

27 – 28 February 2013

## The ACSRT Organized a Workshop on disengagement and rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders



From right to left: Ambassador Madeira, Ambassador Rezag Bara, Dr. Jonathan Lucas, Mr. Gilles de Kerchove,

**F**rom 27-28 February 2013, The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), jointly organized a Regional Technical Workshop on Disengagement and Rehabilitation of Violent Extremist Offenders for North Africa and the Sahel countries in the Field (Pays du Champ) at the headquarters of the ACSRT in Algiers.

This workshop is an effort by the United Nations and the African Union to strengthen the counter terrorism capacity of North Africa and the Sahel Countries in the Field ( Pays du Champ) by providing them with expertise, practical knowledge and experience on key issues and challenges related to the protection of inmates from radicalization and the disengagement and rehabilitation of violent extremists in prison settings, based on the Good Practices on Disengagement and Rehabilitation of Violent Extremists Offenders adopted by the GCTF in June 2012.

Participants to the workshop were policy makers and



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### ACSRT Newsletter

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practitioners in the criminal justice and correctional services' sectors drawn from the eight (8) North Africa and the Sahel Countries in the Field (Pays du Champ), namely Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Mauritania, Libya and Nigeria . They were assisted by experts and scholars with solid knowledge of the subject.

The workshop covered a broad range of issues, including:

The type of correctional environmental that is needed to enable a rehabilitation/reintegration programme to succeed;

How to most effectively integrate the appropriate specialists, such as psychologists and clerics, into a rehabilitation/reintegration programme;

Guidance on establishing an aftercare programme that will ensure the smoothest

reintegration back into society;

What type of educational programmes and vocational/skills training should be incorporated into a rehabilitation/reintegration programme;

What steps a Member State can take to reduce the threat of radicalization in its prisons;

The role of families and communities in reintegrating inmates;

What types of facilities are needed for a rehabilitation programme;

How intelligence/law enforcement collection needs can be satisfied in a way that does not disrupt the rehabilitation process.

during the two-day Workshop Participants welcomed the opportunity to discuss pressing counter-terrorism related issues . They appreciated the usefulness

and uniqueness of the Workshop in bringing together a broad range of practitioners and policy maker from Northern Africa and the Sahel region to discuss a comprehensive and coordinated approach to dealing with the problems related to disengagement and rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders.



Participants

19–21 March 2013

## Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Working Group Community Engagement Practitioners' Workshop

Under the auspices of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Working Group, the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security and U.S. Institute of Peace co-hosted a three-day workshop 19–21 March, in Washington DC, on community engagement as a CVE tool. The event gathered 117 participants from 24 countries, the EU and UN, and 22 nongovernmental organizations. The ACSRT was represented at the workshop by **H.E. Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, Director of the ACSRT.**

Based on the strategies, priorities, challenges, and opportunities discussed at this workshop, a community engagement good practices document will be drafted and submitted for GCTF members' review and comment, with a view to having it adopted at the next meeting of the GCTF's Coordinating Committee in the fall. This document will help governments and non-government organizations build coordinated and effective community engagement strategies based on the experiences and lessons learned from fellow practitioners in the field.

To support the development of this community engagement good practices document, the following are, among others, several primary good practices discussed at this workshop:

- Refrain from securitizing relationships with communities by engaging them on issues beyond radicalization in order to build trust;
- Approach community engagement as a long-term, sustained strategy, not a short-term tactic;
- Do research on the community to understand local problems and solutions;
- Understand how to leverage community leaders and community influencers to reach those you cannot reach;
- Target youth for engagement and leverage schools

and textbooks for positive messages;

- Amplify the alternative message by using all forms of media to create awareness and shame the enemy;

Addressing the workshop, **H.E. Ambassador Francisco Madeira** underscored the African Union's effort to address the factors that can motivate people to commit terrorist acts or be exploited by jihadists to attract people to their extremist and violent ideologies. In 2012, the ACSRT organized two workshops on "Radicalization, Violent Extremism and De-radicalization", the first one was for the North Africa and Sahel Region from 8 to 10 April 2012 and the second was for the East Africa and the Horn of Africa from 22 to 24 November 2012. These two workshops were attended by representatives of the governments and the civil society, religious leaders, the prominent scholars, UNICRI, CISSA and GNRC.

