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COMMITTEE OF LEGAL ADVISERS ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
(CAHDI)

25th meeting
Strasbourg, 17 - 18 March 2003

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH MR. MIKULKA, DIRECTOR OF CODIFICATION AT THE UN

Secretariat memorandum
Prepared by the Directorate General of Legal Affairs

UN Security Council steps up global co-operation against terrorism

On 6 March a Special Meeting of the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was convened at UNHQ in New York to bring together the representatives of all international, regional and sub-regional organisations with counter-terrorism programmes. The special meeting was called following the Ministerial meeting of the Security Council on 20 January, which set objectives for global counter-terrorism activity over the coming period in a Ministerial Declaration adopted by resolution 1456.

Participants at the 6 March meeting agreed that all invited organisations had a specific role to play in enhancing the effectiveness of global action against terrorism. While each has its own mandate and its own contribution to make, all recognised the high value of co-operation at the global level. They agreed that their coordinated approach to the suppression of terrorism would be based on:

- Information: the sharing of data and best practices relevant to global co-operation;
- Complementarity: organisations to focus on what they do best while avoiding duplication of effort and waste of resources;
- Independent effort: within the overall co-ordination structure, each organisation to pursue its own mandate and initiatives with greater urgency;
- Political momentum: regional and sub-regional organisations to ensure that counter-terrorism is given a high priority by member governments within the framework of their implementation of resolution 1373.

Specific action points were provisionally agreed by participants, subject to approval by their operational headquarters:

- all international, regional and sub-regional organisations would communicate to each other and the CTC international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373, and information about their activities and mechanisms in the counter-terrorism field.
- regional organisations would develop and maintain mechanisms to assist their members to meet their international obligations in the area of counter-terrorism;
- all organisations would make an effort to reduce duplication of effort and overlapping activities, in particular by increasing cooperation and by sharing information wherever possible (with due regard to confidentiality) and by making full use of designated contact points;
- organisations would invite each other's representatives, and representatives of the CTC, to attend meetings of interest.
- they would remain aware of the interaction between their activities and human rights concerns, and of the need for respect for the rule of law and human rights obligations;

The CTC offered to take the following practical steps to assist international, regional and sub-regional organisations in combating terrorism:

- maintain, update and circulate a list of contact points in all international regional and sub-regional organisations and in member states, to establish a network of contact points responsible for the exchange of information on a global basis;

- update annually its inventory of relevant activities, mechanisms and institutions of international, regional and sub-regional organisations;
- develop its website of advice and information for all concerned;
- encourage its experts to keep in constant touch with and, as agreed by the CTC, attend relevant meetings of international, regional and sub-regional organisations;
- bear in mind international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of 1373;
- liaise with regional organisations in developing their roles on counter-terrorism consistent with their mandates and developing programmes for encouraging or assisting member states of these organisations to meet the requirements of resolution 1373;
- liaise with international organisations, including the international financial institutions, on the provision of assistance to States in the areas covered by resolution 1373.

Participants warmly welcomed this first collective opportunity to improve their understanding of each other's activities. Initiatives flowing from a deeper awareness of needs included the commitment of the African Union and World Bank to work together on intensified counter-terrorism action at the African-regional level.

They looked forward to further periodic meetings in the future, the next of which would be hosted by the Organisation of American States and would bring together regional and sub-regional organisations.

2003 – CALENDAR OF MEETINGS OF LEGAL BODIES
Serviced by the Codification Division

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Assembly of States Parties of the ICC	3 – 7 February 2003	
Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities	24 - 28 February 2003	
Ad hoc Committee on Scope of protection under UN Personnel Convention	24 – 28 March 2003	
Ad Hoc Committee established by GA res. 51/210 of 17 December 1996	31 March – 2 April 2003	
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	7 – 17 April 2003	
Assembly of States Parties of the ICC	21 – 23 April 2003	
International Law Commission – 55th Session (Geneva, split session)	10 weeks 5 May – 6 June & 7 July – 8 August 2003	
Committee on ICC Finance & Budget	4 – 8 August 2003	
Assembly of States Parties of the ICC	8 - 12 September 2003	
Sixth Committee – 58th Session of the General Assembly	29 Sept. – 7 Nov. 2003	6 weeks including WGs; 29/9-3/10 WG on cloning; 27/10 - 7/11 debate on ILC report; 27 and 28/10 meeting of Legal Advisers.