

# National Counter Terrorism Centre



**NCTC Newsletter - Volume 53: August 2021**

## President Reiterates the Importance of Interagency Cooperation for a Vigilant Emergency Response to Terrorism and Violent Extremism

26 August 2021



photo: presidency.gov.mv

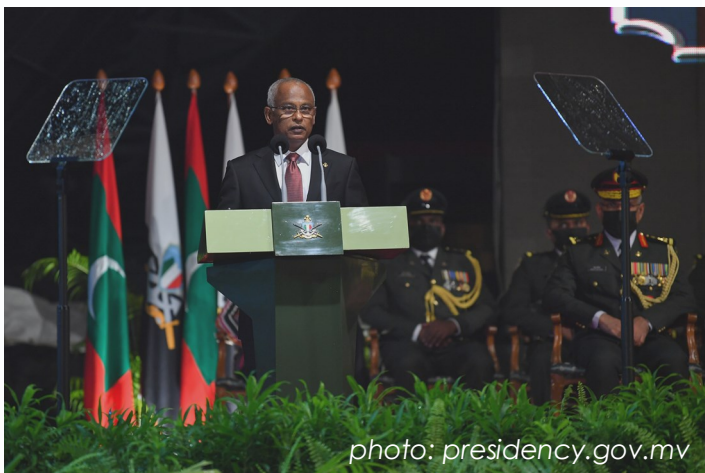
President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih has reiterated the importance of strengthening interagency cooperation and intelligence sharing among security and law enforcement agencies for a stronger emergency response to terrorism and violent extremism. President Solih made these remarks speaking at the Oath Taking and Arms

Presentation ceremony held for the graduates of the 67th Basic Training Course of the Maldives National Defence Force.

In his speech, President Solih highlighted that the world was facing many challenges, regionally and internationally, in the form of terrorism and

...continued on page 2

extremism. He stressed on the need for vigilance among members of the armed force to face these security challenges caused by ideological issues.



President Solih also stated that work was underway to establish a robust interagency intelligence framework to enable intelligence agencies to collect, share, assess, and disseminate information as stipulated in the Anti-Terrorism Act. Furthermore, he stressed that a holistic intelligence framework would greatly enhance threat assessment capabilities and help security agencies to better prepare for terrorist threats.

Under the government's zero tolerance policy on terrorism and violent extremism, countering terrorism and preventing/countering violent extremism is a high priority on the government's agenda to ensure Maldives remains a peaceful, peace-loving, and cohesive Islamic nation.

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“Unless we teach our children  
peace, someone else will teach  
them violence.”  
*Colman McCarthy*

## **NCTC Briefs Chief of Defence Force About Work Done in CT and P/CVE**

*24 August 2021*

NCTC officials met with the Chief of Defence Force Major General Abdulla Shamal to discuss matters concerning CT and P/CVE. DG of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya led the team from NCTC.

During this meeting, both the Chief of Defence Force and DG discussed growing security concerns in the nation, especially with regards to terrorism and violent extremism. Both parties also deliberated upon security concerns following the events in Afghanistan and possible second and third order effects from the conflict to the South Asian region and the Maldives.

The meeting concluded with officials discussing



ways to enhance the work of NCTC, especially in the preventive efforts and proactive intervention programs.

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## **NCTC Discusses Areas of Collaboration with the Local Government Authority to Build a Cohesive Community through Local Councils**

*16 August 2021*

NCTC met with officials from the Local Government Authority (LGA) to discuss areas of collaboration and cooperation to build a cohesive and resilient community through local councils.

During this meeting, officials discussed socioeconomic factors that create a conducive environment for violence and extremism to thrive in and elaborated on the role of the island, city, and atoll councils to address such factors.

Officials from LGA highlighted the need for empowering local governments to increase engagement at the grassroots level, civil society actors, and societal leaders.

As LGA has a vital role as an implementing partner of the National Action Plan on P/CVE, engaging directly with the local populace to address push and pull factors leading to extremism is vital to make the national preventive efforts inclusive and people-focused.



# Activities of the MNDF Contingent at IMCTC in Saudi Arabia



MNDF delegation attended a presentation organized at IMCTC headquarters in Riyadh on “A Strategy for Modifying Violent Extremist Ideology” delivered by Dr. Mansour Al-Qarni, head of ideology department. In his presentation, Dr. Al-Qarni highlighted the mechanisms used for modifying violent extremist ideology.