Ambassador Madeira said that these two workshops helped the participants to better understand the phenomenon of radicalization and the conditions that attract people to it by clarify a number of concepts, definitions and terminology on terrorism, radicalism fundamentalism and extremism. Moreover, it sought to provide the decision makers with the intellectual tools required to create resilience and protect our populations from falling prey to incitement of terrorist acts and in case they do fall, to help them extricate themselves from the cobweb of radicalism.

In conclusion, Ambassador Madeira indicated that terrorism is complex and multifaceted and may present different dynamics in different places. These complexities call for multilayered approaches and no one theory can explain all forms of it and no one approach can address all the conditions that may lead to it. He wished that this workshop would play a helpful role by promoting an exchange of information and knowledge among participants in addressing radicalization and extremism that lead to terrorism.

**18-19 mars 2013**

## **Conférence Internationale sur le Renforcement de la Coopération en matière de prévention du Terrorisme**

Le Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme, représenté par le Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, Spécialiste Alerte, Prévention, Analyses, Etudes et Publications, a pris part à la Conférence Internationale sur le Renforcement de la Coopération en matière de prévention du Terrorisme

Cette conférence, qui s'est tenue du 18 au 19 mars 2013 à l'hôtel Marriott Absheron de Bakou, était co-organisée par l'Office des Nations Unies contre la Drogue et le Crime (UNODC) et l'Organisation Islamique pour l'Education, la Science et la Culture (ISESCO), en coopération avec le gouvernement de la République d'Azerbaïdjan.

Elle a regroupé des Chefs d'Etats et de gouvernements, des ministres des affaires étrangères et de la coopération, les chefs des grandes organisations internationales, d'éminents experts de la lutte contre le terrorisme et des leaders religieux, représentant 60 pays, 32 organisations internationales et régionales et 19 universités et instituts assimilés.

La cérémonie d'ouverture a été placée sous l'égide du SEM Ilham ALIYEV, Président de la République d'Azerbaïdjan.

La conférence se tenait dans le cadre de la poursuite des efforts de mise en œuvre de la stratégie des Nations Unies contre le terrorisme de 2006. Bien que la communauté internationale, depuis l'adoption de cette stratégie, ait enregistré des succès indéniables dans le renforcement des fondements législatifs et des mécanismes de coopération dans la lutte contre le terrorisme, il sied cependant de reconnaître que le terrorisme, au lieu de décroître, a plutôt continué à se développer en s'adaptant à ce nouveau contexte, en se manifestant sous des formes diverses et variées,

de plus en plus violentes, et en multipliant ses liens avec le crime transfrontalier organisé, continuant son expansion vers des régions jusque là considérées comme à l'abri de ce phénomène. Les deux dernières années ayant été marquées, dans plusieurs pays, par des profonds changements politiques qui ont généré d'immenses opportunités pour la transformation démocratique de ces sociétés, pour le renforcement du respect des droits de l'homme et la résolution des diverses difficultés politiques, sociales et bien d'autres difficultés, il a paru important, que les partenaires internationaux revoient les dispositifs de coopération actuels et élaborent, si le besoin s'en ressent, de nouvelles mesures d'assistance mieux adaptées à la nouvelle situation, pour renforcer la coopération et la coordination de la prévention et la lutte contre le terrorisme.

La conférence a constitué un excellent cadre d'échange de vues sur les défis majeurs auxquels se confronte actuellement la lutte contre le terrorisme, et sur les meilleures pratiques mises en œuvre pour surmonter ces défis. Elle a aussi servi de contexte pour l'échange d'expériences dans le domaine de la lutte contre la radicalisation et l'extrémisme violent, particulièrement dans le domaine de la lutte contre les discours pseudo religieux incitant à la haine et à la violence, et les meilleures pratiques répertoriées dans la conception et la diffusion des produits contre les stéréotypes et les mauvaises interprétations des concepts religieux.

