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Letter dated 27 December 2001 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached report from the Russian Federation, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Counter-Terrorism Committee

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Annex

Letter dated 27 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

[Original: Russian]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Russian Federation submitted in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**

Enclosure

Report by the Russian Federation to the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

Introduction

The Russian Federation actively supports the efforts to combat terrorism being made by the international community, in which the United Nations and its Security Council are playing a central coordinating role. Since it considers international terrorism to be one of the main dangers threatening humanity, the Russian Federation favours united efforts by all States to combat this universal evil.

Moscow welcomed Security Council resolution 1373 of 28 September 2001, pursuant to which the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee was established and is successfully functioning, as a unique instrument for monitoring the fulfilment by all States of their obligations to counteract international terrorism.

It is urgently necessary to reinforce the international legal basis for effective counter-terrorist cooperation among States. A top priority is to ensure the universality of all 12 global conventions on this subject. In addition, Russia hopes that agreement can be reached as soon as possible on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism.

The success of the war on terrorism declared by the international community depends on the adoption of a whole series of complex decisions, including the rejection of double standards. The war on terrorism must be waged equally strongly and consistently in all regions of the world.

The war on terrorism must not be considered as a clash of civilizations. As a State comprising many nationalities and faiths, Russia is convinced that it is completely inadmissible to equate terrorism with any nationality, religion or culture. The war on terrorism must unite all members of the international community and become the catalyst for the creation under United Nations auspices of a global system, based on the principles of the United Nations Charter and the underlying norms of international law, to deal with the new challenges and threats.

The financing of terrorism is its Achilles heel. A crushing blow will be dealt to the whole infrastructure of terrorism if the funds sustaining it can be cut off decisively.

One priority is to deprive terrorism of its social underpinning. This requires increased efforts to eliminate poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and discrimination on racial, ethnic, religious and other grounds. Today it is more urgent than ever to ensure the steady development of all regions of the world and to focus on the social aspects of the globalization process.

Conflicts are the breeding ground of terrorism. In this connection, Russia has proposed the formulation under United Nations auspices of a comprehensive strategy for the elimination of external financing of armed conflicts. We are ready to pursue cooperation with all interested States to implement this initiative.

Efforts must be made to promote active rejection of terrorism in the world. A vital contribution to this work must be made not only by States but also by civil society, including non-governmental organizations. Russia has made a timely proposal for the convening under United Nations auspices of a universal forum to discuss the role of civil society, and particularly of the mass media, in the war on terrorism.

As a champion of the cause of the eradication of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the Russian Federation is fulfilling its obligations under Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and submitting its national report on the measures taken to meet the requirements of that resolution. The report has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

1 (a) What measures if any have been taken to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts in addition to those listed in response to questions on 1 (b) to (d)?

In pursuance of Federal Act No. 115 of 7 August 2001 "On the prevention of the legalization of funds obtained by criminal means (money-laundering)", on 1 November 2001 the President of the Russian Federation signed Decree No. 1263 "On the organ empowered to prevent the legalization of funds obtained by criminal means (money-laundering)", which provides for the creation of the Committee of the Russian Federation for Financial Monitoring, responsible to the Russian Ministry of Finance. Work is being done to devise an effective mechanism for identifying and freezing sources of terrorism financing.

An interdepartmental working group on measures to prevent the financing of terrorism has been set up in the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation. It is composed of representatives of the Federal Security Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Federal Service of Tax Police, the Foreign Intelligence Service, the Bank of Russia and the Procurator-General of the Russian Federation. During the period when the Committee of the Russian Federation on Financial Monitoring was being set up and starting its actual work, the following questions were referred to this working group:

– Interaction with overseas partners in the suppression of financing of terrorism;

– Coordination of the activities of law enforcement agencies and oversight organizations;

– Interaction with the Federal Counter-Terrorist Commission.

