



## IN THIS ISSUE

- NCTC and UNDP holds the “National Conference on Promoting Dialogue and Creating a Peaceful and Tolerant Society”
- Counter Terrorism Steering Committee Reviews the National CT Efforts and plans future collaborations.
- DG meets the UNODC representative, Mr. Sergey Kapinos
- NCTC Signs an MoU with Island Aviation Services
- Ministry of Islamic Affairs conducts the Refresher program for Imams



## “National Conference on Promoting Dialogue and Creating a Peaceful and Tolerant Society” : The formulation of National Action Plan on PCVE underway



*“We, in the Maldives, are proud and blessed to be united with one language, one culture and one religion. We are also blessed with peace and harmony and it is our resolve to keep it this way.”*

*Minister of Defence, Hon. Adam Shareef Umar*

 **1615**  
HOTLINE

[www.nctc.gov.mv](http://www.nctc.gov.mv)

## NATIONAL EFFORT ON THE FORMULATION OF NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON PCVE UNDERWAY

13-14 August 2018

As part of the national efforts to prevent the spread of Violent Extremism in the Maldives, NCTC in Collaboration with UNDP conducted the first “National Conference on Creating a Peaceful and Tolerant Community”. Sixty Three participants from Thirty Three organisations participated in the Conference. The aim of the national conference was to facilitate the development of the National Action Plan on Countering Violent Extremism. The participants of the conference included the government organisations represented in the Counter Radicalization Committee, the Civil Sector Organisations and the State owned Companies.

The National Conference was inaugurated by the Minister of Defence and National Security Hon. Adam Shareef Umar. During the Inauguration, Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor and the Resident Representative of United Nations in the Maldives, Ms. Shoko Noda also addressed the participants.

In his Inaugural Speech, Minister Adam Shareef Umar expressed his gratitude to the UNDP and the Government and the people of Japan

for their continued assistance to the National Counter Terrorism Centre in its effort to counter Violent extremism in the Maldives. He also stressed the importance of the participation of the civil sector in keeping Maldives safe from Violent Extremism and Terrorism.



National and International Subject Matter Experts in the field of Prevention of Violent Extremism took five sessions on different relevant topics during the first day of the conference.

The first Session was on “Implementing Global

*“We are confident that through the use of the “whole of Government” and the “whole of Society” approach, we can control the spread of Violent Extremism into our peace-loving society”*

*Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor, DG NCTC*



*“Tolerance and respect are fundamental aspects of Maldivian Identity. I am hopeful that the work we are beginning today will only help to consolidate it further”*

*Shoko Noda, UN Resident Representative to Maldives*

Commitments to Address Violent Extremism” and this session was presented by Ms. Aishath Rizna, Mr. Nabeeh Azim, and Ms. Shamha Naseer from UNDP Maldives.

The Second Session was on “Understanding Violent Extremism in the Maldivian Context and its Impact on Development” and this session was presented by Major Ibrahim Naeem of NCTC and Chief Inspector Ahmed Ali of Maldives Police Service.

The third Session was on “Building a Whole of Society Approach through Education and Empowerment of





Youth and its Challenges and Possibilities”. This session was presented by Dr. Shahuneeza Naseer of Islamic University of Maldives, Sheikh Ibrahim Ahmed of Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Dr. Rafiyya from RAFY NGO.

The fourth session was on the “Regional Trends in Counter Radicalization, De-Radicalization, and Rehabilitation” and this session was presented by an international Subject Matter Expert, Professor Muhammad bin Ali from Rajaratnam School of International Studies. He is also the Vice Chairman of the “Religious Rehabilitation Group” of Singapore.

The fifth and final session was on “The Role of Women in Peace Building” and this

session was presented by the second International Subject Matter Expert, Ms. Ruby Kholifah who is the Country Representative Asian Muslim Action Network of Indonesia.

The second day of the conference was on “identifying Practical Approaches to PCVE”. Discussions and deliberations were carried out after grouping the participants into eight thematic areas.