La conférence a également proposé des projets concrets pour la fourniture d'assistance technique aux Etats pour le renforcement de leurs capacités en matière de lutte contre le terrorisme et l'extrémisme violent.

**13-15 mars 2013**

## **Conférence sur la coopération en matière de contrôle aux frontières dans le Sahel et le Maghreb**

Le Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme, représenté par le Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, Spécialiste Alerte, Prévention, Analyses, Etudes et Publications, a pris part à la Conférence sur la coopération en matière de contrôle aux frontières dans le Sahel et le Maghreb.

Cette conférence, qui s'est tenue du 13 au 15 mars 2013 au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères du Maroc à Rabat, était conjointement organisée par la Direction Exécutive Contre le Terrorisme (CTED) et le Centre contre le Terrorisme des Nations Unies (UNCCT) du Bureau de l'Equipe Spéciale de Lutte Contre le Terrorisme (CTITF), en coopération avec le gouvernement du Royaume du Maroc.

Elle a regroupé les pays, organisations et projets suivants : Algérie, Burkina Faso, Libye, Maroc, Mauritanie, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sénégal, Tchad, Tunisie, CAERT, CEDEAO, UNODC, UNOCA, PNUD, HCR, Standards Internationaux de contrôle des Armes Légères et de Petit Calibre (ISACS), OMD, OMI, Interpol, Collège Sahélien de Sécurité.

Elle s'inscrit dans une série d'activités initiées par la DECT sur le renforcement du contrôle aux frontières des pays de la région du Sahara-Sahel.

Dans le cadre de ces activités, la DECT avait déjà co-organisé avec l'Organisation Internationale des Migrations, à Nouakchott en Mauritanie en avril 2011, l'atelier sur le contrôle aux frontières. Elle avait ensuite mené, du 8 au 23 décembre 2011, une mission d'évaluation de l'impact de la crise libyenne dans le Sahel.

L'organisation de la conférence de Rabat répondait également au souci de mettre en œuvre les éléments pertinents de la stratégie des Nations Unies de lutte contre le Terrorisme, notamment la primauté du Droit et le respect des Droits de l'Homme, tel que rappelés dans la Déclaration Présidentielle du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies sur la paix et la sécurité en Afrique du 10 décembre 2012 (S/PSRT/2012/26), éléments que devrait impérative-

ment intégrer la future stratégie intégrée des Nations Unies sur le Sahel.

Il s'est agi en particulier de relever l'importance de la coordination et la coopération au plan national et au plan régional, au sein et entre les différentes agences nationales impliquées dans le contrôle aux frontières, de réfléchir sur les possibilités d'amélioration des mesures existantes afin de renforcer les capacités des Etats de la région à relever les défis auxquels ils sont confrontés dans le strict respect des normes internationalement acceptées, y compris le respect des droits de l'homme, du droit des réfugiés et du droit humanitaire international.

La conférence a également constitué le cadre de présentation, par les organisations internationales, d'un certain nombre de projets d'assistance technique et de projets de suivi sur le renforcement du contrôle aux frontières dans le Sahel et le Maghreb.

La conférence a été solennellement ouverte avec les allocutions de SEM Saad Dine El Otmani et SEM Mohand Laenser, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération et Ministre de l'Intérieur du Royaume du Maroc, ainsi que celles de Mr Kunio Mikuriya, Secrétaire Général de l'Organisation Mondiale des Douanes, de Mr Elliot, Représentant Spécial d'Interpol auprès des Nations Unies, de Mr Jehangir Khan, Directeur du CTITF et de Mr Mike Smith, Directeur Exécutif de la DECT.

La conférence a recommandé la mise en œuvre de plusieurs mesures de renforcement de contrôle aux frontières, parmi lesquelles la construction d'infrastructures adaptées au contrôle, l'acquisition de moyens techniques performants, le renforcement des capacités des personnels chargés du contrôle, la mise en œuvre des mesures administratives et techniques viables de coordination, le renforcement des cadres de coopération et la multiplication et la diversification des activités de coopération.

