



IN THIS ISSUE

- DG meets Salah Shihab, Vice Chairman of MATI
- NCTC participates in the youth Forum conducted by Youth Leader's Network in DH. Kudahuvadhoo
- Final preparations of the Maritime security seminar organized by the UNODC
- Judicial Colloquium to address Terrorism related prosecutions and Judicial proceedings
- DG meets the participants of the Japan Study Tour sponsored by UNDP
- US Communication Support Team meets representatives from Universities
- NCTC partners with RAFY in conducting the Maldives Youth Leaders Dialogue

"We need to harness the positive energy of young people by increased investment in education and employment" & "empower them by giving them the tools they need to combat oppressive extremist narratives, xenophobia and hate speech"

UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres

 **1615**
HOTLINE

www.nctc.gov.mv



DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NCTC ADDRESSES AT THE FIRST UN HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM



Statement by Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor
Director General of Maldives National Counter Terrorism Agency
at the

United Nations High Level Conference on Counter Terrorism
Session IV: “Strengthening the Role and capacity of the United Nations to support Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy”

United Nations, New York, 29 June 2018

“Mr Chair, Let me begin by thanking the initiative by the Secretary-General and the Under Secretary General for convening this very first High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism.

Terrorism is a global menace and it requires a global response. Terrorist attacks continue to take the lives of millions of people, creating fear and terror everywhere. It is challenging the normative structure on which nation-States and international society are founded. The acts of terrorism disregard human dignity, human rights, and national, and international law. No country, no society, is immune from terrorist attacks. There are no “good” terrorists. There are no causes deserving acts of terrorism. My Government strongly condemns all acts, methods, and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, whenever and by whomsoever it is committed.

The Government of Maldives has drawn up, and is implementing action plans, to address the challenges of terrorism and violent extremism in the Maldives. The action plans focus on creating the necessary legislative, institutional, and strategic frameworks. We enacted an Anti-Terrorism Act in 2015, and started implementing a Policy on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism in 2016, established the National Counter Terrorism Centre in 2016 to spearhead and coordinate CT and CVE efforts, and adopted the National Strategy on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.

At the NCTC we have adopted a “Whole of Government” and “Whole of Society” approach to counter violent extremism and terrorism. Our



Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor addressing in the conference

main focus is on preventing situations that spread radicalization, violent extremism, and terrorism. As the national policy implementation agency, NCTC established a hotline (1615) to give easy access for real time information sharing and report incidents related to terrorism and radicalization.

The Maldives undertook a ‘Baseline Study on Radicalism in the Maldives’ in 2017, which provided a comprehensive picture of the threat environment across the Maldives. Based on the findings of the study, we were able to identify the vulnerable communities, and the extremist narratives. The study led to the formulation of the “National Strategy on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism”. The strategy aims to tackle the issue on a ‘whole of society’ framework, which includes government collaboration with the civil society actors, higher education institutions, prominent public figures and commercial entities.

The Maldives has also expanded its

international collaboration, intelligence and information sharing, and cooperation with international partners. In October 2016, the Maldives hosted an international seminar focused on counter terrorism and violent extremism to establish an international network to facilitate further collaboration.

Mr Chair, Terrorism seeks to undermine the most fundamental and deeply cherished values of freedom, inclusivity, tolerance and respect. Shaping a global response requires better levels of coordination between national agencies in various countries. It requires establishing partnerships that are built on mutual trust. The United Nations Counter Terrorism Office builds upon our commitment to fight the terror in every corner in this world. We must continue to strengthen our work in this international arena and combat the factors that drive this common threat to international peace and security.

I thank you. “

MALDIVIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY THE DG PARTICIPATES IN THE FIRST UN HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE OF THE HEADS OF CT

28-29 June 2018

Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor represented Maldives in the United Nations High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter Terrorism Agencies of member States. Sub Inspector of Police Adam Azim accompanied DG as a member of the delegation.

