



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Ref: 90.2.5.6/1079

VERBAL NOTE

RE: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

CONTRIBUTION OF GREECE

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and, with reference to Verbal Note LA/COD/11/1, dated 8.1.2019, would like to submit the following information:

- Greece wishes to reiterate its support to the global fight against terrorism and to highlight its active participation in the relevant activities of international organizations and institutions.
- There is a standing cooperation among the Greek authorities assigned with prevention, law enforcement and fight against terrorism, as well as constant contacts and information exchange with INTERPOL, EUROPOL and the equivalent authorities of other states on foreign fighters' movements and other terrorism-related issues.
- Greece follows the anti-terrorist policy of International Organizations, including the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and in this respect has taken relevant national legislative measures. Thus, Greece has not only ratified the vast majority of the UN Conventions against terrorism but also updates and harmonizes its legislative framework in compliance with European Union and Council of Europe obligations and engagements.

Concerning latest developments, we would like to submit the following information:

- The **Hellenic Anti-Money Laundering Authority's** operation, issues, composition and competencies are set out by Law 4557/2018, as in force.

The Authority is administratively and operationally independent and constitutes the national agency aiming at combatting the legalization of proceeds from criminal activities, terrorist financing as well as the investigation of source of funds declarations, assisting in security and sustainability of fiscal and financial stability.

The Authority is structured into three (3) independent Units with separate responsibilities, staff and infrastructure, as follows:

- Unit A - Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
- Unit B - Financial Sanctions Unit (FSU)
- Unit C - Source of Funds Investigation Unit (SFIU)

One of the core missions of the Authority, according to Law 4557/2018 as in force, is the collection, the investigation and the analysis of suspicious transactions reports (STRs) conveyed to it by the obligated legal entities and natural persons, as well as any other information related to the offences of money laundering and terrorist financing.

In addition, the Authority is responsible for the implementation of the UN Security Council & EU Sanctions (freezing of assets), especially those related to terrorism and terrorism financing, and the compilation and observation of the national list of designated natural and legal persons or entities related to terrorism. The persons or entities included in this list are subjected to freezing of their assets and are denied the access to any financial act. The Authority is also in close cooperation with the law enforcement agencies, as well as the

judicial authorities, exchanging financial intelligence with them in the field of terrorism financing.

The Hellenic FIU has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) on an international level, on the grounds of mutual cooperation and mutual interest and in order to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of persons suspected of money laundering, criminal activity related to money-laundering and associated predicate offenses, terrorism financing, and proliferation of mass destruction weapons, sharing also knowledge, methods, expertise and trends that enhanced the above scope and in order to broaden its co-operational scope. Specifically, the Hellenic FIU is already part of bilateral agreements (MoUs) with twenty-one (21) countries.

The Authority has an active role with constant interaction with the UN and EU committees, as it is fully committed to the combat of international terrorism financing.

- Financial institutions supervised by **the Bank of Greece**, like all obligated persons, shall be informed without delay, pursuant to article 43 (1.b) of Law 4557/2018 by the competent Anti-Money Laundering authority of article 47 of Law 4557/2018 of all Resolutions issued by the United Nations Security Council.

Subsequently, financial institutions are required to act in accordance with the relevant resolutions, perform a thorough investigation to identify any assets of the named persons, including those directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the above persons. They are also required to provide detailed information on any type of transaction or activity and any other relevant data or information of the above persons to the Anti-Money Laundering authority.

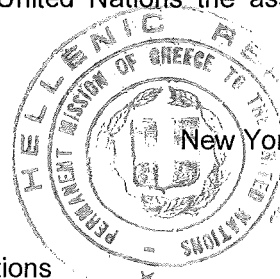
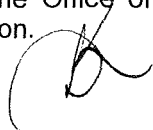
The Bank of Greece, as competent authority for supervising financial institutions for compliance with the above requirements, shall impose the administrative sanctions of points (i), (v) and (vi) of article 46 (1a) of Law 4557/2018, against obliged legal persons or entities violating these obligations.

- **The Hellenic Police** actively participates in the international, European and regional efforts to counter terrorism. Greece has also signed several police cooperation agreements on a bilateral, trilateral and multilateral level, the provisions of which include cooperation in the field of fight against terrorism.

For the period of 2018, the competent Hellenic Police Authorities have arrested two foreigners following an international arrest warrant. Those individuals were suspected for involvement in a terrorist organization.

- Moreover, according to latest information received **by the Ministry of Justice**, during the reporting period, 3 cases of incidents caused by international terrorism were brought before justice and according to the respective decisions of the Greek courts of justice, 10 individuals were found guilty on those incidents and were sentenced with sanctions spanning from 2 to 9 years of imprisonment.

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.



New York, 22 May 2019

To: Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations
New York, 10017