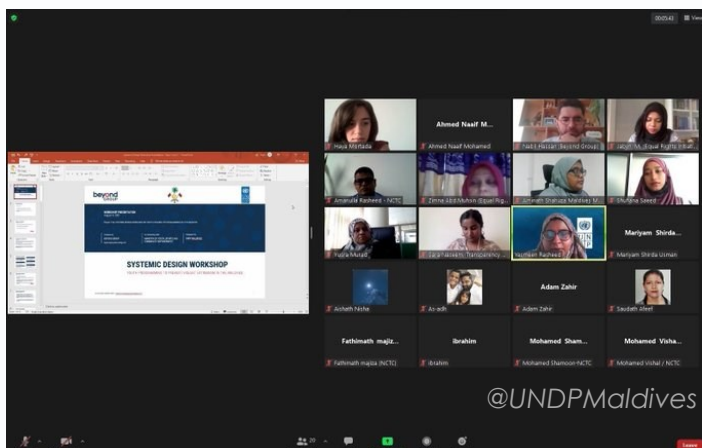
The Maldivian delegation also attended a presentation entitled “Proxy Warfare, Fourth-Generation Wars” delivered by Brig. Gen. Raed Marashdah, Delegate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to IMCTC. The presentation detailed the key characteristics, means and tools of proxy warfare.



Members of the Maldivian delegation attended an event titled “Cyberterrorism and Countering Methods” delivered by Brig. Gen. Nawaf Al-Jutaili, Delegate of Kuwait to IMCTC. Brig. Gen. Al-Jutaili outlined the concept of cyberterrorism, its manifestations and key means to counter it.

## **Staff of NCTC Participates in “Systemic Design Workshop” Conducted by Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment in Partnership with UNDP Maldives**

*4-5 and 10-12 August 2021*



Staff of NCTC participated in “Systemic Design Workshop” conducted by Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment. The 5-day

workshop focused on developing concept notes and programmatic activities targeting youth, specified the National Action Plan on P/CVE in the Maldives, through systemic design approach.

The workshop was conducted in collaboration with UNDP Maldives with the aim to facilitate planning, concept development using tried and tested methods of systemic design, and reaching tangible and effective outcomes at the end of the planned activity highlighted in the NAP on P/CVE.

## **Staff of NCTC Participates in “Online Intelligence and Social Media Workshop” Conducted by INTERPOL**

*9-12 August 2021*



# INTERPOL

Program Coordinator of NCTC participated in “Online Intelligence and Social Media Workshop” conducted by

INTERPOL. The program is part of INTERPOL’s “Support to Sri Lanka and The Maldives on Counter-Terrorism Program” that aims to build the capacity of countries to detect, prevent, and investigate terrorism and terrorism-related activities.

As today’s social mediascape is highly polarizing and conducive to creating discord and propagating messages of violence, social media is a core component of open-source intelligence and its analysis is vital for information sharing among stakeholder agencies leading to a stronger intelligence apparatus and a stronger security framework. A strong evidence base is also vital for robust and successful programming of interventions.

## **NCTC Conducts Awareness Session for Supreme Court Judges in Partnership with Department of Judicial Administration**

*17 August 2021*

NCTC conducted an awareness session for Supreme Court judges in partnership with Department of Judicial Administration.

The session was conducted by Director of NCTC Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Naeem and covered how to prevent terrorism and violent extremism and the role of judges in the criminal justice response to terrorism. All judges from the Supreme Court attended the session.

This session is a continuation of government's effort in the whole of nation approach to promote peace in the Maldives and strengthen criminal justice response to terrorism.

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## **NCTC Officials Attend a Training of Trainers Program Conducted by UNDP Maldives**

*30 August-2 September 2021*



NCTC officials attended a training of trainers program conducted by UNDP Maldives. The 4-day program was targeted at practitioners involved in PVE programs and resilience building programs. In addition to NCTC, various government institutions and CSOs participated in the program.

The program was based on the PVE training toolkit developed by UNDP consultant Ms. Fauziya Abdi Ali in 2019. The sessions covered drivers and trends in radicalization, gender mainstreaming,

ways to develop resilience within the community. NCTC officials presented the current threat environment and gave a detailed overview of the National Action Plan on P/CVE that participants could use when designing their respective programs.

In line with NCTC's whole-of-nation approach to preventing violent extremism, stakeholders and especially civil society actors have a vital role to play in building a resilient and cohesive society.



## COVID-19 LOCAL UPDATES

### Latest Update

20/09/2021 - 06:00 PM



79

New Cases  
Today

83,655

Total Number  
of Cases

1,609

Active  
Cases

3,983

Samples (tested in  
the last 24 hrs)

23

In Hospitals

81,804

Recoveries

229

Deaths

26

Greater Male'  
Area

42

Inhabited  
Islands

11

Operational  
Resorts

00

Non-operational  
Resorts

00

Live  
Aboards

00

Islands under  
development

00

Industrial/islands  
used for other  
purposes

- From the total samples tested today, 1,628 samples are from the Greater Male' Area.
- Total cases include 13 deceased positives whose cause of death is not directly due to COVID-19.

from @hpa\_mv



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**LET US MAINTAIN THE WELLBEING AND COHESION OF  
THE FAMILY UNIT TO ENSURE THE PEACE AND SECURI-  
TY OF THE NATION!**





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National Counter  
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