



Strasbourg, 16 March 2018

CDCT-BU (2018) 2

STEERING COMMITTEE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM (CDCT)

BUREAU

List of items discussed and decisions taken

1st Meeting

Strasbourg (France), 15-16 March 2018

Council of Europe, Agora, Room G04

Opening at 14:00, Thursday

Closing at 14:00, Friday

Secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Division

Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG I

www.coe.int/terrorism

The Bureau of the Council of Europe Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT) held its 1st Meeting on 15 and 16 March 2018 in Strasbourg, France, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Mario JANEČEK (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and decided to:

1. Opening of the meeting

- Take note of the opening remarks by Mr Jan KLEIJSSSEN, Director of the Information Society and Action Against Crime Directorate, welcoming the new Chair and members of the CDCT. He provided a general overview of the budgetary situation of the Council of Europe. He invited members of the CDCT to share the importance of the work of the Committee with their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs. He welcomed the progress of the Working Group on the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018-2022) and highlighted the importance of dealing with the issue of returning foreign terrorist fighters and their families. He also reminded the Bureau that, last November, the Secretary General signed partnership agreements – in the form of an Exchange of Letters – with representatives of eight leading technology firms and six associations, and called upon the CDCT to decide how the Committee can start in the near future its work with these entities on issues related to counter-terrorism. Mr Kleijssen welcomed the idea of considering a pan-European legal definition of terrorism as the Council of Europe is particularly well-placed to facilitate the advancement of such a definition to the benefit of all member States. He also pointed out the positive developments concerning the 24/7 Network on FTFs, which now has 45 contact points.

2. Adoption of the agenda

- Adopt the agenda.

3. Communication by the Chair and members of the Bureau and by the Secretariat

- Take note of the information provided by its Chair, Mr Mario Janeček, and the Secretariat on the most recent activities of the Council of Europe relevant to the CDCT's work since the last Plenary meeting in November 2017, in particular the results achieved by the Working Group on the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy which held its first meeting on the 14 February in Paris.

4. Future work and activities of the CDCT

- Hold the exchange on this topic under agenda item 5.

5. CDCT Working Group on the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy

- Examine in detail the draft Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018-2022) prepared by the Working Group, congratulate the work achieved and the quality of the document prepared by the experts and make a number of proposals for amending the draft Strategy.
- Instruct the Secretariat to draft a document informing the Working Group on the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy of the suggestions provided by the Bureau to be taken into account at its next meeting on 10 April 2018.

6. Definition of Terrorism

- Examine and hold a discussion on the documents “Discussion Paper on a Definition of Terrorism for the 2005 Warsaw Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism” and “The added value of a pan-European definition of terrorism for the 2005 Warsaw Convention”.
- Instruct the Secretariat to amend the document on the “The added value of a pan-European definition of terrorism for the 2005 Warsaw Convention” in line with the observations and suggestions provided by the Bureau.
- Disseminate the documents, as amended, to the Committee.
- Recall that members of the Committee were invited to provide their formal observations on this item at the next Plenary Meeting of the CDCT on 16-18 May.
- Recognise the need to ensure strong support from all members States for this matter.
- Invite the Committee to consider a multi-step approach, consisting of, for instance, 1) the establishment of a working group to examine the feasibility of having a pan-European legal definition of terrorism, and, in the affirmative, 2) hold a plenary discussion on the outcomes of the working group and possible ways forward.

7. Links between terrorism and organised crime

- Examine the document prepared by the Secretariat (“Follow-up Activities to the 2nd Malaga Conference on Terrorism-TOC 2017” – document CDPC (2018) 5).
- Took note of the information provided by the Secretariat, in particular, that a meeting of experts will be convened as quickly as possible in 2018.
- Consider whether the outcome of the follow-up activities could envisage a 3rd International Conference on Terrorism and Transnational Organised Crime.

8. Terrorism and the Internet

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the most recent developments on this issue.
- Instruct the Secretariat to prepare a document for the Committee identifying possible topics for a meeting between experts of member States and representatives of relevant internet companies covered by the aforementioned Exchange of Letters.

9. Preparation of the 1st Plenary Meeting of the CDCT

- Examine and agree the draft agenda for the 1st Plenary Meeting of the CDCT to take place on 16-18 May 2018.

10. Items for information

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the draft Recommendation on terrorists acting alone, the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 196) and the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 217), the Council of Europe Convention on Offences related to Cultural Property (CETS No. 221), the Council of Europe 24/7 Foreign Terrorist Fighters Network of Contact Points, country profiles on counter-terrorism capacity and information on measures taken at national level against terrorism, and the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC).

11. Any other business

- Take note that no issues were raised under this agenda item.

12. Date and place of the 2nd Meeting of the CDCT Bureau

- Postpone the decision on the date and place of the 2nd meeting of the Bureau until the occasion of the 1st Plenary Meeting of the CDCT.

13. Adoption of the Abridged Report and of List of items discussed and decisions taken

- Adopt the Abridged Report and List of Items Discussed and Decisions taken.