



Strasbourg, 8 April 2022

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM (CDCT)

BUREAU

8th Meeting

Paris, 7 - 8 April 2022

Abridged Report and List of Decisions

Secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Division
Information Society - Action against Crime Directorate, DG I

DGI-CDCT@coe.int / www.coe.int/terrorism

The CDCT Bureau, having met on 7 - 8 April 2022 under the Chairmanship of Ms Päivi KAIRAMO (Finland), decided to:

1. Opening of the meeting

- Open the meeting and express its gratitude for finally being able to meet in-person after months of online exchanges.

2. Adoption of the agenda

- Adopt the agenda.

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

- Express deep regret concerning the ongoing illegal military aggression of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and solidarity with the people of Ukraine in these difficult times.
- Take note of the information provided by the Chair regarding recent developments and activities on counter-terrorism within the framework of the Council of Europe, including on the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of two Recommendations completed under the auspices of the CDCT: the Recommendation on the use of information collected in conflict zones as evidence in criminal proceedings related to terrorist offences and Recommendation on the risk assessment of individuals indicted or convicted for terrorist offences, on 30 March 2022 and on the successful organisation of the International Conference on the Roles of Women and Children in Terrorism held on 15-16 December 2021.
- Take note of the information provided by Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE regarding the consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine on the functioning of the Council of Europe, including on the work of the CDCT.
- Discuss the issues relating to the expulsion of the Russian Federation from the Council of Europe, and instruct the Secretariat to seek further guidance and clarifications from relevant Council of Europe bodies on key legal aspects regarding the participation of the Russian Federation in official meetings of the Consultation of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS 196) and its Additional Protocol (CETS 217) and in the CDCT Networks and report back to members at the next Plenary.
- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the deliberations of the virtual Seminar on Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Responses during and in the Immediate Aftermath of Terrorist Attacks, held on 29 March 2022 and take this into consideration throughout the drafting of the new Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy .
- Discuss the future organisation of an International Conference on Violent Extremism conducive to Terrorism in November 2022, and proposed to focus in particular on the potential terrorist threats emanating in particular from the violent far-right as well as the violent far-left.

4. Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy: Completed, ongoing and future activities of the CDCT

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the current state of implementation of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- Discuss the current calendar of CDCT activities, and express satisfaction on the implementation of the six items remaining in the current Strategy by the end of 2022.

5. Preparing the next Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy

- Take note of the information provided by Ms Päivi KAIRAMO, Chair of the Working Group to prepare a new Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (CDCT-ST), on the outcomes of the 1st meeting of CDCT-ST, which was held on 8 March 2022 in Paris.
- Discuss the different opinions and views expressed by the members of CDCT-ST during the meeting, notably with regards to the structure and scope of the next Strategy, as well as its main pillars and activities.
- Take note that the next meeting of CDCT-ST, currently scheduled for 30 June – 1 July 2022 in Paris, will be aimed at examining an initial draft of the next Strategy (prepared on the basis of the discussion from the 1st meeting, outcome of the ETT Report and written contribution by members of the Working Group).

6. Identification of emerging terrorist threats (Activity 3.4 of the Strategy)

- Take note of the information provided by Ms Ileana VIȘOIU, Chair of the Working Group on the identification of emerging terrorist threats (CDCT-ETT) on the outcomes of the 5th and final meeting of CDCT-ETT, which was held online on 22 February 2022.
- Have an exchange of views and share comments on the draft Report on Emerging Terrorist Threats, as finalised by the CDCT-ETT which will be submitted to the CDCT Plenary in May 2022 for final approval.
- Propose to the CDCT Plenary that an additional promotional event be organised to raise the visibility of the report, and that the CDCT-ETT be made a permanent working group of the CDCT to update or review the report accordingly.
- Thank Ms VIȘOIU for her chairmanship of the Working Group and for the successful drafting and finalisation of the Report.

