

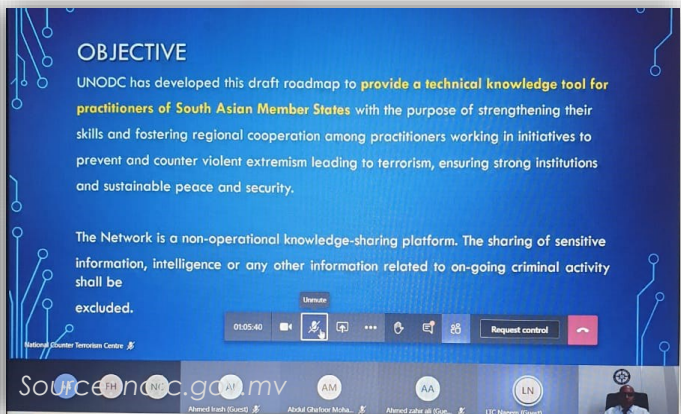
# National Counter Terrorism Centre



**NCTC Newsletter - Volume 41: August 2020**

## NCTC Conducts Online Meetings of the Counter Radicalisation and the Counter Terrorism Steering Committees

31 August 2020



National Counter Terrorism Centre hosts an online meeting with the Counter Radicalisation Committee on Monday, 31 August 2020. During the session chaired by the Director General of NCTC a short briefing on the main events carried out by NCTC and its stakeholders were given.

Main areas of discussion included; consultation on the implementation of the “National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism” (NAP-PCVE), and discussion on the “Roadmap on the establishment of a South Asia Network on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism” (SAN-PCVE).

Furthermore, an online meeting with the Counter Terrorism Steering Committee was also held on Tuesday, 1 September 2020. This session was also chaired by the Director General of NCTC. The committee was briefed on the establishment of the Counter Terrorism Intelligence Fusion Cell, the implementation of the NAP-PCVE, and the Roadmap on the establishment of SAN-PCVE.

Highlighting on the salient functions of the CT Intelligence Fusion Cell, members asserted that it should be an integrated effort of the intelligence community in sharing of all intelligence information, and such information is vital for any

...continued on page 2

operation carried out by law enforcement and security institutions.



NCTC being the apex agency in coordinating the national efforts of CT and PCVE, it is necessary to enhance its capacity in monitoring and gathering data with the collaborative efforts of the Maldives intelligence community and international collaborative networks.

In the meantime, kinetic response capacity building are being carried out by the Maldives National Defense force.

### In this issue:

- NCTC Conducts Online Meetings of the Counter Radicalisation and the Counter Terrorism Steering Committees p. 1
- Enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness in the Maldives by UNODC p. 3
- UN RC Meets with DG NCTC to Deliberate on Developing a Cohesive Society in the Maldives p. 5
- The Maldives Hosts a Virtual Bilateral Meeting With UNODC on Promoting the Development of a SAN for Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism p. 6
- DG NCTC Meets with UNODC Programme Coordinator to the Maldives p. 7
- Senior Officials of NCTC and Youth Ministry Meets to Discuss on Future Collaborations p. 8
- Officials of NCTC Conducts an Online Meeting with UNDP Maldives p. 9
- The Role of Youth in Building Global Peace p. 10

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# Enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness in the Maldives by UNODC

29 Aug 2020



“As a seafaring nation, our fortunes are tied to the ocean. UNODC South Asia and Japan’s assistance will go a long way in helping us secure our waters from threats like piracy & expand our maritime domain awareness” - Minister of Defence Uza Mariya Ahmed Didi.

Minister of Defence received Maritime Domain Awareness Equipment from UNODC, which was funded by the Government of Japan. This is part of UNODC’s Global Maritime Crime Programme to enhance maritime safety and security of the Maldives. It is vital for a small island nation to increase its capacity in the Maritime Security Domain.

The Maldives being a maritime nation, it is imperative that the maritime security and enforcement agencies are equipped to attain a common operating picture with an efficient maritime domain awareness capability. The current equipment will enhance the existing maritime information fusion capability of the MNDF Coast Guard in conducting intelligence based maritime operations in the region.

UNODC has partnered with MNDF Coast Guard to

train and develop the maritime domain awareness capacity of the Coast Guard into a well prepared and resourceful maritime organization. “In this regard, funded by the Government of Japan, UNODC has pledged to establish a maritime information fusion center within the Coast Guard. This fusion center is expected to be a repository for all concerned maritime agencies to contribute, as well as exchange information regarding maritime safety and security” (MNDF Coast Guard, 2020).





## WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard

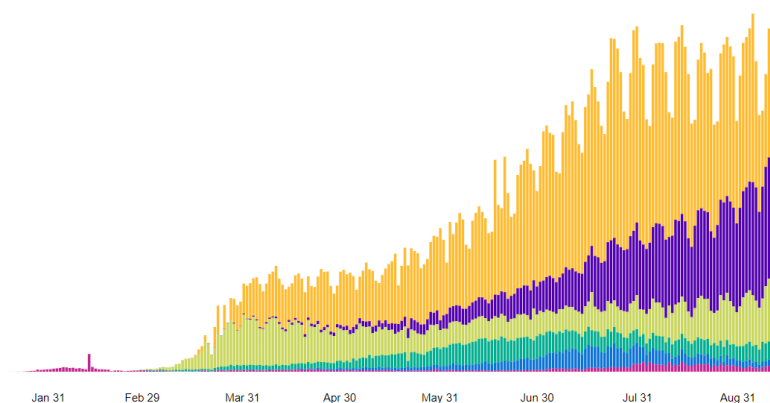
Data last updated: 2020/9/14, 3:28pm CEST

### Situation by WHO Region

Americas	14,815,178 confirmed
South-East Asia	5,475,657 confirmed
Europe	4,840,830 confirmed
Eastern Mediterranean	2,116,189 confirmed
Africa	1,119,641 confirmed
Western Pacific	550,664 confirmed

Source: World Health Organization

Data may be incomplete for the current day or week.



Source: covid19.who.int



## WORK SAFE



Sit 3ft apart  
from other people



Wear a mask  
inside the premise



Avoid socializing with  
colleagues, inside or outside



Stagger work  
and break hours



Disinfect shared surfaces  
before and after use



Work from home  
whenever possible





# UN RC Meets with DG NCTC to Deliberate on Developing a Cohesive Society in the Maldives

23 Aug 2020



On Sunday, 23 August 2020 UN Resident Coordinator (RC) to the Maldives and officials of the RC met with DG NCTC and officials to deliberate upon the concerning issues in the Maldives on peace and security.

Main topic of discussion was to identify the measures to strengthen social cohesion and community resilience in the Maldives. A concept to conduct an assessment by the UN Maldives office on the subject was presented during the meeting.

The concept describes 5 pillars that UN Maldives would use for supporting the government with the aim to build a more cohesive society and strengthen and empower more resilient communities to address miscommunication and stigma through increased positive messaging for solidarity; enhance inclusive dialogue and

participation; provide equitable service delivery and improved access to justice and essential human rights for improved people to government relations.

The aim of the social cohesion assessment will be to develop a baseline and potential activities that can build or strengthen capacities and activities contributing policies, legislation, cross-sectoral plan, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the framework connected to the sustainable development goals (SDG) of the Maldives.

UNRC further highlighted the need to understand the risks and looking at the issues holistically and the importance of the national projects to the concerns of the community need to be met and addressed.

The UN Maldives asserted that the assessment would produce a document on ...continued on page 6

the impact of COVID-19, actors, trends, root causes and factors, developing entry points to respond in strengthening social cohesion in the country with whole-of-government and whole-of-society focus, identifying theory/theories of change, building whole-of-government strategy including strengthening public-government dialogue and public information as well as a monitoring framework (tying results to the SDG framework). It would produce data (largely qualitative and some quantitative) to measure changing attitudes. The process would be used to promote dialogue platforms on social cohesion with a whole-of-government and whole of

Maldives reflection on building back better through shared values, actions for social cohesion and a new social contract.

Emphasizing on the impact of COVID-19 to the social security of Maldives DG-NCTC highlighted major areas to be addressed during this assessment, focusing on the unemployment of both civilians and the expatriates, migration of several families from Male' to their islands, increase of theft and other crimes, and the booming construction industry is slowed down.

# The Maldives Hosts a Virtual Bilateral Meeting With UNODC on Promoting the Development of a South Asia Network for Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism

17 Aug 2020

On Sunday, 17 August 2020 the Maldives hosted a virtual bilateral meeting with UNODC to discuss on the agreements for the draft roadmap to develop a South Asia Network for prevention of violent extremism in the region. UNODC experts

and government stakeholders of the Maldives participated the discussions.

Maldivian practitioners expressed their desire of the importance to adapt the roadmap to their particular national needs, as well as to request further technical assistance from UNODC in the process.

Moreover, a great emphasis was made to the implementation of the phase one of the roadmap, which is to establish structure to develop the network, which included the selection of National Contact Points and establishment of an advisory board and to establish the Administrative Office in the Maldives.