The conference was held from 28th-29th June 2018 in the United Nations Head Quarters. This conference is an initiative of the UN Secretary General. This was the first such conference of the UN and its main



resources and ideas to fight back against the growing scourge of

Violent Extremism Strategies of member states and also on ways and means of strengthening the CT & CVE mechanisms of member states and collaboration between member states. It gave the National Level Organisations a chance to show their unity and learn best practices of other member nations. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office, chaired most of the sessions and addressed the conference



This Conference aims to exchange good practices and lessons learned and build a new partnership to increase international counter-terrorism cooperation

Vladimir Voronkov, Under Secretary General for Counter Terrorism

aim is to foster relations between member states and to pool expertise,

international terrorism. Topics of discussion during the seminar were, Counter Terrorism and Counter



UN HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

Sideline Meetings:

DG MEETS THE USG MR.VORONKOV OF UNOCT

29 June 2018, Friday

Director General of NCTC Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor met the Under Secretary General for Counter Terrorism Mr. Vladimir Voronkov during the sidelines of the High Level Conference on Counter Terrorism.

During the meeting, DG conveyed his gratitude to the United Nations for its contributions in strengthening the Counter Terrorism institutions and the institutional frameworks of Maldives. He especially appreciated the work that is being carried out by UNDP Maldives, UNODC and CTED.



DG MEETS THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE

28 June 2018, Thursday



Director General Brig. Gen. Zakariyya Mansoor met the head of Delegation of the Singapore contingent to the Seminar, Mr. T. Raja Kumar. Avenues of Cooperation between both countries in curbing Violent Extremism and Terrorism were discussed during the meeting. DG praised Singapore for its successes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and stated that Maldives could learn lessons from Singapore as both countries are small nations whose economies are strongly linked to the security environment of the nation

BILATERAL MEETING WITH THE HEAD OF CT OF TURKEY

28 June 2018, Thursday

Director General Brig. General Zakariyya Mansoor held bilateral discussions with the Head of Deligation of the Turkish contingent, H.E Kaan Esener, Ambassador and Deputy Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

DG and Ambassador Kaan discussed on avenues of mutual assistance and thanked the Ambassador for the support and assistance given by Turkey, especially in the cases of returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters. DG also thanked the Turkish government for sharing of intelligence with the intelligence organisations of Maldives on terrorism related cases.



NCTC CONDUCTS A SESSION FOR YOUTH FORUM IN DH. KUDAHUVADHOO

29 June 2018, Friday

Youth Leaders Network (YLN) conducted a “Youth Forum,” in Dh. Kudahuvadhoo, aimed for the youth of the atoll. The forum was held on June 25 and 28, at Kudahuvadhoo School

Over 60 participants from all islands of Dh. atoll participated in the forum. NCTC conducted a session on the ‘Role of Youth in Peace and Security,’ and the presentation highlighted the importance of youth engagement in maintaining the security and peace within the society. Youth Leaders Network is an affiliation of student unions of all colleges and universities in the



Maldives, overseen by the Civics Department of Ministry of Home Affairs. Sessions on Islamic Leadership and other relevant topics were also conducted by partner agencies

US COMMUNICATION SUPPORT TEAM MEETS THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM UNIVERSITIES

20 June 2018, Wednesday



Members of the US Embassy Communication Support Team conducted a joint meeting with the Maldives National University, Islamic University of Maldives and

the National Counter Terrorism Centre. The aim of the meeting was to create a working group to facilitate and assist the Higher Education Institutes in their effort to curb Violent Extremism, especially amongst the youth.



DG MEETS THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE “JAPAN STUDY TOUR”

24 June 2018, Sunday

Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor met the participants of the study tour to Japan sponsored by the UNDP. This study tour will give the participants an opportunity to learn the techniques and tactics used by Japan to curb terrorism and violent extremism.

The participants are from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Ministry of Gender and Human Rights, Ministry of Youth and Sports, and the National Counter Terrorism Centre.

