



S-0043-0007-007-00044

Expanded Number **S-0043-0007-007-00044**

External ID

Title

Item-in-KAA: DPA SECCO Reports and Activities (Jan. - March) 2003

Date Created

Date Registered

Date Closed

04/12/2006 at 3:12 PM

04/12/2006

Primary Contact

Home Location S-0043-0007-007 (In Container)

Assignee In Container 'S-0043-0007-007 (Souleymane Soukouna)' since 04/12/2006 at

Priority

Local-container

Owner Location Archives and Records Management Section

Record Type Archival Item

Date Published

Document Details

Container S-0043-0007: DPA - Secco: Reports on Activities

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TO: Mr. S. Iqbal Riza
A: Chef de Cabinet
Executive Office of the Secretary-General

DATE: 21 January 2003

REFERENCE:

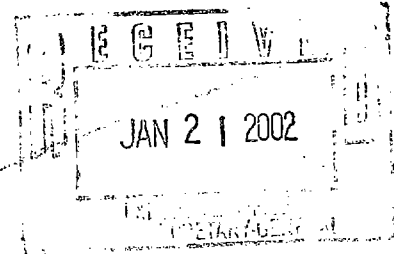
THROUGH:
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Joseph Stephanides, Director
Security Council Affairs Division, DPA

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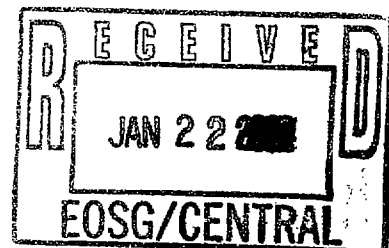
SUBJECT:
OBJET:

Security Council: Report on activities



Attached please find, for the information of the Secretary-General, a note on the proceedings of the Security Council for Monday, 20 January 2003.

cc: The Deputy Secretary-General
Mr. K. Prendergast



PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Monday, 20 January 2003

FORMAL MEETING

High-level meeting of the Security Council: combating terrorism

At the 4688th meeting, the Security Council considered the activities of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001), as well as the overall issue of combating terrorism. The Council adopted unanimously resolution 1456 (2003), and the declaration attached thereto (Attachment), by which, *inter alia*, it called upon all States to take urgent action to prevent and suppress all active and passive support to terrorism, and to become a party, as a matter of urgency, to all relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism (Attachment).

In his opening remarks, the President stated that the objective of the debate was to see how to maintain and strengthen the mobilization of all Member States against terrorism, and to give a new impetus to that struggle.

The Secretary-General stressed the need for a global response to terrorism and called for a sustained and long-term action to combat that scourge. He emphasized the role the United Nations had to play, including by setting effective international norms, denying terrorists the opportunity to commit terrorist acts, and by preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The Secretary-General welcomed the CTC initiative to hold a special meeting with international, regional and sub-regional organizations in March, and proposed that counter-terrorism be a major agenda item at a meeting he would convene with major regional organizations later in the year.

The Chairman of the CTC, Ambassador Greenstock (the United Kingdom), gave a brief account of the work of the Committee and pointed out that while the Committee would continue to offer help and advice to Member States to assist them to submit their reports to the Committee, after 31 March any non-reporting State would be held to be non-compliant with resolution 1373 (2001). He noted that the CTC had established links with regional organizations in order to develop counter-terrorism programmes, and indicated that he was looking forward to the special meeting between the CTC and regional organizations in March.

In their interventions, Council members touched upon a number of issues, including the following:

- Members emphasized the need for a sustained and comprehensive approach to combating terrorism at the national, regional and global level.
- Members welcomed the holding of a special meeting of the CTC with international regional and sub-regional organizations in March 2003. Germany, the President of the Council for the month of February, stated that he planned to take up that issue once again in an open debate on 20 February. The Russian Federation expressed support for the idea of a high-level conference to discuss the response of the international community to terrorism in all its manifestations. The Syrian Arab Republic called for an international conference to define terrorism and to distinguish between terrorism and the legitimate struggle for freedom. Angola noted the role his country played in promoting a meeting of the SADC to coordinate prevention and fight against terrorist activities in the sub-region.
- Members reaffirmed the coordinating role played by the CTC in the fight against terrorism, and expressed the view that the Committee should continue to monitor the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions and elaborate new measures, means and methods of combating terrorism. They stressed the need for effective financial and technical assistance to ensure the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) by those Member States lacking the necessary capacity. The United Kingdom called for the establishment of new institutions to strengthen counter-terrorism mechanisms at the national level, while France proposed that the Council consider setting up a cooperation and assistance fund at the United Nations.
- Members underscored the need to stop the proliferation of WMD, with several delegations calling on Iraq to fully comply with its obligations under resolution 1441 (2002). The United Kingdom noted that failure to do so would lead to "serious consequences". While hoping for a peaceful solution, the United States stated that in considering Iraq's response to resolution 1441, Council members should not shy away from their duties and responsibilities. Council members, he continued, could not be shocked into impotence because they were afraid of the difficult choices that were ahead of them. Noting the need to prevent terrorist groups from using radioactive sources to make "dirty bombs", France indicated that he would make concrete proposals for the drafting of an international convention to increase controls over the use and transfer of radioactive source.

- Members reaffirmed the need for further strengthening of the international legal framework to combat terrorism, including by ratifying the 12 existing international Conventions against terrorism. They called for an early agreement on draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, elaborated by the General Assembly.
- Members stressed that in the combat against terrorism, Member States must fully respect the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law and human rights. Several members, including the Russian Federation, Pakistan and the Syrian Arab Republic stressed the need to avoid "double standards" in combating terrorism.

