

# National Counter Terrorism Centre



**NCTC Newsletter - Volume 65: May 2023**

## **Empowering Children: Building a Sustainable Future**



*photo: Wikimedia Commons*

The future of any nation lies in the hands of its children. It is therefore essential that children are given the right tools, skills, and mindset to progress national development and build a prosperous peace-loving nation. Parents, guardians, communities, and the state have a collective responsibility to ensure that every child is nurtured to lead the nation's future.

Empowering children is essential for building a sustainable future. Sustainable development means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. For this reason, it is crucial that we equip our children with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to create a sustainable future.

One of the primary responsibilities of parents and guardians is to teach children about current social concerns and issues. They should educate children about the impact of their actions on the environment and the need to protect it for future generations. They should also instill in children a sense of

*...continued on page 2*

responsibility and compassion towards the less fortunate members of society.

The community also has an important role to play in empowering children. Communities should provide children with safe and nurturing environments where they can learn, grow, and develop. Community programs and initiatives that promote education, health, and wellbeing should be supported, as they can help to provide children with the resources and support they need to succeed.

Furthermore, it is the duty of the state to make quality education and healthcare accessible to all children, regardless of their social or economic background. Policies that promote children's rights, protect them from harm, and support their development should be implemented and enforced.

Empowering children is not just about providing them with the necessary resources and support. It is also about instilling in them the virtues of righteous behavior. Children should be taught the importance of honesty, integrity, and respect for others. They should also be encouraged to develop a strong work ethic, perseverance, and resilience.

In addition to these values, children should also be taught critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. These skills will enable them to think creatively and find innovative solutions to the challenges they will face in the future. Such skills will also help children to develop a sense of self-confidence and empowerment, which is essential for success in all aspects of life.

Empowering children is essential for building a sustainable future. It is the responsibility of parents, guardians, communities, and the state to ensure that every child is nurtured to lead the nation's future. By providing children with the necessary resources, support, and values, we can empower them to create a better world for themselves and future generations.

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“Children must be taught how to think,  
not what to think.”  
*Margaret Mead*

**Implications of terrorist anger**

Rage correlates with psychological disturbances, such as: Feelings of despair, helplessness, depression, anxiety, self-loathing, low self-respect, eating and sleep disorders, and addiction, as well as violence, aggression, which may adversely result in: Temper tantrums and explosive reactions which pose an incentive to terrorist behavior.

WWW.NCTC.ORG

# NCTC Conducts “Workshop to Review the National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism 2020-2024”

2-3 May 2023



The workshop was collaboratively organized by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, with technical support provided by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). This two-day workshop specifically targeted officials from key stakeholder agencies identified under the National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.

The primary objectives of the workshop were:

- Strengthen the monitoring and evaluation processes associated with the implementation of the NAP. This aimed to enhance the effectiveness of the plan in addressing and mitigating the risks of violent extremism and terrorism.
- Identify and address the challenges encountered in the implementation of the NAP. Through open discussions and sharing of experiences, participants sought to find ways to overcome obstacles and improve the overall

effectiveness of their efforts.

- Enhance coordination and collaboration among various government agencies and sectors of society by streamlining and improving the work carried out as part of the "whole-of-government" and "whole-of-society" approach. This approach emphasizes the collective involvement and cooperation of all relevant stakeholders to effectively prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism.

Minister of Higher Education Dr. Ibrahim Hassan officiated the opening session. In his remarks, he highlighted the importance of coordination at the national level for a comprehensive response to prevent violent extremism in all its forms.

The NAP was first published in 2020 as a research-based whole-of-nation effort to address a broad spectrum of factors in cross-cutting sectors that make people fall victim to extremist ideologies.

# **NCTC Holds Follow-On Discussions with Stakeholders to Finalize Revisions to the National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism**

*May 2023*

NCTC conducted a series of follow-on discussions with stakeholders to finalize revisions to the National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. The discussions took place throughout the month of May, building on the outcomes of the previous workshop held to review the existing NAP.