5 - 6 March 2013

## Ambassador Madeira Addressed the GCTF Second Plenary Meeting of the Horn of Africa Region Working Group

From 5-6 March 2013, experts from the Horn of Africa, Yemen and members of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), as well as the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), INTERPOL, the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation and representatives from Tanzania, Uganda, East African Community, Saudi Arabia, ESAAMLG convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to discuss ways to enhance AML/CFT capacity building and cooperation in this critical region. The meeting was Co-Chaired by the European Union (H.E Mara Marinaki, Managing Director Global and Multilateral Issues, European External Action Service), Turkey (H.E Ambassador Tunç Üğdül, Acting Director-General for Research and Security Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), H.E Ambassador Jerry Lanier, Acting CT Coordinator, Bureau of the Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State and H.E Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT).

The objectives of the meeting were to: a) identify anti-money laundering and countering terrorist (AML/CFT) financing capacity-building coordination and priorities in the region; b) allow countries in the region, GCTF members and other international partners to share information on good practices linking AML/CFT and c) identify possible new initiatives that could be developed to address some of the key shortcomings.

In his keynote speech Ambassador Francisco Madeira regretted the continued presence of threat of terrorism emanating from Somalia, particularly by Al-Shabaab militants despite the fact that they have been seriously crippled.

He highlighted the significant link between terrorism and money laundering and the spillover effect of instability on the continent. The Ambassador added that terrorists have created cells in most countries of the Horn of Africa region some of which are dormant, others quite active. Al-shabaab members and some foreign fighters are moving westwards, apparently en route to join their soul mates in Mali.

He stressed the multiple challenges facing Somalia: Limited government capacity and resources, inadequate legislative frameworks, barriers to information-sharing, tribal confrontations and warlordism, extreme poverty, youth unemployment and social marginalization. He suggested that more effort should be directed at reinforcing capacity building in order to confront these challenges effectively.

As regards anti-money laundering, countering the financing of terrorism (AML-CFT) and other terrorist crimes, Ambassador Madeira indicated that AU Heads of State adopted the African Union Comprehensive Counter Terrorism Model Law to help African States to develop their own counter-terrorism comprehensive legal framework to better track, apprehend arrest and incarcerate terrorists. The AU Member States were urged to revise their national criminal laws in the light of the model law with the view to incorporating or reinforcing their legislations all the legal provisions required to bring to justice and adequately punish money launderers and perpetrators of any terrorist act on the African soil.

In conclusion, The Ambassador expressed the hope that the meeting would provide positive answers to capacity-building challenges and terrorism threats that confronted by the Horn of Africa regions.

26 – 28 February 2013

## Seminar « Policy challenges in the prosecution and prevention of terrorism » Maghreb



Colonel Christian Emmanuel  
MOUAYA POUYI

Le Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme, représenté par le Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, Spécialiste Alerte, Prévention, Analyses, Etudes et Publications, a pris part au séminaire sur les défis dans la poursuite des cas de terrorisme et la prévention du terrorisme.

Cette conférence, qui s'est tenue du 26 au 28 février 2013 au 15 mars 2013 était organisée par la Direction Exécutive Contre le Terrorisme (CTED) en coopération avec le gouvernement de la Tanzanie.

Le séminaire a regroupé les procureurs, enquêteurs et spécialistes de la prévention du terrorisme de plusieurs pays d'Afrique, d'Europe, d'Asie et d'Amérique, ainsi que plusieurs organisations internationales, régionales et sous-régionales.

Il est le quatrième séminaire ré-

alisé dans le cadre de l'initiative de la DECT visant à identifier les défis auxquels font face les procureurs et enquêteurs dans les cas de terrorisme, après ceux tenus à New York en 2010, à Ankara en 2011, et à Alger en 2012.

