

Joint Statement by the Chair of the 1540 Committee

**On behalf of the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee,
the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and
the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)**

Date: 2 December 2021

On behalf of the Chairs of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities; the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism; and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I have the honour to report to the Security Council on the work of the three Committees, including the continuing cooperation between them.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the CTC, the “1267 Committee”, and the 1540 Committee continued to cooperate and to coordinate their work, in accordance with their respective mandates, with a view to ensuring an effective and efficient approach to counter-terrorism and to the fight against the proliferation of the weapons of mass destruction by non-State Actors. The three Committees are conscious that terrorist groups and their supporters are ready to commit extreme violence on a wide scale, and highlight the importance of bearing in mind the potentially catastrophic humanitarian, economic, social and political consequences if nuclear, chemical or biological weapons fell into the hands of non-State actors, in particular terrorists.

Since its adoption more than 17 years ago, resolution 1540 has become a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture and a key instrument in curbing the threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, by non-State actors. As mandated under resolution 1977 (2011), the 1540 Committee is in the process of conducting an important Comprehensive Review of its work to promote full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all Member States. Due to the disruption caused by the pandemic a number of planned 1540 Committee events were postponed. The Comprehensive Review will inform negotiations on its future mandate and as part of it, the Committee intends to hold open consultations soon with UN Member States, as well as relevant international, regional and sub-regional organisations, and where appropriate, civil society.

The Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate have maintained close partnership, collaboration and cooperation with 1267/1989/2253 and 1540 Committees, as well as relevant UN entities and international organizations in addressing the challenges of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In the PRST adopted on 12 January 2021 during the open Debate to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the CTC, the Security Council reiterated the need to enhance the ongoing cooperation among the committees and their respective groups of experts, noted the importance of their ongoing interaction and dialogue with all Member States and encouraged the committees to continue to pursue a constructive and transparent approach.

Terrorism continues to pose grave threat to international peace and security. The terrorism landscape continues to evolve and develop in significant ways. Member States are faced with many complex challenges, including the increase of terrorist attacks, and the use of information and communication technologies for terrorist purposes. The COVID-19 pandemic has also created conditions which have been exploited by terrorist groups.

Such threats and challenges could only be dealt with successfully through collective efforts and close cooperation and collaboration among all Member States and all other players.

The 1267 Monitoring Team experts also participated in a number of open briefings of the Counter-Terrorism Committee to discuss areas of interest and common concern in implementing relevant Security Council resolutions.

On 18 November, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the ISIL/ Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee held a joint special meeting to discuss terrorist-financing threats and trends and the implementation of resolution 2462 (2019). The meeting gathered also relevant regional and international organizations to discuss challenges and measures adopted by Member States to disrupt terrorist financing, the efforts of the FATF to monitor and counter terrorism financing, and coordination mechanisms relating to the technical assistance provided by the United Nations and Global Coordination Compact entities to support States' efforts in this area.

This event was an important opportunity that enabled participants to highlight national and regional practices.

There have been also regular exchange of information and cooperation within the framework of the relevant Global Compact Working Groups and through joint projects and activities developed under these working groups through a "One-UN" approach.

Relevant Security Council resolutions reiterate the need to enhance ongoing cooperation among the CTC and CTED and United Nations Security Council Committees 1267 and 1540, including through: enhanced information-sharing, coordination on visits to countries, coordination on facilitating and monitoring technical assistance, and other cooperative measure to assist Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under the relevant resolutions.

During the reporting period, the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the 1267 Committee cooperated closely with the CTC, and CTED in the production of mandated reports of the Secretary-General. The report emphasized that the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) continued to raise serious international concern, and noted the expansion of ISIL activities in several countries of Africa, as well as Afghanistan, through the group's regional affiliates, as well as efforts by ISIL (Da'esh) core focused on regrouping in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. In areas that experienced lockdowns related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, especially outside conflict zones, ISIL (Da'esh) has incited attacks that might have conceivably been deferred or planned for execution when restrictions ease.

The Committees, within their respective mandates, promote effective measures such as, in the case of the terrorism related Committees, sanctions, countering the financing of terrorism, border

management and law enforcement, international judicial cooperation, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, countering terrorist narratives, and engaging communities, among others. In the case of the 1540 Committee, those related to non-proliferation. The three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council continue to attach great importance to the coordination and cooperation between them. The Committees also continue to raise awareness of Member States' obligations to effectively implement relevant Security Council resolutions, continue to coordinate activities, hold joint Committees' meetings, and enhance their cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations, and United Nations bodies, including within the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

These coordinated activities are very important for strengthening their dialogue with Member States and for helping to improve the overall understanding of their distinct, yet complementary mandates.

Despite the travel restrictions imposed as a result of the pandemic, the three committees have ensured business continuity by adapting their working methods to virtual environments. During the period under review the Committees have stepped up their regular joint consultations.

The three Committees and, under their direction, their respective expert bodies, will continue to cooperate and to coordinate their work, in accordance with their respective mandates, including through joint visits at the invitation of States, with a view to ensuring an effective and efficient approach to counter-terrorism and to the fight against the proliferation of the weapons of mass destruction by non-State Actors. They reaffirm their continued engagement in supporting Member States in these global efforts through providing guidance and direction to their expert groups in enhancing their collaboration and cooperation in accordance with the requirements of relevant Council resolutions.