The eight thematic Groups were, Education Sector, Religious Sector, Gender and Civil Sector, Youth, Legal Sector, NGOs, Law enforcement Sector, Aviation Sector and public corporations.

The groups discussed the current challenges in the prevention of Violent



Extremism and how best to mitigate them through a “whole of Society” approach. The current programs that are being conducted by the thematic areas were also discussed and new programs that can be carried out through a collaborative effort were also discussed. All the groups presented their findings to the Conference.



**Inaugural Address by  
Minister of Defence and National Security Hon. Adam Shareef Umar at the first  
“National Conference on  
Promoting Dialogue and Creating a Peaceful and Tolerant Society”  
13 August 2018**

Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor, Resident Representative of United Nations in the Maldives, Ms. Shoko Noda, UN Deputy Resident Representative, Ms. Faiza Effendi, Japanese Ambassador Mr. Kazumi Endo, expert lecturers, and distinguished participants, Assalaam Alaikum and a very Good Morning.

We, in the Maldives, are proud and blessed to be united with one language, one culture and one religion.

governance needs to be synchronized with regional governance.

No country in the world is immune to Terrorism and Violent Extremism, and the Maldives is no exception. Therefore, the Government of the Maldives under the leadership of His Excellency President Yameen Abdul Qayoom adopted the policy of maintaining the Maldives as a



*We in the Maldives remain committed nationally and regionally to do all that we can. We reiterate our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism towards achieving a world free of terror.*

*Hon. Adam Shareef Umar,  
Minister of Defence & National Security*

We are also blessed with peace and harmony and it is our resolve to keep it this way.

Our vision in the National Strategy on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism is testimony to our belief that the “Maldives will remain a moderate, progressive, tolerant and peaceful Muslim country.” However, one of the most serious security challenges in the world order today is, undoubtedly, terrorism, which represents a transnational form of Violent Extremism led by non-state actors. In this regard, global

moderate and 100% Muslim State.

The theme of this conference is very relevant to his visionary goal as it stresses the importance of tolerance and peace for building a moderate society. This Conference will assist us in developing an effective National Action Plan to curb Violent Extremism.

Let us go back to the watershed event of 2001 and how we witnessed the 9/11 terrorist attack shaped the global security agenda. We deplore the suffering caused to the victims and

reaffirm our commitment to the cause of wiping out for the menace it continues to plague different parts of the world.

The United States endeavored to establish a global norm that sees counter terrorism as an initiative for peace in the 21st century. Since then, it has become a major component of global governance.

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy Review renewed its unwavering commitment



to strengthening international co-operation to prevent and combat terrorism and reaffirmed that any acts of terrorism are criminal and justifiable, regardless of their motivation.

Hence, we in the Maldives remain committed nationally and regionally to do all that we can. We reiterate our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism towards achieving a world free of terror.

Ladies and Gentlemen,. The unique religious and cultural backdrop of the Maldives together with its outstanding success story as one of the most pristine holiday destinations has given the Maldives prominence in the industry. The huge infrastructure developments, in addition to the increase in high-end tourist resorts that have become operational is a clear testimony of unprecedented ventures that require enhancing security for sustainability.

Under the guidance of His Excellency President Yameen, the Maldives

adopted a zero-tolerance policy in 2015 on Terrorism and Violent Extremism. Countering Violent Extremism is a top priority for the Government. As a result, in 2016, His Excellency President Yameen established the NCTC as the national hub on countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism.

We recognize that the fight against the ideologies of Violent Extremism need to be increased incorporating a “whole of society” approach for effectiveness. I am pleased to let you know that we have made great strides. Some civil society actors, NGOs and higher education institutions are now part of our strategy in combatting terrorism and Violent Extremism in the Maldives. In order to combat Violent Extremism we have to fight in the ideological battlefield. Countering the extremist ideologies involve societal change and change as we all know, is often challenging, nevertheless, rewarding.