Lors du séminaire, les participants ont échangé des défis des politiques de prévention et de poursuite mises en place dans les différents pays, en mettant un accent particulier sur les aspects juridiques et opérationnels, les relations entre le bureau du procureur, la société civile et les médias, et la nécessité d'équilibrer la prévention du terrorisme avec les règles du droit et le respect des droits de l'homme.

Les participants ont reconnu que la pratique diffère selon les systèmes juridiques et les pays, et que les résultats obtenus diffèrent également en conséquence. Ils ont également reconnu que les décisions et les stratégies adoptées par les procureurs peuvent avoir des conséquences, parfois très lourdes, au-delà des individus, sur les systèmes juridiques nationaux.

Les échanges de vues ont abouti à une identification claire des défis et à l'établissement d'un répertoire de meilleures pratiques pour surmonter ces défis.

Dans un autre sens le séminaire a permis aux organisations de lutte contre le terrorisme, dont le CAERT de mieux évaluer ces défis, afin de pouvoir les prendre en compte dans l'élaboration des politiques de prévention et de lutte contre le terrorisme.

Plus généralement, les participants ont convenu que ces défis ne sont pas insurmontables, et ne constituent en aucune façon des écueils à la stricte application des règles de droit et au respect des droits de l'homme dans les investigations ou dans la poursuite des cas de terrorisme.

Les participants ont également convenu de la nécessité de mettre en place et consolider les réseaux informels de praticiens capables de coopérer dans les enquêtes et la poursuite des cas de terrorisme.

Ce séminaire a servi de cadre pour le CAERT pour présenter la Loi Type Exhaustive Africaine Contre le Terrorisme, qui a été reconnue par les participants comme une meilleure pratique pour les aider à aligner leurs législations nationales sur les normes internationales de lutte contre le terrorisme. Une copie de cette loi a été distribuée à tous les participants.

16–17 February 2013

## Ambassador Madeira Presented the ACSRT in the Global Counter-Terrorism Conference in Saudi Arabia



Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prince Turki Bin Mohammed Bin Saud Al-Kabeer opened on Saturday the counter-terrorism conference in Riyadh.

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) in partnership with the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia held a two-day international conference from 16-17 February 2013 in Riyadh. The meeting brought together participants from national, regional and international counter-terrorism centers, think tanks and Government-sponsored entities and initiatives from all regions of the world. The purpose of the discussions was to promote synergies and share good practices to promote implementation of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism

Strategy and to develop an informed network of national, regional and global counter-terrorism centers.

Conference participants included representatives from the 21 member states of the Advisory Board of the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) as well as Senior UN officials and representatives of nearly 50 countries, the European Union, 28 global active CT centers, including the ACSRT and the Saudi government.

This conference sought to address the status of



the capacity building efforts to prevent and combat terrorism, ensure respect of human rights for all and highlight the rule of law as a fundamental elements in the fight against terrorism.

H.E Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), started his statement by praising the Government of Saudi Arabia government for hosting this timely conference and paid tribute to CTITF and the UN Counter Terrorism Centre for playing a lead role in the global fight against terrorism

Ambassador Madeira described the situation by depicting the ground realities as they are in most African countries. He explained that despite widely recognized Africa's increased economic momentum, most African countries are facing serious challenges, including poverty, mortal diseases, political instability, high unemployment rate, conflicts of different types, terrorism and transnational organized crime.

He added that Al Qaeda Central, Al Qaeda in the Arabic Peninsula, Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Boko Haram in Nigeria, Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA) and Al-Shabaab in East Africa, are conspiring together and rejoicing at each other's success.

He indicated that the prevention and fight against terrorism is part and parcel of the African Union's Peace and Security architecture. The Architecture provides an approach that takes into full consideration the requirements of the four pillars of the Global Counter terrorism strategy and are in line with and complement the UN effort against terrorism.

In addition, the ACSRT is the executive arm of the Peace and Security Council and the Peace and Security Department on matters relating to terrorism. At the core of the ACSRT's work is the existence of a network of national and regional focal points linked to the ACSRT through a secure communication system based and coordinated from our centre. With this effective network of communication, the ACSRT can ensure holistic response to what is happening or is about to happen on the terrorism front in each AU Member State, in each region and in the world at large.