7. Compilation of Best Practices with regards to Deradicalisation, Disengagement and Social Reintegration (Activity 3.1 of the Strategy)

- Take note of the information provided by Mr Mario JANEČEK, Chair of the Working group on the collection of best practices with regards to deradicalization, disengagement and social reintegration (CDCT-DDR), on the outcomes of the 2nd meeting of CDCT-DDR, which was held online on 9-10 March 2022.
- Examine the document presenting the draft Methodology and Outline of the Compilation, prepared by the two consultants and revised following discussion held during the 2nd meeting, and to submit this document to the CDCT Plenary for approval.
- Support the decision taken by members of CDCT-DDR during this meeting, i.e. to submit the CDCT Plenary a proposal to rename the final document, replacing Compilation of “Best Practices” with “Good Practices”.
- Take note that the next meeting of CDCT-DDR, where the objective will be to examine and finalise an advanced draft version of the Compilation as prepared by the consultants based on the agreed revised Methodology and Outline, is tentatively scheduled for early September 2022.

8. Financing of Terrorism

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the developments regarding the production of an opinion on the need to update the current Council of Europe financing of terrorism standards done jointly by MONEYVAL, Consultation of the Parties to Convention No. 198, and the CDCT.

- Request the Plenary to nominate a new expert to represent the views of the CDCT in the MONEYVAL-CDCT-COP198 Joint Expert Group in view of the removal of the current member by virtue of the decision of the Committee of Ministers concerning participation of the Russian Federation in the Council of Europe.

9. Bioterrorism

- Have an exchange of views on the detailed Report on the replies to the Questionnaire on Bioterrorism, and discuss the potential courses of action mentioned in this document as well as the links between bioterrorism and broader CBRN issues in relation to the next Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- Instruct the Secretariat to revise the document following the discussion and decision taken by the Bureau, notably on the fact that additional expertise may be required to support further action in this area.
- Propose that the CDCT Plenary hold a one-day (or half-day) thematic session on bioterrorism in the context of its next meeting in November 2022.

10. Definition of Terrorism

- Put the item on the agenda of the next CDCT Plenary in accordance with an earlier decision to hold discussions on this item once the sanitary situation allows for an in-person meeting.

11. Countering Terrorist Communications, Recruitment and Training (Activities 1.1, 1.2, and 2.2 of the Strategy)

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the implementation of Activities 1.1, 1.2, and 2.2 of the Strategy.
- Endorse the concept note prepared by the Secretariat on the organisation of an International Conference on “Countering Terrorist Communications, Recruitment and Training”, tentatively scheduled to take place in December 2022.

12. Network of Contact Points for the exchange of information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism (Activity 3.3 of the Strategy)

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the Network of Single Contact Points for the exchange of procedural information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism, namely that the Network will hold its fourth meeting on 5 May 2022 in-person in Strasbourg.
- Strongly call upon all CDCT members who have not yet done so to nominate a Single Contact Point for this Network as soon as possible and to invite the Secretariat to send a reminder in this regard prior to the next CDCT Plenary meeting in May 2022.

13. 24/7 Network of Contact Points on Foreign Terrorist Fighters

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat that this activity had been postponed due to the sanitary situation and that an in-person meeting will now be reconvened as soon as possible this year.

14. Elections

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the current situation regarding elections to the CDCT, namely that 2 positions on the Bureau are currently vacant.

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- Discuss the filling out of the remaining vacancies in the Bureau, in view of the elections which will be held during the next Plenary meeting in May 2022.

15. Any other business

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the assessment of the implementation of Article 2 of the Additional Protocol (CETS No. 217) to the Convention within the framework of the Consultation of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS 196) and its Additional Protocol (CETS 217).

16. Preparation of the 8th Plenary Meeting of the CDCT

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the organisation of the 8th CDCT Plenary.
- Hold the Plenary meeting for two and a half days between 23-25 May 2022, beginning the morning of the 23rd and ending mid-day on the 25th of May.

17. Adoption of the Abridged Report and List of Decisions

- Examine and adopt the Abridged Report and List of Decisions taken.