In December 2001, the State Duma of the Russian Federation adopted Federal Act No. 95528-3 "On the introduction of amendments and additions to legislation of the Russian Federation", which provided for the introduction of a number of additions to the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation, establishing increased liability for creation of terrorist organizations, management of such organizations, recruitment to terrorist groups, supply of weapons and training of persons to commit crimes of a terrorist nature, as well as financing of terrorist organizations.

Under this Act, the mere fact of collecting funds for the commission of terrorist crimes is sufficient grounds for establishment of criminal liability. The Act also provides for additions to the Code of Criminal Procedure, designed to ensure

the safety of judges and witnesses participating in criminal trials for "terrorist" activities.

The Bank of Russia is working actively to implement Federal Act No. 115 of 7 August 2001 "On the prevention of the legalization of funds obtained by criminal means (money-laundering)". It has adopted a series of normative and other texts concerning inter alia:

– Recommendations to the effect that credit institutions should formulate rules of internal control in accordance with the Federal Act, including record-keeping, data confidentiality guarantees, skills training for supervisors and criteria for exposing and identifying unusual transactions;

– Procedure for credit institutions to provide the responsible organ with information on operations that involve money or other assets and are subject to compulsory monitoring in accordance with the Federal Act and on other operations that involve money or other assets connected with money-laundering;

– Procedure for the Bank of Russia to verify implementation of the Federal Act by credit institutions as regards record-keeping and preservation and provision of information on operations subject to compulsory monitoring and to verify the existence of internal controls in credit institutions designed to prevent the legalization of funds obtained by criminal means (money-laundering).

As immediate action to prevent the financing of terrorism, in October 2001 the Bank of Russia notified the Russian banking system of the measures adopted by the United States to prevent the financing of terrorism and brought to the attention of credit institutions the list published by the United States of organizations and persons suspected of being involved in the financing of terrorism.

Since the lifeblood of terrorist and extremist organizations is the illegal arms and drug trade, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Federal Border Service and the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation are taking practical measures in these areas. In particular, in 2000-2001, law enforcement services of the Russian Federation foiled 296 attempts to smuggle weapons, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices. In the course of these operations, they seized over 31 million pieces of ammunition, 97 fire-arms, about 9,000 explosives and 11 explosive devices. They uncovered instances of smuggling of over 14 tons of narcotics, including almost 3 tons of heroin; over 300 tons of precursors were seized from illicit traffic.

At the outset of the counter-terrorist operation in Afghanistan, the Federal Border Service sent additional staff to close down the main drug trafficking route in the Tajik-Afghan part of the border. During the first 11 months of 2001, units of the Federal Border Service on the Tajik-Afghan border seized over 5 tons of narcotics, including 2.4 tons of heroin.

1 (b) What are the offences and penalties in your country with respect to the activities listed in this subparagraph?

Under article 3 of the Federal Act of 25 July 1998 "On measures to combat terrorism", the wilful financing or provision of other assistance to a terrorist organization or terrorist group is considered equivalent to terrorist activity. Persons

guilty of providing or collecting funds for the commission of terrorist acts bear criminal liability for the crimes committed by the terrorists, as accessories to such offences, in the manner specified in articles 32 to 34 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. In accordance with section 5 of article 33 of the Criminal Code, they are considered as accomplices and are responsible for the commission of specific offences under the same article in the special section of the Criminal Code as the perpetrator of the terrorist act. The extent of their liability is determined by the nature and extent of the actual participation by each person in the commission of the offence (section 1 of article 34 of the Criminal Code).

The need to increase the criminal liability of persons guilty of collecting funds for the commission of terrorist acts led to the drafting of the legislation mentioned in the answer under subparagraph 1 (a). According to this draft, the mere fact of collecting funds for the commission of such offences is sufficient grounds for establishing criminal liability.

1 (c) What legislation and procedures exist for freezing accounts and assets at banks and financial institutions?

The procedure for the attachment of physical persons' property, including monetary deposits, following the commission of offences is described in article 175 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, which is in force in the Russian Federation. Property may be attached in the case of persons accused or suspected of committing offences, persons who under the law bear material responsibility for their actions and other persons possessing property acquired by criminal means. The purpose of attachment is to allow the introduction of a civil suit or forfeiture of the property.