The primary objective of these discussions was to engage with stakeholders to delve deeper into the suggestions and revisions proposed during the earlier workshop, ensuring that the National Action Plan aligns with the evolving needs and challenges of preventing and countering violent extremism.

As of now, the NCTC has successfully conducted meetings with key ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Ministry of Higher Education, and the National Reintegration Centre. These meetings have laid a solid foundation for the revision of the National Action

Plan on P/CVE, and further engagements with additional stakeholders are anticipated in the coming months.

The revisions to the National Action Plan on P/CVE, driven by these follow-on discussions, hold the potential to strengthen the Maldives' capabilities in preventing and countering violent extremism. By integrating the perspectives of various stakeholders and leveraging international expertise, the revised plan will serve as a comprehensive framework to address the multifaceted aspects of this complex challenge in a collaborative and inclusive approach to address the threat of violent extremism.

## **Deputy Commanding General for the United States Army Pacific Calls on DG of NCTC**

*4 May 2023*

Deputy Commanding General for the United States Army Pacific (USARPAC) Major General Chris Smith called upon DG of NCTC Brigadier General (Rtd) Zakariyya Mansoor in a meeting held at the Ministry of Defence.

During the meeting, officials discussed the continuous work being done by NCTC to promote peace and harmony in Maldivian society and future areas of collaboration to enhance resilience among the country's population.

The United States Army maintains close ties with the Maldives Armed Forces to boost the country's defenses and its national security. This collaboration ultimately contributes to heightened safety not only within the Maldives but also throughout the INDOPACOM region.

# Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment Conducts "Hafthaares" in Lhaviyani Atoll in Collaboration with NCTC

16-21 May 2023



The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism Centre conducted a "Hafthaares" program in Lh. Naifaru. This program is aimed at promoting community empowerment and strengthening resilience against extremism and terrorism.

The 6-day program involved participants from various sectors of society including youth, senior educators, and community leaders. The sessions were designed to provide participants with the necessary tools and knowledge to build a cohesive and resilient community.

The sessions prioritize the dissemination of crucial information aimed at enabling individuals to recognize the root causes of violent extremism and terrorism, commonly referred to as the "push and pull factors." These programs actively encourage participants to tackle these factors through a cooperative "whole-of-society" approach.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment and the NCTC have been working together to strengthen community resilience and prevent violent extremism in the Maldives. This collaboration has led to the development of a range of initiatives and programs aimed at promoting community empowerment and countering extremism.

The success of these programs and initiatives is evident in the increased awareness of the

knowledge and tools necessary to identify and understand the underlying factors that contribute to the spread of violent extremism. By fostering a comprehensive understanding of these factors, participants are empowered to address them collectively, bringing together various sectors of society to collaborate on effective strategies and solutions.

In addition to Youth Ministry, NCTC partnered with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Maldives Police Service, and Islamic University of



Maldives to conduct a variety of sessions concerning community empowerment. NCTC also conducted awareness sessions for parents, teachers and senior students of Lh. Olhuvelifushi, Lh. Hinnavaru, Lh. Kurendho, and Lh. Naifaru.



## NCTC Conducts a Session on the Role of Youth for a Peaceful and Resilient Society for the Participants of “Youth Leaders Forum” in M.Kolhufushi