## DG NCTC Meets with UNODC South Asia Programme Coordinator to the Maldives

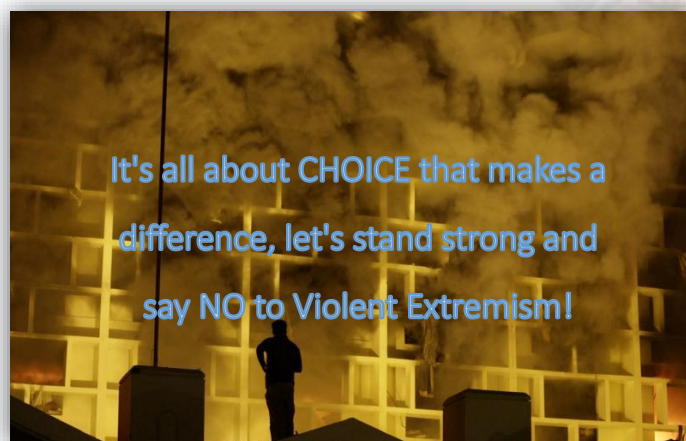
30 August 2020



Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor meets with the Maldives Programme Coordinator for UNODC Regional office for South Asia Ms. Thoiba Saeed on 30 August 2020 to deliberate upon UNODC's ongoing

support to the Maldives in countering terrorism and PVE, cyber security and promotion of the rule of law.

During the meeting the officials further highlighted specific areas of interests in building capacity of the Maldivian intelligence community on countering and preventing online space misuse and activities leading to violent extremism in order to enhance social media intelligence based programmes. Moreover, this will enable better criminal justice, investigation and prosecution of organized crimes and terrorism related cases in the Maldives.





## Senior Officials of NCTC and Youth Ministry Meets to Discuss on Future Collaborations

19 August 2020



As a permanent member of the Counter Radicalisation Committee of NCTC, and the Senior Policy Director of Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment Mr. Ahmed Irash's insight in promoting peace and security through the youth, gives a great contribution in strategic communications for preventative efforts by the government of Maldives.

A meeting with Mr. Irash and officials of NCTC was held on 19 August 2020 to discuss on events to be carried out for national youth day programmes. To deliberate on the youth activities in the Maldives, officials discuss on the importance of civil society organizations' role and how to facilitate and empower the young people and broaden the network in prevention of violent extremism leading to terrorism in the Maldives.

Furthermore, Youth Ministry's engagement in

planning special programmes in the occasion of the youth day, which includes; reintegration programmes, youth development programmes, youth influencers' programme, and lifestyle change programmes progress were highlighted by Mr. Irash.

Moreover, the collaborative efforts by the NCTC for the youth camp is vital and a need to conduct a special session on counter radicalisation and counter terrorism awareness sessions were highlighted by the NCTC officials.

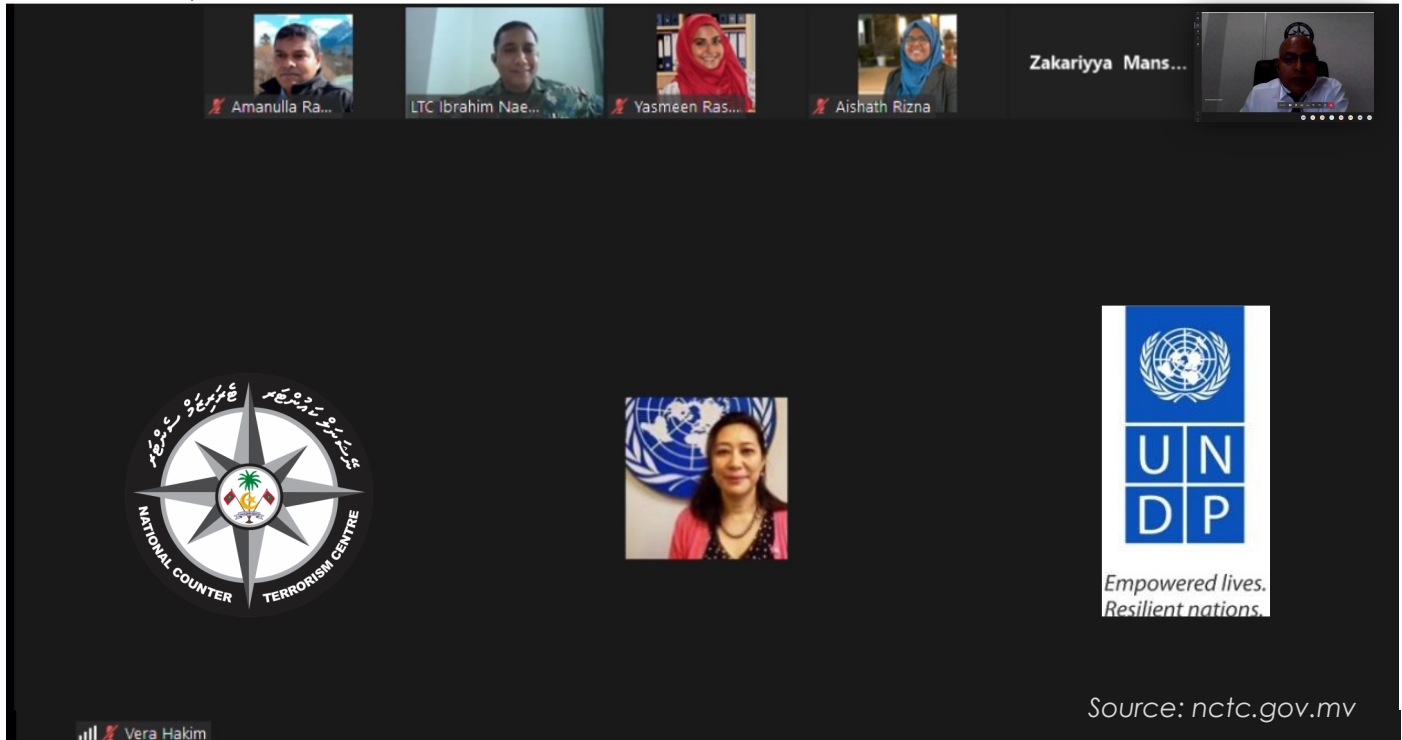
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*"I call on leaders and adults everywhere to do everything possible to enable the world's youth to enjoy lives of safety, dignity and opportunity and contribute to the fullest of their great potential".*



