Letter dated 19 March 2021 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, I attach herewith the respective work programmes of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (see annex) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (see enclosure) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021.


The Committee, with the assistance of its Executive Directorate, will: (a) remain focused on monitoring, promoting and facilitating the implementation by Member States of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017), 2462 (2019) and 2482 (2019) and other relevant Security Council resolutions; (b) continue to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance to States; (c) continue to identify and assess emerging terrorism issues, trends and developments through its engagement with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, civil society, the private sector, academia and think tanks, including the member entities of the Global Counter-Terrorism Research Network; (d) continue to cooperate with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other subsidiary bodies of the Council; (e) continue to promote respect for human rights and the integration of the gender perspective in the context of counter-terrorism; and (f) continue to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The Committee continues to welcome the support that it receives from Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, and continues to appreciate the assistance of its Executive Directorate.

The Committee would be grateful if the present letter, together with its annex and enclosure, could be brought to the attention of the members of the Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Tarek Ladeb
Chair
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism
Annex

Work programme of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism for 2021

I. Introduction

1. The overarching objective of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism is to ensure the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee is further directed to address in its dialogue with Member States their efforts to implement Council resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014). The Committee is also requested or encouraged to take up additional work under other subsequent relevant Council resolutions and presidential statements.


II. Work programme

3. The Committee will continue to pursue a strategic and transparent approach to its work, taking into account the interim review of the mandate of the Executive Directorate. Bearing in mind the global impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, with the support of its Executive Directorate and the Secretariat, the Committee will also continue to streamline its working methods, as appropriate, in order to achieve the priority objectives set forth below.

4. In accordance with Council resolution 2395 (2017), the Committee will assist the Council in conducting the review of the mandate of the Executive Directorate by 31 December 2021. Prior to the expiration of the Executive Directorate’s mandate, the Committee will submit to the Council a report on the Executive Directorate’s work for consideration by the Council in this context.


7. The Committee will also continue to identify the challenges and needs of each Member State and region, facilitate the delivery of targeted technical assistance, promote good practices and conduct assessment visits in accordance with the updated framework document for Counter-Terrorism Committee visits to Member States aimed at monitoring, promoting and facilitating the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017), 2462 (2019) and 2482 (2019) and other relevant Council resolutions (S/2020/731, annex) as well as its procedure on conducting hybrid visits to some Member States pro tempore. In this regard, the Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will determine on an annual basis a list of Member States from which the Executive Directorate should request consent to conduct an assessment visit, taking a risk-based approach that acknowledges existing gaps, emerging issues, trends, events and analysis, while also taking into account prior requests by Member States and consent previously expressed, as well as the fact that a number of Member States have never been visited. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, may decide, after the adoption of the list, on changes to its composition, as necessary, emphasizing transparency in planning for visits and producing the ensuing reports.

8. The Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate on its work to strengthen the assessment process, including by considering targeted and focused follow-up visits as complements to the Executive Directorate’s comprehensive assessments, using, as appropriate and bearing in mind the Executive Directorate’s global mandate, a risk-based approach in response to evolving threats, shortening, insofar as possible, timelines for the drafting and review of reports, bearing in mind differences in Member State capacity, enhancing the fair and consistent application of assessment tools and, at the behest of assessed Member States, engaging with counter-terrorism experts in civil society, academia, think tanks and the private sector, including on visits to and assessments of Member States, as a complement to primary engagement with Member State actors to allow them to highlight productive counter-terrorism efforts, so that assessments are more useful, accessible and targeted to specific audiences.

9. The Chair of the Committee will invite senior officials from assessed Member States to attend relevant Committee meetings and will invite assessed Member States to coordinate with the Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism on the implementation of the Executive Directorate’s recommendations.

10. The Committee will, within 12 months of the submission of the initial assessment report to the Committee, consider information provided by the Executive Directorate on steps taken to implement the recommendations of the assessment,
bearing in mind differences in capacity and the availability of resources, as well as the need for technical assistance in the implementation of some recommendations. The Committee will further consider recommendations submitted by the Executive Directorate on the need for additional follow-up activities, as appropriate, to further the implementation of assessment recommendations, including, as appropriate, additional technical assistance.

11. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will arrange activities aimed at raising awareness of the updated “Technical guide to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions” (S/2019/998, annex) with a view to assisting Member States in their implementation of the relevant Council resolutions.

12. The Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate on the implementation of the guiding principles on foreign terrorist fighters (Madrid Guiding Principles) (S/2015/939, annex II) and the addendum thereto (S/2018/1177, annex) in the light of the evolving threat of foreign terrorist fighters, in particular foreign terrorist fighters, returnees, relocators and their families, in accordance with Council resolution 2396 (2017).

13. The Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate on the progress of its work to enhance its survey tools, including the global implementation surveys, the electronic detailed implementation survey and the overview of implementation assessment, in order to: improve their utility to Member States, donors, recipients, the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other United Nations agencies for the purpose of designing technical assistance and capacity-building support, taking into account the new mandates given to the Executive Directorate in the relevant Council resolutions; streamline the number of questions; and consider the most effective use of qualitative and quantitative data.

14. The Committee will report to the Security Council orally, through its Chair, at least once a year on the state of the overall work of the Committee and its Executive Directorate, and, as appropriate, in conjunction with the reports by the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da’esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and taking into account its efforts to strengthen coordination with other United Nations bodies, facilitate the provision of consent by Member States for country visits and reports and improve the implementation of recommendations, and how its assessments and analytical work have contributed towards improvements in the counter-terrorism efforts of Member States. The Council has underscored its intention to hold informal consultations on the work of the Committee at least once a year.

15. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will enhance ongoing cooperation with Security Council counter-terrorism bodies, including the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), as well as their respective groups of experts, including through joint meetings, enhanced information-sharing, coordination on visits to countries, coordination on facilitating and monitoring technical assistance, and other cooperative measures to assist Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under the relevant resolutions.

16. The Committee will, in a timely manner and on a regular basis or when it so requests, consider information provided by the Executive Directorate through its oral and/or written briefings on its work, including its visits to Member States, the status of its coordination with relevant United Nations bodies, its engagement with relevant non-United Nations actors, the conduct of assessments, its representation of the
Committee at different international and regional meetings and other activities, including during planning stages, and conduct an annual review and forecast of activities to facilitate the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant resolutions. In this context, the Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will continue to hold periodic meetings, including with a regional or thematic focus, for all Member States, and underscores the importance of the Executive Directorate’s work to the Committee.\(^1\)

17. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will prepare for and arrange a special meeting to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001) and the establishment of the Committee.

18. The Committee, assisted by the Executive Directorate, will encourage Member States, including during country visits, to consider developing comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies and effective mechanisms to implement them that include attention to the conditions conducive to terrorism, in accordance with their obligations under international law.

19. The Committee, assisted by the Executive Directorate, will also continue to cooperate with Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant partners, upon request, to assess and advise on the development of comprehensive and integrated national and regional counter-terrorism strategies and the mechanisms to implement them, in close cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other relevant United Nations agencies and United Nations field offices, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, as appropriate, through engagement with the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to ensuring the coherence and complementarity of efforts and to avoid any duplication in the effort to further the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions, and to support the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.


21. In accordance with resolution 2396 (2017), the Committee will place special emphasis on the need to counter emerging issues, trends and developments, including the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts and the recruitment of terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters. In accordance with resolutions 2195 (2014) and 2482 (2019), the Committee will also continue to address the nexus between terrorists and transnational organized crime, which has increased in some cases and in some regions.

22. The Committee will continue to work on countering the use of the Internet and social media for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, taking into account Member States’ compliance with applicable obligations.

\(^1\) It is the understanding of the members of the Committee that, during COVID-19 restrictions on in-person meetings at the United Nations, all briefings of the Counter-Terrorism Committee will be conducted by videoconference as informals, whereas all meetings organized by the Committee will be convened upon the easing of such restrictions, subject to further consideration by the Committee, and in line with the practices of the Security Council’s subsidiary bodies, including with respect to possible postponement to 2022.
under international law, and taking note of the need to preserve global connectivity and the free and secure flow of information facilitating economic development, communication, participation and access to information, and stresses the importance of cooperation with civil society and the private sector in this endeavour.