MB/SCSB/SCAD/21 January 2003

Programme of work

Tuesday, 21 January 2003

- 10.30 a.m. Consultations of the whole:** Georgia; and other matters
- 3.15 p.m. 4689th (closed) meeting:** Meeting with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B

Attachment**Resolution 1456 (2003)****Adopted by the Security Council at its 4688th meeting, on 20 January 2003***The Security Council,**Decides to adopt the attached declaration on the issue of combating terrorism.***Annex***The Security Council,**Meeting at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 20 January 2003 reaffirms that:*

- terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security;
- any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever and by whomsoever committed and are to be unequivocally condemned, especially when they indiscriminately target or injure civilians;
- there is a serious and growing danger of terrorist access to and use of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials, and therefore a need to strengthen controls on these materials;
- it has become easier, in an increasingly globalized world, for terrorists to exploit sophisticated technology, communications and resources for their criminal objectives;
- measures to detect and stem the flow of finance and funds for terrorist purposes must be urgently strengthened;
- terrorists must also be prevented from making use of other criminal activities such as transnational organized crime, illicit drugs and drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit arms trafficking;
- since terrorists and their supporters exploit instability and intolerance to justify their criminal acts the Security Council is determined to counter this by contributing to peaceful resolution of disputes and by working to create a climate of mutual tolerance and respect;
- terrorism can only be defeated, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, by a sustained comprehensive approach involving the active participation and collaboration of all States, international and regional organizations, and by redoubled efforts at the national level.

* * *

The Security Council therefore calls for the following steps to be taken:

1. All States must take urgent action to prevent and suppress all active and passive support to terrorism, and in particular comply fully with all relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolutions 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002) and 1455 (2003);
2. The Security Council calls upon States to:
 - (a) become a party, as a matter of urgency, to all relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, in particular the 1999

international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism and to support all international initiatives taken to that aim, and to make full use of the sources of assistance and guidance which are now becoming available;

- (b) assist each other, to the maximum extent possible, in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of acts of terrorism, wherever they occur;
 - (c) cooperate closely to implement fully the sanctions against terrorists and their associates, in particular Al-Qaeda and the Taliban and their associates, as reflected in resolutions 1267 (1999), 1390 (2002) and 1455 (2003), to take urgent actions to deny them access to the financial resources they need to carry out their actions, and to cooperate fully with the Monitoring Group established pursuant to resolution 1363 (2001);
3. States must bring to justice those who finance, plan, support or commit terrorist acts or provide safe havens, in accordance with international law, in particular on the basis of the principle to extradite or prosecute;
 4. The Counter-Terrorism Committee must intensify its efforts to promote the implementation by Member States of all aspects of resolution 1373 (2001), in particular through reviewing States' reports and facilitating international assistance and cooperation, and through continuing to operate in a transparent and effective manner, and in that regard the Council;
 - (i) stresses the obligation on States to report to the CTC, according to the timetable set by the CTC, calls on the 13 States who have not yet submitted a first report and on the 56 States who are late in submitting further reports to do so by 31 March, and requests the CTC to report regularly on progress;
 - (ii) calls on States to respond promptly and fully to the CTC's requests for information, comments and questions in full and on time, and instructs the CTC to inform the Council of progress, including any difficulties it encounters;
 - (iii) requests the CTC in monitoring the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) to bear in mind all international best practices, codes and standards which are relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), and underlines its support for the CTC's approach in constructing a dialogue with each State on further action required to fully implement resolution 1373 (2001);
 5. States should assist each other to improve their capacity to prevent and fight terrorism, and notes that such cooperation will help facilitate the full and timely implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), and invites the CTC to step up its efforts to facilitate the provision of technical and other assistance by developing targets and priorities for global action;
 6. States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, and should adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee, and humanitarian law;
 7. International organizations should evaluate ways in which they can enhance the effectiveness of their action against terrorism, including by establishing dialogue and exchanges of information with each other and with other relevant international actors, and directs this appeal in particular to those technical agencies and organizations whose activities relate to the control of the use of or access to nuclear, chemical, biological and other deadly materials; in this

context the importance of fully complying with existing legal obligations in the field of disarmament, arms limitation and non-proliferation and, where necessary, strengthening international instruments in this field should be underlined;

8. Regional and subregional organizations should work with the CTC and other international organizations to facilitate sharing of best practice in the fight against terrorism, and to assist their members in fulfilling their obligation to combat terrorism;
9. Those participating in the Special Meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with international regional and subregional organizations on 7 March 2003 should use that opportunity to make urgent progress on the matters referred to in this declaration which involve the work of such organizations;

* * *

The Security Council also:

10. emphasizes that continuing international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden the understanding among civilizations, in an effort to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures, to further strengthen the campaign against terrorism, and to address unresolved regional conflicts and the full range of global issues, including development issues, will contribute to international cooperation and collaboration, which by themselves are necessary to sustain the broadest possible fight against terrorism;
 11. reaffirms its strong determination to intensify its fight against terrorism in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, and takes note of the contributions made during its meeting on 20 January 2003 with a view to enhancing the role of the United Nations in this regard, and invites Member States to make further contributions to this end;
 12. invites the Secretary General to present a report within 28 days summarizing any proposals made during its ministerial meeting and any commentary or response to these proposals by any Security Council member;
 13. encourages Member States of the United Nations to cooperate in resolving all outstanding issues with a view to the adoption, by consensus, of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;
 14. decides to review actions taken towards the realization of this declaration at further meetings of the Security Council.
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