism.
5. OIC believes that implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a comprehensive and balanced manner across its four pillars remains key, and that no pillar should be given priority over the other. Based on national priorities of Member States, and within the context of the creation of the office on counter-terrorism headed by an Under-Secretary-General, OIC believes that prevention of both terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, within the four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, is important. In this regard, the OIC underscores the importance of addressing the root causes of terrorism.
6. For a balanced implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and to guarantee the autonomy, impartiality and predictability of the office of counter-terrorism in providing technical assistance: (a) funding for any new structure or office should be met by regular budget; (b) extrabudgetary contributions should be limited to provision of technical assistance; and (c) the General Assembly should, however, allocate sufficient and sustainable funding from regular budget for capacity-building to meet the needs of Member States, upon their request, in an impartial, balanced and sustainable manner.
7. OIC attaches great importance to the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and, in this regard, would like to reiterate that no funds of the Centre shall be used to pay for any of the costs attached to the creation of the office of counter-terrorism and that the Centre's funds shall be dedicated to its projects.
8. In this connection, OIC attaches great importance to the Advisory Board of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and would like to maintain Saudi Arabia's status as head of the Advisory Board, and to maintain the overall structure and role of the Advisory Board (the Islamic Republic of Iran dissociates with this point).
9. To lead the office of counter-terrorism, OIC would welcome the appointment of an individual who embodies standards of integrity, impartiality and competence, and demonstrates extensive experience, expertise and deep knowledge in the prevention and countering of terrorism.
10. It would be important to include the head of the office of counter-terrorism as a member in the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to enable him/her to participate in taking decisions on issues of strategic consequences.
11. OIC requests that the Secretary-General provide, in his final report, options regarding the proper/adequate staffing requirements of the newly established office of counter-terrorism headed by an Under-Secretary-General.

12. OIC suggests that OIC countries be adequately represented in the office of the new Under-Secretary-General as well as in the office of counter-terrorism by establishing posts financed from the regular budget.

13. To conclude, OIC recalls that in the preamble of its resolution [70/291](#), the General Assembly stated that “terrorism and violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group”. It is imperative that the United Nations not only upholds this principle but also discourages any effort to the contrary.

Annex II

Terms of reference for the Advisory Board of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre

Background

The **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre** is being created to support the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The Centre will be established within the office of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. The Chair of the Task Force will be Executive Director of the Centre, supported by a small team of Professional and General Service staff members who will run the day-to-day activities.

The work of the Centre must be consistent with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its follow-up resolutions.

The work of the Centre will be managed under the United Nations rules and regulations.

Objectives

The key objectives of the **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre** include:

- (a) To support the implementation of all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (resolution [60/288](#));
- (b) To foster international cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism;
- (c) To help address the capacity-building needs of Member States;
- (d) To promote awareness of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and develop a comprehensive database of counter-terrorism best practices around the world;
- (e) To organize international, regional and national workshops and conferences to promote awareness, build capacities and strengthen political support for the efforts of the United Nations in the field of counter-terrorism.

Responsibilities of the Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will be established to provide guidance to the Executive Director on the annual programmes and the budget of the **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre**.

The Executive Director of the Centre will be responsible for managing all of its operations.

The guidance of the Advisory Board will be taken into account by the Executive Director.

Membership

The **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre** will be supported by an Advisory Board of up to 20 Member States.

The Member States on the Advisory Board will be represented at the Permanent Representative level at the United Nations in New York.

Terms of service

Members of the Advisory Board will serve for a 3-year term.

Chairmanship

In recognition of the efforts of Saudi Arabia towards the establishment of the **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre**, the Secretary-General has asked the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to serve as Chair of the Advisory Board for the first three years.

A successor will be designated by the Advisory Board.

The Chair of the Centre will be an ex officio member and Secretary of the Advisory Board.

Supporting structure

The office of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force will provide the Advisory Board with the biannual financial, administrative, budgetary and all other reports of the **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre**, as requested by the Board.

Meetings

The Advisory Board will be called to meet regularly twice a year, and may be called exceptionally, as needed.