23. The Committee will consider information and proposals provided by the Executive Directorate on its activities to enhance its dialogue and information-sharing with special envoys, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations, including during the planning stages of missions, as appropriate, in relation to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions.

B. Facilitating the delivery of technical assistance to States


25. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will make country assessments, recommendations, surveys and analytical products available throughout the United Nations system, especially to the Office of Counter-Terrorism and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes relevant to counter-terrorism, in order to better align United Nations technical assistance and capacity-building with gaps in implementation and capacity identified by the Executive Directorate, as well as to support the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, except when requested by the assessed Member States to keep selected information confidential. The Committee, through the Executive Directorate, will further enhance the sharing of its findings with Member States and relevant counter-terrorism partners, as appropriate and in consultation with international, regional and subregional organizations, the Global Counterterrorism Forum, academia, think tanks, civil society and the private sector, including through improved web access, outreach, workshops, open briefings and utilization of the Global Counter-Terrorism Research Network, noting the importance of its geographical diversity.

26. The Committee will continue to partner with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) and with its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team on the implementation of relevant Council resolutions.

27. The Committee, assisted by the Executive Directorate and in close cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism, will identify partners and donors that are willing and able to provide technical assistance to Member States, including to priority Member States, to enhance their capacities in implementing the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions.
C. **Identification and assessment of emerging terrorism issues, trends and developments, and engagement with international and regional partners**


31. The Committee will consider a list of events and special meetings on themes and issues of common concern and interest to Member States with a view to maximizing the impact of the resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and sustaining the commitment of the international community to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Committee will consider necessary follow-up activities based on proposals made by the Executive Directorate upon the review of the outcomes of such meetings and events.

32. The Committee, assisted by the Executive Directorate, will continue to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue throughout its activities, including in country-specific assessments and reports, recommendations made to Member States, the facilitation of technical assistance to Member States and briefings to the Security Council. The Committee will further hold consultations, with the support of its Executive Directorate, with women and women’s organizations to inform its work and, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), will conduct and gather gender-sensitive research and collect data on the drivers of radicalization to terrorism for women and
the impact of counter-terrorism strategies on women’s human rights and on women’s organizations.


D. Coordination and cooperation between the Committee, the Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism

34. The Chair of the Committee will invite the Office of Counter-Terrorism, at the most senior level, to brief the Committee twice a year on the Office’s work, especially on progress in incorporating the recommendations and analysis of the Executive Directorate into the implementation of its programmes and mandates. The Chair of the Committee, with the assistance of the Executive Directorate, will conduct follow-up meetings with the Office on coordination with the Executive Directorate and will invite the Office to participate regularly in meetings on relevant issues.

35. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will support the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism by advising its leadership and assisting in the development of counter-terrorism information shared with the Secretary-General and other senior leaders of the United Nations, as well as by supporting and joining the Office’s leadership, as appropriate, in preparations for, participation in and the hosting of workshops and conferences.

36. The Committee will continue to consider progress in the implementation of the joint report of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Executive Directorate (S/2018/435, annex), which sets out practical steps to be taken by both bodies to ensure that the Executive Directorate’s recommendations and analysis are incorporated into the Office’s work, to be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which has been postponed to 2021.

E. Maintaining dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005)

37. The Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate on its ongoing engagement and dialogue with Member States, international and regional organizations and civil society on strategies that include countering the incitement of terrorist acts motivated by violent extremism and intolerance and to facilitate technical assistance for their implementation, as called for in resolution 1624 (2005) and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Committee will also consider information provided by the Executive Directorate, in accordance with resolution 2395 (2017), to support Member States and United Nations entities in adopting measures, pursuant to international law, to address conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and in coordination with and with the support of the Office of Counter-Terrorism. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will also continue to ensure coordination and complementarity with the work being undertaken, including by the Office, to prevent violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and by the Executive Directorate on resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) on countering violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism.
38. The Committee, with the support of the Executive Directorate, will continue to gather information and facilitate international cooperation to implement the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives (S/2017/375, annex). Furthermore, the Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate to identify and compile existing good practices, establish strategic partnerships and propose guidelines and new approaches, subject to the guidance of the Committee, on effectively countering terrorist narratives within an international human rights framework, in accordance with resolution 2354 (2017).

F. Implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

39. The Committee, on the basis of regular briefings and information provided by the Executive Directorate on its participation in activities within the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Task Force, will continue its discussions on issues relating to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 72/284 and information provided by the Executive Directorate on its work as an entity under the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

40. The Committee, with the assistance of the Executive Directorate, will, through its visits, assessments and analytical work on emerging issues, trends and developments, support Member States and United Nations entities in taking measures, pursuant to international law, to address conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in coordination with and with the support of the Office of Counter-Terrorism.

G. Promoting respect for human rights in the context of counter-terrorism

41. The Committee will consider information submitted by the Executive Directorate regarding progress in the further development of activities in the area of promoting respect for human rights in the context of counter-terrorism in order to ensure that all human rights and rule of law issues relevant to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant resolutions, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 2395 (2017), are addressed as an important component of the Executive Directorate’s country visits, assessments and analysis of emerging issues, trends and developments, as well as its facilitation of technical assistance. In this connection, the Committee will consider information provided by the Executive Directorate to conduct human rights analyses of emerging issues, trends and developments relating to counter-terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including the effect of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures on children and children’s rights, as appropriate, especially with regard to issues relating to the families of returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters.

III. Implementing the revised communications strategy

42. The Committee, on the basis of the suggestions of the Executive Directorate, will continue to implement the revised communications strategy aimed at promoting the visibility of the role and activities of the Committee and the Executive Directorate, including ways to maximize the impact of the updated technical guide, the Madrid Guiding Principles and the addendum thereto on stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters, returnees and relocators, the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives, the updated global surveys on the implementation by Member States of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) and the series of reports on the implementation of resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2253.
In this regard, the Committee will pay special attention to: (a) advocacy and communication efforts pertaining to the continued implementation of resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017) on foreign terrorist fighters, returnees and relocators; (b) special meetings and open briefings of the Committee; (c) high-level advocacy visits of the Committee, its Chair and the Executive Director of the Executive Directorate; and (d) efforts to counter violent extremism and incitement to violence, as called for by the Security Council in its resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014).
Enclosure

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate for 2021

I. Introduction

1. The work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021 has been prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism on its revitalization (S/2004/124, annex) and takes into account the work programme of the Committee for the same period.


II. Work programme

3. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in continuing to pursue a strategic and transparent approach to its work, taking into account the interim review of the mandate of the Executive Directorate. Bearing in mind the global impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Executive Directorate will support the Committee in pursuing business continuity. With the support of the Secretariat, it will also continue to streamline its working methods, as appropriate, in order to achieve the priority objectives set forth below.

4. In accordance with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), the Executive Directorate will support the Committee in assisting the Council in conducting the review of the mandate of the Executive Directorate by 31 December 2021. Prior to the expiration of the Executive Directorate’s mandate, the Executive Directorate will submit a report on its work for consideration by the Committee and the Council in this context.


Committee; that the neutral, expert assessment of the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant resolutions is the core function of the Executive Directorate; and that the analysis and recommendations stemming from those assessments are an invaluable aid to Member States in identifying and addressing gaps in implementation and capacity.


7. The Executive Directorate will, in addition, support the Committee in continuing to identify the challenges and needs of each Member State and region, facilitate the delivery of targeted technical assistance, promote good practices and conduct assessment visits in accordance with the updated framework document for Counter-Terrorism Committee visits to Member States aimed at monitoring, promoting and facilitating the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017), 2462 (2019) and 2482 (2019) and other relevant Council resolutions (S/2020/731, annex), as well as its procedure on conducting hybrid visits to some Member States pro tempore. In this regard, the Executive Directorate will support the Committee in determining on an annual basis a list of Member States from which the Executive Directorate should request consent to conduct an assessment, taking a risk-based approach that acknowledges existing gaps, emerging issues, trends, events and analysis, while also taking into account prior requests by Member States and consent previously expressed, as well as the fact that a number of Member States have never been visited. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in deciding, after the adoption of the list, on changes to its composition, as necessary, emphasizing transparency in planning for visits and producing the ensuing reports.

8. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in considering information provided by the Executive Directorate on its work to strengthen the assessment process, including by considering targeted and focused follow-up visits as complements to the Executive Directorate’s comprehensive assessments, using, as appropriate and bearing in mind the Executive Directorate’s global mandate, a risk-based approach in response to evolving threats, shortening, insofar as possible, timelines for the drafting and review of reports, bearing in mind differences in Member State capacity, enhancing the fair and consistent application of assessment tools and, at the behest of assessed Member States, engaging with counter-terrorism experts in civil society, academia, think tanks and the private sector, including on visits to and assessments of Member States, as a complement to primary engagement with Member State actors to allow them to highlight productive counter-terrorism efforts, so that assessments are more useful, accessible and targeted to specific audiences.

9. The Executive Directorate will assist the Chair of the Committee in inviting senior officials from assessed Member States to attend relevant Committee meetings and in inviting assessed Member States to coordinate with the Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism on the implementation of the Executive Directorate’s recommendations.
10. The Executive Directorate will, within 12 months of the submission of the initial assessment report to the Committee, provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information on steps taken to implement the recommendations of the assessment, bearing in mind differences in capacity and the availability of resources, as well as the need for technical assistance in the implementation of some recommendations. The Executive Directorate will submit to the Committee for its further consideration recommendations on the need for additional follow-up activities, as appropriate, to further the implementation of assessment recommendations, including, as appropriate, additional technical assistance.

11. The Executive Directorate will provide support to the Committee in arranging activities aimed at raising awareness of the updated “Technical guide to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions” (S/2019/998, annex) with a view to assisting Member States in their implementation of the relevant Council resolutions.

12. The Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information on the implementation of the guiding principles on foreign terrorist fighters (Madrid Guiding Principles) (S/2015/939, annex II) and the addendum thereto (S/2018/1177, annex) in the light of the evolving threat of foreign terrorist fighters, in particular foreign terrorist fighters, returnees and relocators, and their families, in accordance with Security Council resolution 2396 (2017).

13. The Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information on the progress of its work to enhance its survey tools, including the global implementation surveys, the electronic detailed implementation survey and the overview of implementation assessment, to: improve their utility to Member States, donors, recipients, the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other United Nations agencies for the purpose of designing technical assistance and capacity-building support, taking into account the new mandates given to the Executive Directorate in the relevant resolutions; streamline the number of questions; and consider the most effective use of qualitative and quantitative data.

14. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in reporting to the Security Council orally, through its Chair, at least once a year on the state of the overall work of the Committee and the Executive Directorate, and, as appropriate, in conjunction with the reports by the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da’esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and taking into account its efforts to strengthen coordination with other United Nations bodies, facilitate the provision of consent by Member States for country visits and reports and improve the implementation of recommendations, and how its assessments and analytical work have contributed towards improvements in the counter-terrorism efforts of Member States. The Council has underscored its intention to hold informal consultations on the work of the Committee at least once a year.

15. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in enhancing ongoing cooperation with Security Council counter-terrorism bodies, including the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), as well as their respective groups of experts, including through joint meetings, enhanced information-sharing, coordination on visits to countries, coordination on facilitating and monitoring technical assistance, and other cooperative measures to assist Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under the relevant resolutions.
16. The Executive Directorate will provide information to the Committee, in a timely manner and on a regular basis or when it so requests, for its consideration, through oral and/or written briefings on the work of the Executive Directorate, including its visits to Member States, the status of its coordination with relevant United Nations bodies, its engagement with relevant non-United Nations actors, the conduct of assessments, its representation of the Committee at different international and regional meetings and other activities, including during planning stages, and conduct an annual review and forecast of activities to facilitate the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant resolutions. In this context, the Executive Directorate will support the Committee in continuing to hold periodic meetings, including with a regional or thematic focus, for all Member States, and underscores the importance of the Executive Directorate’s work to the Committee.¹

17. The Executive Directorate will provide support to the Committee in preparing for and arranging a special meeting to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001) and the establishment of the Committee.

18. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in encouraging Member States, including during country visits, to consider developing comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies and effective mechanisms to implement them that include attention to the conditions conducive to terrorism, in accordance with their obligations under international law.

19. The Executive Directorate will, in addition, assist the Committee in continuing to cooperate with Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant partners, upon request, to assess and advise on the development of comprehensive and integrated national and regional counter-terrorism strategies and the mechanisms to implement them, in close cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other relevant United Nations agencies and United Nations field offices, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, as appropriate, through engagement with the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to ensuring the coherence and complementarity of efforts and to avoid any duplication in the effort to further the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions, and to support the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.


21. In accordance with resolution 2396 (2017), the Executive Directorate will support the Committee in placing special emphasis on the need to counter emerging issues, trends and developments, including the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts and the recruitment of terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters. In accordance with resolutions 2195 (2014) and 2482 (2019), the

¹ It is the understanding of the members of the Committee that, during COVID-19 restrictions on in-person meetings at the United Nations, all briefings of the Counter-Terrorism Committee will be conducted by videoconference as informal informals, whereas all meetings organized by the Committee will be convened upon the easing of such restrictions subject to further consideration by the Committee, and in line with the practices of the Security Council’s subsidiary bodies, including with respect to possible postponement to 2022.
Executive Directorate will also assist the Committee in continuing to address the nexus between terrorists and transnational organized crime, which has increased in some cases and in some regions.

22. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in continuing to work on countering the use of the Internet and social media for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, taking into account Member States’ compliance with applicable obligations under international law, and taking note of the need to preserve global connectivity and the free and secure flow of information facilitating economic development, communication, participation and access to information, and stresses the importance of cooperation with civil society and the private sector in this endeavour.

23. The Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information and proposals on its activities to enhance its dialogue and information-sharing with special envoys, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations, including during the planning stages of missions, as appropriate, in relation to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions.

B. Facilitating the delivery of technical assistance to States


25. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in making country assessments, recommendations, surveys and analytical products available throughout the United Nations system, especially to the Office of Counter-Terrorism and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes relevant to counter-terrorism, in order to better align United Nations technical assistance and capacity-building with gaps in implementation and capacity identified by the Executive Directorate, as well as to support the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, except when requested by the assessed Member States to keep selected information confidential. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in further enhancing the sharing of its findings with Member States and relevant counter-terrorism partners, as appropriate and in consultation with international, regional and subregional organizations, the Global Counterterrorism Forum, academia, think tanks, civil society and the private sector, including through improved web access, outreach, workshops, open briefings and utilization of the Global Counter-Terrorism Research Network, noting the importance of its geographical diversity.

26. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in continuing partnering with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) and with its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team on the implementation of relevant Council resolutions.

27. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in identifying, in close cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism, partners and donors that are willing...
and able to provide technical assistance to Member States, including to priority Member States, to enhance their capacities in implementing the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

C. Identification and assessment of emerging terrorism issues, trends and developments, and engagement with international and regional partners


31. The Executive Directorate will submit to the Committee, for its consideration, a list of events and special meetings on themes and issues of common concern and interest to Member States with a view to maximizing the impact of the resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and sustaining the commitment of the international community to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Executive Directorate will submit to the Committee, for its consideration, necessary follow-up activities based on proposals upon the review of the outcomes of such meetings and events.

32. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in continuing to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue throughout its activities, including in country-specific assessments and reports, recommendations made to Member States, the facilitation of technical assistance to Member States and briefings to the Security Council. The
Executive Directorate will support the Committee in further holding consultations with women and women’s organizations to inform its work and, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), will conduct and gather gender-sensitive research and collect data on the drivers of radicalization to terrorism for women and the impact of counter-terrorism strategies on women’s human rights and on women’s organizations.


