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**Crime prevention and criminal justice**

**International drug control**

**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**

**Note verbale dated 12 August 2005 from the Permanent Mission of  
Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

The Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the recommendations adopted by the national workshop regarding the legal instruments to fight terrorism, which was held in Cairo on 21 and 22 December 2004 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Egypt would be grateful if the Secretary-General could bring the recommendations of the workshop to the attention of the General Assembly, under agenda items 96, 97 and 148, and of the Security Council.

**Annex to the note verbale dated 12 August 2005 from the  
Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary-General**

[Original: French]

**National Workshop on Legal Instruments to Combat Terrorism**

**Cairo, 21 and 22 December 2004**

**Recommendations**

22 December 2004

We, the participants in the National Workshop on Legal Instruments to Combat Terrorism, held in Cairo on 21 and 22 December 2004 in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);

*Welcoming* the close cooperation between the Egyptian law enforcement authorities and UNODC, in their pursuit of the shared goal of strengthening political and social stability and national and international security in the face of the growing menace of international terrorism, which constitutes a serious threat to peace, security, the stability of democratic Governments and the peaceful enjoyment of human rights;

*Recalling* the resolutions of the Security Council on the threats to international peace and security resulting from terrorism, particularly resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004) and 1566 (2004), which reaffirm the urgent need to combat, by all means and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

*Reaffirming* that all measures taken in combating terrorism must be in accordance with international law, particularly that relating to human rights and the rights of refugees, humanitarian international law and the rules of legality in criminal procedure;

*Repeating* the terms of Security Council resolution 1566 (2004) on the need to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, in an effort to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures, and to continue efforts to address unresolved regional conflicts the continuance of which adds to the feeling of frustration which generates reactions of hatred among peoples;

*Reaffirming* that terrorism must not be combated solely through security measures, but that these must be accompanied by cultural and media-based preventive measures, aimed at eradicating extremism and hatred in order to establish a culture of dialogue, emphasizing the role that can be played by religious and educational institutions and the media in consolidating cultural security in society;

*Convinced* that the United Nations plays an essential part in combating terrorism and building international consensus to that end, and *expressing appreciation* for the technical assistance provided by UNODC in order to promote national legislation and bring it into line with international counter-terrorism agreements, and the technical training of specialists in the necessary international

cooperation with the aim of effectively combating acts of terrorism in accordance with standards of international legality;

*Recalling* the report of the Chairman of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 1 December 2004, which declared that terrorism attacks the values that lie at the heart of the Charter of the United Nations: respect for human rights; the rule of law; rules of war that protect civilians; tolerance among peoples and nations, and the peaceful resolution of conflict. Terrorism flourishes in environments of despair, humiliation, poverty, political oppression, extremism and human rights abuse; it also flourishes in contexts of regional conflict, and it profits from weak State capacity to maintain law and order.

*Reiterating* the proposals, contained in the aforementioned report, which called for the establishment of a global strategy which would incorporate but be broader than coercive measures. The United Nations, with the Secretary-General taking a leading role, should promote such a comprehensive strategy, which would include:

(a) Dissuasion, working to reverse the causes or facilitators of terrorism, including through promoting social and political rights, the rule of law and democratic reform; working to end occupations and address major political grievances; combating organized crime; reducing poverty and unemployment; and stopping State collapse;

(b) Efforts to counter extremism and intolerance, including through education and fostering public debate;

(c) Development of better instruments for global counter-terrorism cooperation, all within a legal framework that is respectful of civil liberties and human rights;

(d) Building State capacity to prevent terrorist recruitment and operations;

(e) Control of dangerous materials and public health defence.

*Noting* the proposal for the holding of an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations, to create a consensus on the fight against terrorism, particularly the definition of terrorism, and to consider possible means to eradicate it effectively.

*We adopt* the following text:

*We condemn* terrorism in all its forms, methods and manifestations, refusing to consider it as a political offence; we encourage efforts to put an end to acts of terrorism at all levels, bilateral, regional and international; we undertake to ensure that those who commit such acts are brought to justice, and support the efforts of all States Parties to prevent the use of their territory by terrorist organizations in order to recruit agents or to acquire arms or financing;

*We refuse* to allow the 1981 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees to be used as the basis for protecting those who commit acts of terrorism, and we support the taking of all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national legislation, before granting refugee status;

*We urge* States to cooperate and coordinate efforts, in the consideration of requests for the extradition of terrorist elements, according to the seriousness of the

acts of which they are accused, and to prevent terrorists from enjoying impunity, by applying the “aut dedere, aut judicare” rule as appropriate;

We *condemn* the deviations whereby terrorist acts are used in order to discredit religions and their followers;

We *welcome* the ratification by Egypt of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its first Additional Protocol and *commend* the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as efforts towards the ratification of international counter-terrorism conventions, and the establishment of an appropriate legislative, judicial and security arsenal with a view to implementing the provisions of those international agreements;

We *attach* particular importance to the promotion of legislation in the field of international judicial cooperation, we are pursuing our efforts towards legislative modernization in accordance with developments on the international scene, and we will work for the implementation of counter-terrorist instruments ratified by Egypt, in accordance with the guide published on that subject by UNODC;

*Noting* the draft guide for the incorporation into law and the implementation of global counter-terrorist agreements published by UNODC, and *calling for* its wider distribution in its final form, we *request* the creation and dissemination of a training manual on international cooperation on counter-terrorism, for professionals of criminal justice systems;

We *attach* particular interest to disseminating the values of a “culture of dialogue” and the rejection of extremism through appropriate media content and educational programmes in schools and religious establishments;

We *welcome* the contribution of the National Commission for International Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism to national and international efforts to combat terrorism, and we are working towards its development by providing the necessary means to respond to growing needs in combating terrorism, such as the creation of auxiliary bodies and a documentation centre for legal, political and strategic counter-terrorism references;

We are *promoting* the holding of joint meetings involving national mechanisms for international cooperation on counter-terrorism in order to strengthen their potential and coordinate their activities in achieving strategic goals at all levels in the fight against terrorism;

We *call for* the establishment of a regional training centre within the UNODC Regional Office to promote training in criminal justice systems, to combat organized crime and related criminal activities such as terrorism and corruption;

We *support* the Plan of Action of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa;

We *advocate* bilateral, regional and international modalities of cooperation in combating terrorism, the conclusion of conventions and the creation of appropriate mechanisms to that end, the intensification of dialogue and the sharing of experience and information at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels, through meetings and specialized seminars, in order to strengthen channels of cooperation between the authorities concerned;

We *support* the measures taken to eradicate all forms of financing of terrorism, including the freezing of assets and goods used in terrorist activities, the monitoring of flows of such assets, and their seizure and confiscation in accordance with legal rules created for that purpose;

We *fully support* the victims of terrorism, as well as the international efforts to provide them with material and social assistance.

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