The situation as regards forfeiture of the property of organizations connected with terrorism is much more complicated. Article 25 of the Federal Act "On measures to combat terrorism" provides for the possibility of a court decision recognizing that an organization is a terrorist organization and ordering its liquidation. In this case, the organization's property is liable to be forfeited and returned to the State. Article 27 of the Federal Act of 3 February 1996 "On banks and banking activity" establishes the procedure for attachment of juridical persons' monetary assets on account with, deposited with or in the safekeeping of credit institutions.

At this time, Russian ministries and departments are actively engaged in drafting legislation whereby organizations could be more promptly held liable for supporting terrorist activity.

1 (d) What measures exist to prohibit the activities listed in this subparagraph?

In the Russian Federation, a general prohibition on the provision to physical or juridical persons of funds for the commission of terrorist acts exists in the form of the establishment of criminal liability of physical persons for participation in offences of a terrorist nature (Criminal Code of the Russian Federation) and the liquidation of organizations supporting terrorism (Federal Act "On measures to combat terrorism"). However, the person concerned must be aware that he is providing the funds specifically for terrorist purposes; otherwise the establishment of any kind of liability would be contrary to the Russian Federation's international obligations in the matter of the protection of human rights (see, for example, article

11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 6 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms) and to the principle of the presumption of innocence enshrined in article 49 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

In order to block channels for the financing of the activities of illegal armed units, in 2000-2001 the law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation identified over 150 commercial entities engaged in foreign trade activities controlled by organized criminal groupings. In cooperation with the relevant services of other countries, foreign informers were placed in these criminal groupings. The information on their activities is used by Russian law enforcement agencies to halt their illegal activity and take the necessary measures to that end.

2 (a) What legislation or other measures are in place to give effect to this subparagraph? In particular, what offences in your country prohibit (i) recruitment to terrorist groups and (ii) the supply of weapons to terrorists? What other measures help prevent such activities?

Partial answers to these questions are given in the comment under 1 (a).

It should also be noted that at this time recruitment to terrorist groups and the supply of weapons to terrorists by physical persons are considered as complicity in the offences committed by the terrorists. Persons who recruit terrorists may be held criminally liable under articles 209 on "Banditry" and 210 on "Organization of criminal society" (criminal organization) of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. Persons who supply weapons to terrorists are liable under article 222 of the Criminal Code on "Illegal acquisition, transfer, sale, storage, transport or carrying of weapons, basic parts thereof, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices". Organizations engaged in similar activities are liable to liquidation, in accordance with article 25 of the Federal Act "On measures to combat terrorism".

In pursuance of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), draft Federal Act No. 52289-3 has been submitted to the State Duma of the Russian Federation on the introduction of amendments and additions to the Federal Act "On measures to combat terrorism", concerning the issues of exchange of intelligence information, compensation for damage caused by terrorist acts and additional measures to combat illegal trade in weapons, explosives and ammunition.

2 (b) What other steps are being taken to prevent the commission of terrorist acts and, in particular, what early warning mechanisms exist to allow exchange of information with other States?

At present, the Russian Federal Security Service has official contacts with over 80 law enforcement agencies and special services of other States. In practice, an important component of this cooperation is mutual assistance in the context of the war on international terrorism.

In 2001, practical mutual assistance involving foreign partners took an important new form: cooperation in surveillance of the financial activities of terrorist units (primarily the Chechen "irreconcilables"), identification of various banking structures, non-governmental organizations and the funds subsidizing them. Arrangements have been made to implement joint operational measures with certain

special services in order to identify firms sponsoring Chechen terrorists, channels for the supply of weapons, mercenaries and fighter training camps.