ACSRT also Implements activities related to the prevention and combating of terrorism, developing and enhancing member states counter terrorism capacity and expertise through training programs, workshops and symposia.

Finally Ambassador Madeira thanked GCTF, the UN in general and its agencies for their leading role in the global war against terrorism and expressed the hope for more co-operation between the ACSRT and the UN CTITF and the centres on counter terrorism cooperation in Africa and in each of the five continents.

30 January— 1 February 2013

## Ambassador Madeira Addressed the United Nations International Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies



Ambassador Francisco Madeira

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) held a high-level International Conference on National and Regional Counter Terrorism Strategies from 31 January - 1 February 2013 in Bogota. The meeting was attended by more than 150 government officials, national counter-terrorism experts, representatives of the United Nations and practitioners from international, regional and civil society organizations. The ACSRT was represented by Ambassador Francisco Jose Madeira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission for Counter Terrorism Cooperation, and Director of the ACSRT.

The Conference is one of the first initiatives of the newly established Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies, which is co-led by the CTITF Office and CTED. The Conference was intended to provide a forum to compile and exchange good national and regional practices on countering terrorism that are consistent with and contributory to the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as share experiences relating to the development of comprehensive and integrated national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. It involved relevant stakeholders from dif-

ferent government agencies and segments of society. During the two-day meeting, participants elaborated on the role of the United Nations in facilitating exchanges of information on cooperation and technical assistance.

Participants in the breakout sessions focusing on national strategies, considered four thematic topics pertaining to national strategies. These include the relevance of developing comprehensive national strategies, the principles on which they are built, the processes through which they are operationalized and the mechanisms with which they are sustained and made better.

Distinguished panelists who led the breakout sessions, together with participants who made subsequent interventions during the discussions, shared their national experiences and lesson learned, described how inter-departmental cooperation have worked and where States have encountered challenges.

In his intervention, H.E Ambassador Francisco Madeira gave a brief summary on the African Union effective regional mechanism to implement Regional strategies. He said that at the African Union, Peace and security are viewed as a precondition for any meaningful and sustainable economic, social and human development. Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms are the pillars of the African Peace and Security Architecture.

In the fight against terrorism, Ambassador Madeira indicated that the African continent already has a comprehensive counter- Terrorism strategy (the 1999 convention on the prevention and combating of terrorism, the protocol thereto) as well as a plan of action and implementation mechanism, In this context a protocol to the strategy was adopted in 2004 to bring on board aspects of terrorism enshrined in the UN Security Council resolutions 1373, 1624 and others.

In the fight against terrorism, he indicated that while countries and regions have created struc-

tures, institutions and frameworks that allow them to carry out a relatively effective fight against terrorism, no region and, indeed, very few AU member states, possess a blueprint that one can call a comprehensive national or Regional counter terrorism strategy. He stressed that most African countries are in dire need of technical and financial assistance to produce national and regional strategy.

Ambassador Madeira ended his intervention by pointing to the main priorities to achieve the African Union Counter terrorism strategy, which are:

engage member states proactively to come up with national and regional counter terrorism strategies;

create structures and institutions that can allow member states to enhance their capacity to make true their commitment to practice good governance in order to properly address the conditions conducive to terrorism in their region;

set up national and regional fusion centers to coordinate their counter terrorism plans and actions;

timely exchange information with each other on the location, activities and movements of terrorist groups on the continent and subject them to the law;

provide mutual legal assistance;

ensure the respect of human rights and the rule of law;

exchange research, expertise and analysis;

Mobilize the technical assistance and cooperation within the continent and internationally to strengthen African countries CT capacity scientifically, technically and operationally.

## High Level Visits to the ACSRT

26 February 2013

### The ACSRT Received Mr. Gilles De Kerchove (EU Counterterrorism Coordinator)



On 26 February 2013, Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism and the ACSRT staff members received **Mr. Gilles De Kerchove (EU Counterterrorism Coordinator) and other EU members.**

On 27 -28 February Mr. De Kerchove participated as a guest speaker at the joint UNICRI – ACSRT Regional Technical Workshop on Dis-

engagement and Rehabilitation of Violent Extremist for North Africa and the Sahel Country in the Fiel which was held at the ACSRT Headquarters.

