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COUNCIL OF EUROPE COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE (CDCT)

BUREAU

4th Meeting

Rome, 27 September 2019

Abridged Report and List of Items Discussed and Decisions Taken

Secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Division

Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG I

www.coe.int/terrorism

The Bureau, meeting in Rome on 27 September 2019 under the Chairmanship of Mr Mario JANEČEK (Bosnia and Herzegovina), decided to:

1. Opening of the meeting

- Take note of the opening remarks by Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE, Head of Counter-Terrorism and Secretary to the CDCT.
- Express its gratitude to the ministry of Justice of Italy for graciously hosting the meeting of the Bureau at its premises in Rome.

2. Adoption of the agenda

- Adopt the agenda.

3. Communication by the Chair and by the Secretariat

- Take note of the information provided by its Chair, Mr JANEČEK, notably that he participated as speaker in the Workshop on the protection of victims of terrorist acts organised by the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) of the Council of Europe, 20 June 2019 in Strasbourg. Mr JANEČEK further participated in a consultation meeting with experts on the return of "foreign fighters" and their families to Europe organised by the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, 25 September 2019, in Paris. Finally, Mr JANEČEK chaired the first meeting of the CDCT-GE Working Group, 11 September 2019 in Paris.
- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat, notably that that Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ (Croatia) began her position as Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 18 September, after being elected in June 2019 by the Parliamentary Assembly for a five-year mandate, and that all member states of the Council of Europe have now paid their obligatory contributions to the Ordinary Budget for 2019. In addition, that the Secretary of the CDCT, Mr CHIAROMONTE, participated in the 2nd International Conference "Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking in the Context of Fighting International Terrorism" organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on 5 – 6 September 2019 in Moscow. The Co-Secretary, Mr Kristian BARTHOLIN, represented the Council of Europe at the 47th European Regional Conference of INTERPOL on 29 – 31 May 2019 in Katowice and participated as speaker in the "High-Level Inter-Regional Conference on 'Whole-of-Society Approach' to Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism" organised by the Government of Mongolia in cooperation with the OSCE and the UN OCT on 20 – 21 June 2019 in Ulaanbaatar.

4. Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy – Future work and activities of the CDCT

- Discuss the state of implementation of the activities under the Strategy which have already been initiated and express its satisfaction on how the work is carried out.
- Endorse the decision to start implementing the activities 1.4, 1.5, and 3.4 of the Strategy in 2020, noting that only activity 1.4 will require the establishment of a working group.
- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the state of play regarding the procedure for the adoption of the terms of reference for the CDCT for 2020 – 2021.

5. Information concerning the Sub-Groups/Working Groups

- Take note of the information provided by the Chairs of the various Sub-Groups and Working Groups already set up by the CDCT about the state of play.

- Examine the Report of the 1st meeting of the **CDCT-GE** (Paris, 11 November 2019), hold an exchange of views with its co-Chair, Mr JANEČEK, express its satisfaction for the high-level of expertise of the members of the Working Group who identified the main issues that should constitute the focus of their work, including the use of information gathered from conflict zones by military forces and by intelligence services as evidence in criminal proceedings in accordance with the fair trial principle, and that such issues should be further addressed by means of a Council of Europe recommendation. A preliminary draft of the recommendation will be submitted to the Working Group before the end of 2019 in view of a second meeting to be held early on 2020.
- Hold an exchange of views with the Chair of the **CDCT-RI**, Mr HORVATH, who presented the results of its work that will be submitted to the CDCT for adoption at the 4th Plenary meeting of the Committee.
- Take note of the outcome of the work of the **CDCT-DEF**, presented by its Chair, Mr PIACENTE, which held its third and final meeting on 25 – 26 September 2019 in Rome, and instruct the Secretariat to distribute the final report of the CDCT-DEF to all Members of the CDCT for further consideration at the 4th Plenary meeting of the Committee.
- Exchange views on the outcome of the third meeting of the **CDCT-TTOC** held in Paris on 9 September 2019, in particular that the revised version of the draft Guidelines will be submitted to the CDCT at its next meeting on 19-21 November 2019 and that, depending on the result of the deliberations during the Plenary, a further meeting of this Working Group may be needed to discuss outstanding issues. The text will be sent to the CDPC for possible comments.

6. 24/7 Foreign Terrorist Fighters Network of Contact Points

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the 24/7 Network of Contact Points, notably that a meeting of the Contact Points will be convoked for the end of the year (date and place to be confirmed).

7. Setting-up of a Network of Contact Points for the exchange of information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the state of play regarding the establishment of the Network. So far 16 States have notified the Secretariat of their contact points. The deadline for providing this information is 1 October 2019. The Network is expected to become operational as of 1 November 2019.

8. International Conference on the roles of women and children returnees involved in terrorism related offences

- Examine and discuss the concept paper prepared by the Secretariat.
- Instruct the Secretariat to prepare a new document outlining the situation regarding the situation of women and children currently held in Syria and Iraq, pointing out possible future activities for the CDCT on this topic.
- Instruct the Secretariat to revise the concept paper for the conference to focus on the topic of women and children returnees from Daesh and other terrorist associations or groups, their legal situation and best practices with regard to their possible return.
- Instruct the Secretariat to plan for the conference to take place in June/July of 2020.

9. 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

- Take note of the information by the Secretariat about the state of signatures and ratifications, notably that Germany and the Slovak Republic have ratified the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No 217) on 30 August and 16 May 2019, respectively.

10. Elections

- Thank Mr Gábor (Hungary) and Ms Maria Eugenia FERNADÉZ HERNÁDEZ (Spain), who are both leaving the Bureau and the CDCT to take up new duties, for their excellent work and contributions to the successful fulfilling of the tasks of the Committee.
- Discuss the planning and execution of the upcoming elections for the Bureau.
- Instruct the Secretariat to prepare for the election of four members of the Bureau, its Chair and vice-Chair and to inform the members of the CDCT accordingly.

11. Preparation of the 4th CDCT Plenary meeting

- Examine and approve the draft agenda for the 4th CDCT Plenary meeting.
- Set aside sufficient time during the Plenary meeting for the discussions on a possible European definition of terrorism on the basis of the final report of the CDCT-DEF.
- Instruct the Secretariat to prepare and distribute the order of business and the draft agenda to all delegations of the CDCT.

12. Items for information

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the 76th Plenary meeting of the CDPC, notably that the CDPC current priorities are: artificial intelligence and criminal law, the smuggling of migrants, the protection of environment through criminal law.
- Ask the CDPC to keep the CDCT informed about any developments regarding the progress on its work, noting the possible links with counter-terrorism issues, in particular on the topic of the smuggling of migrants.

13. Any other business

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

14. Date and place of the 5th CDCT Bureau meeting

- Hold its next Bureau meeting in March of 2020 (date and place to be confirmed).

15. Adoption of the Abridged Report and List of Items discussed and Decisions taken

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