D. Coordination and cooperation between the Committee, the Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism

34. The Executive Directorate will support the Chair of the Committee in inviting the Office of Counter-Terrorism, at the most senior level, to brief the Committee twice a year on the Office’s work, especially on progress in incorporating the recommendations and analysis of the Executive Directorate into the implementation of its programmes and mandates. The Executive Directorate will assist the Chair of the Committee in conducting follow-up meetings with the Office on coordination with the Executive Directorate and in inviting the Office to participate regularly in meetings on relevant issues.

35. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in supporting the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism by advising its leadership and assisting in the development of counter-terrorism information shared with the Secretary-General and other senior leaders of the United Nations, as well as by supporting and joining the Office’s leadership, as appropriate, in preparations for, participation in and the hosting of workshops and conferences.

36. The Executive Directorate will continue to report to the Committee on progress in the implementation of the joint report of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Executive Directorate (S/2018/435, annex), which sets out practical steps to be taken by both bodies to ensure that the Executive Directorate’s recommendations and analysis are incorporated into the Office’s work, to be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which has been postponed to 2021.

E. Maintaining dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005)

37. The Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information on the ongoing engagement and dialogue of the Executive Directorate with Member States, international and regional organizations and civil society on strategies that include countering the incitement of terrorist acts motivated by violent extremism and intolerance and to facilitate technical assistance for their implementation, as called for in resolution 1624 (2005) and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Executive Directorate will also provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information, in accordance with resolution 2395 (2017), to support Member States and United Nations entities in adopting measures, pursuant to international law, to address conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and in coordination with and with the support of the Office of Counter-Terrorism. In addition, the Executive Directorate will support
the Committee in continuing to ensure coordination and complementarity with the work being undertaken, including by the Office, to prevent violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and by the Executive Directorate on resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) on countering violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism.

38. The Executive Directorate will support the Committee in continuing to gather information and facilitate international cooperation to implement the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives (S/2017/375, annex). Furthermore, the Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information to identify and compile existing good practices, establish strategic partnerships and propose guidelines and new approaches, subject to the guidance of the Committee, on effectively countering terrorist narratives within an international human rights framework, in accordance with resolution 2354 (2017).

F. Implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

39. The Executive Directorate will regularly brief the Committee to provide information on its participation in activities within the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Task Force in order for the Committee to continue its discussions on issues relating to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 72/284 and information provided by the Executive Directorate on its work as an entity under the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

40. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee, through its visits, assessments and analytical work on emerging issues, trends and developments, in supporting Member States and United Nations entities in taking measures, pursuant to international law, to address conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in coordination with and with the support of the Office of Counter-Terrorism.

G. Promoting respect for human rights in the context of counter-terrorism

41. The Executive Directorate will submit to the Committee, for its consideration, information regarding progress in the further development of activities in the area of promoting respect for human rights in the context of counter-terrorism in order to ensure that all human rights and rule of law issues relevant to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014) and other relevant resolutions, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 2395 (2017), are addressed as an important component of the Executive Directorate’s country visits, assessments and analysis of emerging issues, trends and developments, as well as its facilitation of technical assistance. In this connection, the Executive Directorate will provide to the Committee, for its consideration, information to conduct human rights analyses of emerging issues, trends and developments relating to counter-terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including the effect of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures on children and children’s rights, as appropriate, especially with regard to issues relating to the families of returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters.

III. Implementing the revised communications strategy

42. The Executive Directorate will submit to the Committee suggestions for implementing the revised communications strategy aimed at promoting the visibility of the role and activities of the Committee and the Executive Directorate, including
ways to maximize the impact of the updated technical guide, the Madrid Guiding Principles and the addendum thereto on stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters, returnees and relocators, the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives, the updated global surveys on the implementation by Member States of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) and the series of reports on the implementation of resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2253 (2015). In this regard, the Executive Directorate will support the Committee’s work in paying special attention to: (a) advocacy and communication efforts pertaining to the continued implementation of resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017) on foreign terrorist fighters, returnees and relocators; (b) special meetings and open briefings of the Committee; (c) high-level advocacy visits of the Committee, its Chair and the Executive Director of the Executive Directorate; and (d) efforts to counter violent extremism and incitement to violence, as called for by the Security Council in its resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014).