Ambassador Madeira extended a warm welcome to the EU Delegation for their visit to the ACSRT which was a demonstration of growing cooperation between the two institutions. He greatly appreciated the assistance and support of the European Union to the African Union in general and to the ACSRT in particular especially regarding issues of

utmost importance to the ACSRT such as evaluating the preparedness of Member states of the African Union in preventing and combating terrorism. He expressed wish for further enhancement and consolidation of the current fruitful cooperation.

Ambassador Madeira also shared with the EU delegation the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation missions and the different workshops conducted by the ACSRT during the year 2012.

Mr. Kerchove highly lauded ACSRT's effort and stressed the readiness of the European Union side to seek new forms and areas of long-lasting cooperation to help the ACSRT accomplish its goals.

In conclusion, Ambassador Madeira and his guest expressed mutual confidence in the successful continuation of their multi-dimensional cooperation.

26 February 2013

## The ACSRT Received a German Delegation



On 26 February 2013, Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism and the ACSRT staff members, received **Ambassador Boris Ruge, Regional Director of the Near and Middle East and Maghreb in the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs accompanied by Ambassador Gotz Lingen-thal, German Ambassador to Algeria.**

The ultimate objective of the visit was to share experiences and perspectives on issues of mutual interest and to explore

ways of co-operation between the German government and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT).

Ambassador Madeira briefed the delegation on the strategic role of the ACSRT at the continental level in assisting Member States of the African Union to develop strategies and actions for the preventing and combating of terrorism by providing them with technical advice to ensure the implementation of the African Union instruments including the Convention of 1999 and the Protocol thereto, the AU Plan of Action; updating and strengthening the AU's policies and programs; dissemi-

nating and assisting Member states in the implementation of the African Model Law; setting up a database of terrorist groups and their activities in Africa; developing programs of cooperation with similar sister institutions at the national, regional and continental levels.

Ambassador Madeira underscored that abject poverty, economic disparity and deprivation, political exclusion and socio-economic marginalization and dehumanization of victims of terrorism, radicalization and growing violent extremism are key challenges in many African countries. With the limited resources at their disposal, these countries are in dire need of technical and financial assistance to deal with the scourge of terrorism .

The Delegation mentioned that the German government was prepared for a strong and lasting cooperation in line with ACSRT priorities.

11 March 2013

## The ACSRT Received a Norwegian Delegation



**O**n 11 March 2013, Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism and the ACSRT staff members received **Ambassador Kai Eide, Special Envoy for the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, and Ambassador ARILD O YEN, the Norwegian ambassador to Algeria.**

The purpose of the visit of the Norwegian delegation was to obtain a deeper understanding of ACSRT mandate and

explore areas of future collaboration with this African Union Counter Terrorism Institution

Ambassador Madeira briefly explained the activities of the ACSRT to the delegation and the manner in which it serves the Member states of the African Union in countering terrorism.

The two sides discussed the ever-changing nature of terrorism, as attested by the ever increasing proliferation of regional terrorist organizations, the multiplication of kidnapping and hostage taking for ransom as well as the use of the Internet and other new

technologies to incite terrorism. This requires enhanced capacity building activities and appropriate counter-terrorism equipment. They also exchanged views on the situation in North Africa, particularly, in Mali and the challenges the Malian people, the Malian Government and the African Union are facing in order to restore security, democracy and promote reconciliation among the Malian people.

During the discussions, both sides insisted on their willingness to identify areas of collaboration with a view to developing a concrete cooperation program between the Norwegian Government and the ACSRT.

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Specialized Technical and representational Agencies

African Centre for the Studies and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT)

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2013

# The ACSRT Organized a Workshop on disengagement and rehabilitation of violent extremist offenders 27 – 28 February 2013

ACSRT

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