25-27 May 2023



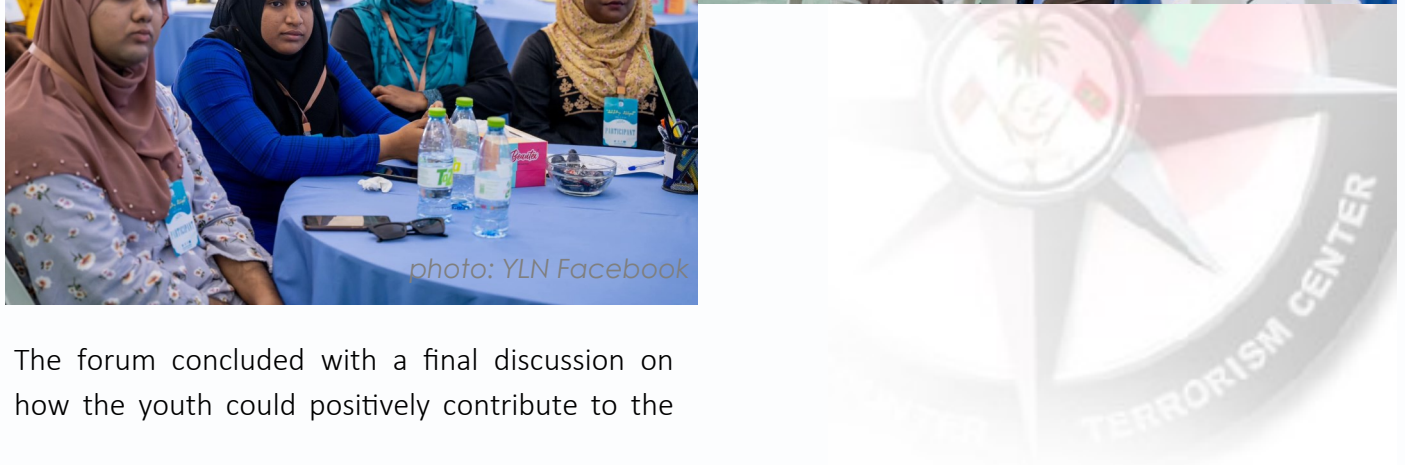
Youth Leaders Network (YLN) hosted the Youth Leaders Forum under the theme of “Future Leaders” in Meemu Kolhufushi. The 3-day forum was attended by over 80 youth from the region.

Sessions in the forum covered a variety of topics related to social issues, youth empowerment, and leadership. NCTC presented on the ‘Role of Youth for a Peaceful and Resilient Society’ and the presentation highlighted the importance of youth activism and engagement in building resilience and contributing to a peaceful society.

society and the nation, and how they could play more active roles in the society. Youth Leaders Network is an affiliation of student unions of all colleges and universities in the Maldives, overseen by the Ministry of Home Affairs.



The forum concluded with a final discussion on how the youth could positively contribute to the



# وفاقی سطح پر مقرر کردہ نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ کوآرڈینیٹرز کی تقریب

## 2-3 دسمبر 2023



[nctc.gov.my](http://nctc.gov.my)

وزیر اعلیٰ، پنجاب، ایم۔ اے۔ عثمانی، نے تقریب کی صدارت کی اور تمام مقررین کو مبارکباد دی اور ان کے کامیاب کاموں کو سراہا۔

ان کے خطاب میں، انہوں نے کہا کہ نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ کوآرڈینیٹرز کی اس عظیم ذمہ داری کو نبھانے کے لیے، انہیں مل جل کر کام کرنا پڑے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان کے کاموں کے نتیجے میں، ملک میں ترقی اور معیشت بڑھے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان کے کاموں کے نتیجے میں، ملک میں ترقی اور معیشت بڑھے گی۔

"وفاقی سطح پر مقرر کردہ نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ کوآرڈینیٹرز کی تقریب" وزیر اعلیٰ، پنجاب، ایم۔ اے۔ عثمانی نے صدارت کی اور تمام مقررین کو مبارکباد دی اور ان کے کامیاب کاموں کو سراہا۔ ان کے خطاب میں، انہوں نے کہا کہ نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ کوآرڈینیٹرز کی اس عظیم ذمہ داری کو نبھانے کے لیے، انہیں مل جل کر کام کرنا پڑے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان کے کاموں کے نتیجے میں، ملک میں ترقی اور معیشت بڑھے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان کے کاموں کے نتیجے میں، ملک میں ترقی اور معیشت بڑھے گی۔

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