## Officials of NCTC Conducts an Online Meeting with UNDP Maldives

30 August 2020



During the online meeting hosted by UNDP Maldives on Thursday, 27 August 2020 Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor remarked the formulating of the National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (NAP-PCVE) as a landmark achievement and a joint effort by the UNDP as a whole.

National Action Plan has being approved by the cabinet on 7 July 2020 marked as a high level achievement on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism which will facilitate Countering Terrorism in the Maldives.

The most important task is yet to begin, which is the implementation of the NAP-PCVE. Moreover, DG highlighted regarding “close monitoring and

evaluation mechanism” is needed during the implementation phase of the project.

Hence, a roadmap is needed to be developed soon with the assistance from the UNDP Maldives. Director of NCTC LTC Ibrahim Naeem emphasized on the recommended phases to be included in the roadmap as three phases: 1) a preparatory phase, 2) an implementation phase, and 3) a monitoring and evaluation phase. Director further highlighted that it is crucial to include a stakeholder’s involvement in leading the effort for the implementation phase of the NAP-PCVE.

UNDP Maldives team assured to assist in the implementation process and work closely with NCTC to make it a success.

## The Role of Youth in Building Global Peace

*LTC Amanulla A Rasheed*

Marking the international Youth Day on 12 August 2020, the United Nations stated this year's theme as "Youth Engagement for Global Action", which seeks to emphasize the ways young people engage at all levels of national and multilateral institutions and processes. Hence their representation and engagement in formal institutional politics can be enhanced significantly (UN, 2020). **["In 1999, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day" - U N ]**

To enhance institutional politics peace building is imperative in all kinds of crisis situations. COVID19 the global pandemic have caused damage to all walks of life. Therefore, youth have a higher stake in building and managing the peace in all arenas around the world. As asserted by the United Nations, "at the international level, against the backdrop of an increasingly polarized world, the international system of governance is currently undergoing a crisis of legitimacy and relevance" (UN, 2020).

The vast majority of challenges that humanity currently facing, including the COVID-19 outbreak and ongoing climate change require a joint global effort and requires meaningful engagement and participation of young people effectively. Moreover, terrorism is a grave concern by the world nations, and prevention and countering efforts are utmost crucial to build global peace.

*"The primary responsibility to support victims of terrorism and uphold their rights rests with*

*Member States. The United Nations has an important role in supporting Member States to implement Pillar I and IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through standing in solidarity and providing support to victims, capacity building assistance, establishing networks of, and offering support to, civil society organizations, particularly victims of terrorism associations, and encouraging Member States to promote, protect and respect the rights of victims" (UN, 2020).*

Resolution 72/165(2017) builds on existing efforts by the General Assembly, the Commission of Human Rights and the Human Rights Council to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism (UN, 2020). The UN General Assembly also marks 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. **["...the General Assembly reaffirmed that the promotion and the protection of human rights and the rule of law at the national; and international levels are essential for preventing and combating terrorism"—UN].**

Youth should be part of the local development today as well as in the future, and assume important roles in the resolution of conflicts within their communities. It is important to build their capacity as peacebuilding actors to contribute globally. Hence, this would facilitate all nations to strengthen their democratic governance and solve problems at the local and national levels. "Although conflict as such is a normal condition in human relations, it is important to address conflict effectively to prevent the occurrence of violence" (Tinnerholm, 2018).

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National Counter  
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