In order to provide early warning of terrorism, intelligence surveillance has been set up of the activities of extremist organizations in Russia and in the member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), in conjunction with the law enforcement agencies of those countries. At present, for example, six international religious organizations with extremist leanings are under close scrutiny by the Russian authorities. The authorities of Azerbaijan, in cooperation with Russian law enforcement agencies, recently shut down a centre providing financing to religious extremists and identified 27 members of organizations actively participating in the fighting in Dagestan, nine of whom have been detained.

In the course of counter-terrorist operations in the Northern Caucasus Region, preventive measures are being taken to ensure the safety of the population and the local organs of authority; they have foiled attempts to provide financial, material and technical support, weapons and ammunition to illegal armed units for the commission of terrorist acts both in the territory of the Russian Federation and beyond its borders.

In order to enhance the effectiveness of international and interdepartmental cooperation, including early warning mechanisms for the exchange of information in the war on terrorism, the Council of Heads of Customs Services of the CIS countries has, at the initiative of the Russian Federation, established a special regional liaison centre for CIS with the World Trade Organization (Moscow RILO).

2 (c) What legislation or procedures exist for denying safe haven to terrorists, such as laws for excluding or expelling the types of individuals referred to in this subparagraph?

The Federal Act "On procedures for leaving and entering the Russian Federation" establishes that aliens and stateless persons are denied entry into the Russian Federation if this is necessary for reasons of national security and if during any previous stay in the country they were sentenced under Russian legislation for the commission of serious or particularly serious offences, which include terrorism.

In accordance with articles 2 and 5 of the Federal Act of 28 July 1996 "On refugees", terrorists cannot be recognized as refugees.

According to paragraph 5 of the Statute on the procedure for granting of political asylum by the Russian Federation, confirmed by Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 21 July 1997, political asylum in the territory of the Russian Federation is not granted to a person prosecuted for actions or omissions categorized as offences in the Russian Federation or a person guilty of committing actions contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. Thus it is impossible under Russian legislation for asylum to be granted to terrorists or their accomplices.

As part of the joint war on terrorism and organized crime in CIS, in the course of operations conducted since the beginning of 2001, 2,013 criminals were identified for purposes of extradition in CIS countries and 1,443 persons were extradited. During the same period, agencies of the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the CIS countries and the Baltic States identified 236 criminals for extradition in the Russian Federation and 109 of them were extradited. In 2001, the Ministry of Internal

Affairs of the Russian Federation transmitted to the relevant Ministries of the CIS member countries 75 documents concerning anti-terrorist activity.

2 (d) What legislation or procedures exist to prevent terrorists from acting from your territory against other States or citizens?

See comments under paragraphs 1 (b) and 2 (a).

2 (e) What steps have been taken to establish terrorist acts as serious criminal offences and to ensure that the punishment reflects the seriousness of such terrorist acts?

Under article 15 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation, serious criminal offences are premeditated actions for which the maximum punishment does not exceed 10 years' imprisonment and particularly serious premeditated actions for which the maximum punishment is over ten years' imprisonment or a more severe punishment. Article 205 of the Criminal Code states that the punishment for "terrorism" is imprisonment for a period of from 5 to 10 years, for a period of from 8 to 15 years in cases with aggravating circumstances and for a period of from 10 to 20 years in cases with especially aggravating circumstances.

Terrorist acts are thus serious or especially serious offences, a fact which has special significance in determining the maximum punishment for repeat offenders (articles 18 and 68 of the Criminal Code).

See also the comments under paragraph 3 (a).

2 (f) What procedures and mechanisms are in place to assist other States? Please provide any available details of how these have been used in practice.

Existing Russian legislation allows the attachment, at the request of foreign partners, of property and funds of physical and juridical persons only on the basis of properly submitted requests for the provision of judicial assistance in criminal cases under investigation by them.

In order to expedite the processing of such requests in cases involving offences of a terrorist nature, agreements have been reached with the representatives of certain countries for coordinators from the two parties to be appointed to deal with issues of mutual assistance in this area.

The Procurator-General has been given responsibility for coordinating the response of the Russian Federation's law enforcement agencies to requests for judicial assistance in criminal cases concerning offences of a terrorist nature.