This study tour is part of an ongoing program to enhance

the human resource of partner agencies of the government on countering violent extremism



JUDICIAL COLLOQUIUM TO ADDRESS TERRORISM RELATED PROSECUTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS

29 June 2018, Friday



The Supreme Court of the Maldives, Maldives Judicial Academy and the Judicial Administration in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism is conducting the first Judicial Conference on Counter Terrorism from 29 June to 2 July in

a judicial approach that is coherent, integrated and sustainable. The topics of discussion will be the prosecution of Foreign Terrorist Fighters, deradicalization and reintegration of FTFs and their families as well as deradicalization

presented on “National and International Legal Frame work”, “Investigation of Terrorist and Related Crimes”, “Understanding the Challenges in Prosecution of Terrorist Related Crimes”, and on “Rehabilitation and Reintegration”.



Bandos Island Resort. The aim of the conference is to provide an effective justice response to the global issue of Terrorism and related crimes with

of youth who attempts to travel abroad to join civil conflicts of other nations,

In the Conference, papers will be

Lectures would also be taken by international experts to give an insight into international best practices.

DIRECTOR GENERAL MEETS VICE CHAIRMAN OF MATI

25 June 2018, Monday



Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Brigadier General Zakariyyaa Mansoor met the Vice Chairman of Maldives Association of Tourism Industry Hon. Solah Shihab to discuss the emerging threats to the Tourism Industry and their impact to the Maldivian Society, Economy and the Maldivian people.

The diversification of the Tourism Industry into inhabited Islands and the issue of Radicalism and Violent Extremism were also discussed in the meeting. DG informed the Vice Chairman of the efforts of NCTC in countering terrorism and violent extremism.

ROUTINE MATTERS

- ◆ NCTC conducts a meeting with UNDP to discuss the terms of reference for an International Consultant to support the development of the National Action Plan on Preventing Violent Extremism in Maldives
- ◆ NCTC conducted the final preparation meeting of the Maritime Security Seminar organised by UNODC. The Seminar is scheduled to be conducted between 3rd—5th of July 2018 in Hotel Jen.
- ◆ DG met the Aviation Security Command (AVSEC) to discuss the modalities of Counter Terrorism Training that would be conducted for the Aviation Security Command.

DISCUSSION WITH ISLAMIC MINISTER ON YOUTH PEACE AND SECURITY

28 June 2018, Thursday

Q. In your opinion what is needed to foster a sense of National Pride and peace loving amongst the youth?

A. Islamic history is full of lessons that shows the contributions of youth in the establishment of the Islamic Nation, both during the prophet Muhammad SAW's time as well as during the time of *Khulafaa ul Raashidheeen*. That drive and the expansion of the young Muslim Nation came about because of the values and behaviors of the youth of the Muslim Nation.

The youth were the traders, builders and the soldiers of the young Islamic Nation of Medina. They took great pride in the young Islamic Nation and they loved the prophet unconditionally. The youth of Maldives can learn lessons from Ali Ibn Abu Thalib, Zaid Ibn Haris and also from Ummul Mumineen Aisha RA.

National Pride, and the ability to resolve conflicts peacefully are all enshrined in Islamic Values. It the



Maldivian youth follow the tenets of Islam and treat everyone else the same way that they would like to be treated, the Maldivian society and especially the Maldivian youth will become more productive citizens and the Nation at large would prosper.

Islamic Ministry is planning to conduct a seminar for the youth, to increase their participation in Nation building, Peace and Security.

NCTC CONDUCTS A SESSION FOR RAFY IN YOUTH LEADERS DIALOGUE AND PRE SUMMIT MEETING OF SOUTH ASIAN YOUTH SUMMIT

23 June 2018, Saturday

NCTC conducted a session on "The role of Youth in building peace". The session was conducted for RAFY in collaboration with International Youth Council for the Maldives Youth Leaders Dialogue and Pre Summit meeting of South Asian Youth Summit.

The Youth Leaders Dialogue was conducted from 23-25 June by RAFY NGO for around 50 youth leaders. RAFY is an NGO which is very active in empowering youth and are actively conducting programs to create Youth Peace Ambassadors.

Participants from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal took part in the pre Summit Meeting. The Guest of Honour for the Closing Ceremony of the Youth Dialogue was the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports.

