



Supporting the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia Summary

Phase I and II: What has been done

Between 2010 and 2017, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Office of the United Nations and the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), with financial support from the EU and Norway, implemented a project to assist the Central Asian States in devising a regional plan of action to implement the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This initiative encompassed two phases:

Phase I (2010-2011): Preparation of the Joint Plan of Action in Central Asia

Phase I was devoted to the preparation and the adoption of the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA) for implementing the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia at a High Level Meeting held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan in November 2011.

The JPoA was prepared on the basis of a one-year consultative process, during which three expert meetings were held to review the four pillars of the Global Strategy, identify opportunities, gaps and needs, and draw recommendations to devise a joint plan of action. The three expert meetings were as follows:

- First Expert Meeting on Pillar I, *Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism* and Pillar IV, *Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism*, held in Bratislava, Slovakia on 15-16 December 2010;
- Second Expert Meeting on Pillar II, *Preventing and combating terrorism*, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 29-30 March 2011; and
- Third Expert Meeting on Pillar III, *Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard*, organized in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 21-22 July 2011.

During the high level meeting held on 30 November 2011 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, the JPoA was adopted by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, with Uzbekistan opting for observer status. The Ashgabat Meeting also led to the adoption of a Final Declaration expressing support for the JPoA and for regional cooperation on countering terrorism by the 54 participants present.

Phase II (2013-2017): Implementation of the Joint Plan of Action in Central Asia

Phase II of the Project was designed to support the implementation of the JPoA through a series of capacity building workshops on its different pillars.

- Regional Workshop I: Dialogue with Religious Institutions and Leaders, November 20-22, 2013 in Almaty;
- Regional Workshop II: Engaging the Media for Countering Terrorism, July 9-11, 2014 in Bishkek;
- Regional Workshop III: Border Security and Management for Countering Terrorism, (with OSCE), March 4-6, 2015 in Ashgabat;
- Regional Workshop IV: Countering Radicalization, March 29-31, 2016, Almaty; and
- Regional Training Workshop V: Countering the Financing of Terrorism (with UNODC), December 14-16, 2016 in Ashgabat.

In addition, the following activities were undertaken by the Project in support of the JPoA:

- Preparation of a Matrix of activities of regional and international organizations operating in Central Asia under each of the four pillars of the JPoA, in 2012, and which has since been regularly updated.
- Preparation of a dedicated Webpage with resources about the Global Strategy, the JPoA, as well as other resources from global and regional sources, available at <http://unrcca.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=11511&language=en-US>

Phase II of the project will be completed by the end of June 2017.