In October and November 2001, following a request from the competent United States agencies, the law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation conducted a search in Russian territory for the funds and assets of a number of representatives of terrorist organizations and juridical persons connected with them.

See also the comments under paragraph 3 (c) and the section entitled "Additional information".

2 (g) How do border controls in your country prevent the movement of terrorists? How do your procedures for the issuance of identity papers and travel documents support this?

In accordance with paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) specifying that terrorists and terrorist groups should not be allowed to move freely in its territory, the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation has established effective border control in the case of persons who have been properly denied entry into the country.

` The Federal Border Service receives its instructions from the law enforcement agencies conducting intelligence investigations of persons who have been prohibited from entering and leaving the Russian Federation in the manner established by the laws of the Federation.

Screening operations are conducted in the case of persons allegedly involved in the activities of terrorist groups.

Certain aliens and stateless persons are questioned to determine whether the purpose of their travel in the Russian Federation corresponds to the purpose which they stated when they obtained Russian visas at consular missions abroad of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Thus, during the period from September to December 2001, the border control agencies of the Russian Federation identified 32,292 persons (including 27,078 aliens) without proper papers or with incorrectly issued papers authorizing them to cross the State border.

3 (a) What steps have been taken to intensify and accelerate the exchange of operational information in the areas indicated in this subparagraph?

In order to prevent the commission of terrorist acts, the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation has instituted a regular exchange of information with neighbouring States under bilateral and multilateral agreements on mutual assistance in the protection of State borders.

With a view to intensifying and accelerating the exchange of information, a second meeting was held in Moscow and Saint Petersburg of heads of border agencies of Canada, the Republic of Korea, the United States, Japan and the Russian Federation, at which specific areas were identified for mutual assistance in agreed areas of cooperation.

The outcome of the meeting was a decision to establish national border coordinating centres in each of the countries to provide liaison at the bilateral and multilateral levels. In connection with the creation of an information system, the participants in the meeting identified channels for the exchange of information and methods to ensure its confidentiality. It was decided, as an experiment, to have a bilateral exchange of information between the north-east regional office of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and the 17th United States Coast Guard District.

3 (b) What steps have been taken to exchange information and cooperate in the areas indicated in this subparagraph?

The Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation has organized with the military of the States participating in the anti-terrorist coalition regular exchanges of information on the activities of armed terrorist groupings. Regular exchanges of information with partners in the anti-terrorist coalition are also organized by other Russian ministries and departments, particularly in the context of the special services.

In order to intensify and accelerate exchanges of operational information, as envisaged in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), it would be desirable to create an international database of persons and structures providing financial support to terrorism and methods by which such support is provided. It would also be important to organize regular exchanges of information on sources and channels for the smuggling to and from countries of currency, highly dangerous nuclear materials, chemical and biological substances, weapons and drugs, as well as customs offences and other offences in off-shore zones. Cross-checking of export-import contracts and of circuits to prevent currency embezzlement and concealment of currency in foreign banks could also be an effective way of detecting and prosecuting offences. This would also be facilitated by the creation of a mechanism for the exchange of information between the customs authorities of the Russian Federation and the corresponding authorities in other countries concerning all types of banking operations for criminal cases being tried and investigations being conducted.

See also comments under paragraph 3 (a).

3 (c) What steps have been taken to cooperate in the areas indicated in this subparagraph?

The answer to this question is given in the comments under paragraphs 3 (a) and (b).

In addition, it was decided at the Yerevan session of the Council on Collective Security (25 May 2001) to set up by 1 August 2001 collective rapid-deployment forces under the Treaty on Collective Security in the Central Asian region, to include units and subdivisions of the armed forces of four CIS States (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and the Russian Federation). The forces' task is to provide military security for the States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security in the Central Asian region; this includes averting external military aggression and conducting joint anti-terrorist operations.