In 2017 as part of the change process,

the NCTC published the “National Strategy of Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism”. We are working very closely with our partner institutions and civil society organizations to develop the “National Action Plan” on Countering Violent Extremism.

I urge the civil society at large to assist the intelligence organizations and law enforcement agencies in keeping the Maldives safe and secure irrespective of political affiliations.

I am deeply encouraged that the NCTC has facilitated in bringing all the stakeholders under one roof to draw up the action plan.

I am grateful to the Government of Japan and UNDP for their continued assistance to the NCTC in their efforts to counter Violent Extremism.

I wish this endeavor every success as I inaugurate the “National Conference of Promoting Dialogue and Creating a Peaceful and Tolerant Society.”  
Thank You.

## COUNTER TERRORISM STEERING COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE NATIONAL CT EFFORTS

*07 August 2018*

The National Counter Terrorism Steering Committee meets to review the progress of the national Counter Terrorism efforts of the Maldives for the last six months. During the meeting, the way forward for was also discussed. Special emphasis was given for co-ordination mechanisms between the law enforcement agencies. The meeting was attended by the members from law

enforcement and intelligence agencies of Maldives, and was presided over by the committee chairman, Minister of Defence and National Security Honorable Adam Shareef Umar. During the meeting, the co-ordination for the next National Level Counter Terrorism Exercise as well as the challenges on the prosecution of Foreign Terrorist Fighters were also discussed.

## MINISTRY OF ISLAMIC AFFAIRS CONDUCTS THE REFRESHER PROGRAM FOR IMAMS

11-12 August 2018

Ministry of Islamic Affairs, conducted tenth refresher training program for Imams and Kathibs. A total of over 100 Imams from the Atolls of Lhaviyani, Kaafu, Alif Alif, Alif Dhaalu and Vaavu attended the program. The program was aimed at training the Imams and Khatibs to promote moderate Islamic views and empower Imams to prevent radicalization activities in the island communities. Minister of Islamic Affairs Inaugurated the program. During the program, Ministry of Islamic Affairs distributed special literature materials addressing the



pressing issues including the messages against Violent Extremism. The training program was conducted

by senior officials and scholars from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs.



## DG MEETS THE UNODC REPRESENTATIVE, MR. SERGEY KAPINOS

12 August 2018

Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor met the UNODC Resident Representative based at New Delhi, Mr. Sergey Kapinos. In the meeting, Director General Brig. Gen. Zakariya Mansoor expressed his gratitude to the UNODC, for their role in strengthening the law enforcement agencies, the Judiciary and the prosecutors in their efforts to keep Maldives safe and Secure, and developing the human resource of the Maldives. Mr. Sergey Kapinos gave his assurance that UNODC has started the process of carrying out programmes in the priority areas that DG has highlighted in the four year action plan that was presented during his visit to New Delhi in March of this year.





## NCTC SIGNS AN MOU WITH ISLAND AVIATION SERVICES

The National Counter Terrorism Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Island Aviation Services Limited. The signing ceremony was held at Coast Guard Conference Hall.

The Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor signed the MoU on behalf of NCTC and Mr. Abdul Haris, Managing Director of IASL signed on behalf of the Island Aviation Services Limited. .

DG highlighted the importance of this MoU with IASL with foreseeable benefits for both organisations in the future. He also highlighted the greater need for Aviation Sector Security with the increasing terrorist activities across the globe. DG also expressed his gratitude to the leadership of IASL for their close cooperation and expressed NCTC's interest to expand

the scope of activities in collaboration with IASL.

Managing Director of IASL Mr. Abdul Haris thanked the NCTC for initiating the collaborative effort and the opportunity to work in a collaborative manner. He also highlighted that the MoU would pave way for broader collaboration for

capacity building in human resource development of IASL. During his remarks, he highlighted the continued support from NCTC even in the absence of such an agreement.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by senior management of IASL and officers and staff of NCTC