Moreover, as part of the specific measures (in view of the anti-terrorist operation "Enduring Freedom") adopted in accordance with the decision of the President of the Russian Federation and the decrees of the Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation of 23 September 2001, an interdepartmental system of control and mutual assistance was set up in the form of a Coordination Group headed by the Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation. An Operational Headquarters headed by the chief of the Main Intelligence Unit of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation is a working body of the Coordination Group and an Intelligence Unit is outposted to Dushanbe.

Mutual assistance to combat terrorism is being actively promoted within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. For example, on 15 July 2001 the leaders of the six member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization signed the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism. Work is continuing on the drafting of constituent instruments for the regional anti-terrorist structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

3 (d) and (e) What are your intentions regarding signing and/or ratifying the conventions and protocols referred to in this subparagraph? Provide any relevant information on the implementation of the conventions, protocols and resolutions referred to in this subparagraph.

The Russian Federation is a party to 10 of the 12 global anti-terrorist conventions. An advanced stage has been reached in preparations for ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999) and the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (1990), which have been signed by the Russian Federation.

In order to promote enforcement of Security Council resolutions 1267 of 15 October 1999 and 1333 of 19 December 2000, the President of the Russian Federation signed Decrees on measures to implement those resolutions, providing inter alia for the immediate freezing of the funds and other financial assets of terrorist groups and physical persons connected with the activities of the Taliban movement and the al-Qa`idah organization.

3 (f) What legislation, procedures and mechanisms are in place for ensuring asylum-seekers have not been involved in terrorist activity before granting refugee status?

See comments under paragraph 3 (g).

3 (g) What procedures are in place to prevent the abuse of refugee status by terrorists? Please provide details of legislation and/or administrative procedures which prevent claims of political motivation being recognized as grounds for refusing requests for the extradition of alleged terrorists.

These paragraphs of the resolution are implemented by the procedures for recognizing that persons are refugees or need to be granted political asylum that are established in the Federal Act “On refugees” and in the Statute on the procedure for granting political asylum. The concept of “political crime” does not exist in the Russian Federation. In addition, reference may not be made to political motives for the commission of the actions (which include terrorism) classified as crimes under Russian legislation and the international treaties to which the Russian Federation is a party, even in connection with the extradition of persons accused of committing or being involved in terrorist acts.

* * *

Additional information

1. In accordance with paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which notes the close connection between international terrorism and transnational crime, and in view of the need to improve the coordination of efforts in this

connection at the national level, a Federal Anti-Terrorist Commission has been established headed by the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation and consisting of the heads of the relevant departments. Similar commissions are being established in the various parts of the Russian Federation.

2. In order to meet more fully the requirements of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the Russian Federation is engaged in active multilateral and bilateral cooperation to combat terrorism by means of:

– Bilateral intergovernmental agreements on air traffic, containing special articles on aviation safety;

– Universal and regional treaties on crime prevention, containing provisions on measures to combat terrorism, in particular the 1998 Agreement between the Governments of member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation on cooperation in combating crime, particularly organized forms thereof, and the 1998 Treaty on Cooperation among the States Members of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Combating Terrorism;

– Bilateral intergovernmental treaties on cooperation in combating crime (concluded with Belgium, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan). In 1996, the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on cooperation in matters of criminal law entered into force;

– Bilateral interdepartmental agreements on cooperation with competent departments in other countries (concluded with CIS countries and with Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Vietnam, etc.);

– Inter-State treaties on extradition and judicial assistance in criminal cases (the Russian Federation is currently party to three multilateral conventions concluded under the auspices of the Council of Europe and CIS and 33 bilateral treaties on extradition and judicial assistance in criminal cases);

– Other international agreements (for example, the Memorandum of Understanding of 11 March 2000 between the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia, Georgia and the Russian Federation (the “Borzhomi Four”) on measures to combat terrorism and other manifestations of extremism, the Memoranda of Understanding between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Georgia concerning measures to combat terrorism);

– The Programme of the States Members of CIS for Combating International Terrorism and Other Manifestations of Extremism to the Year 2003 and the Inter-State Programme of Concerted Measures to Combat Crime for the Period 2000-2003.