



Building Stronger Partnerships to Prevent Terrorism

Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation Conference

1111 19th Street, NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036

8 October 2009

AGENDA

- 9:00-9:15** **Welcoming remarks from Center Co-Directors**
- 9:15-9:30** **Introductory Address: Brain Jenkins, Senior Advisor, RAND Corporation**
- 9:30-11:00** **Session I: The role of the United Nations** – The United Nations can lend legitimacy to national counterterrorism initiatives; be a force multiplier in the campaign against terrorism; establish and enforce norms against terrorism; assist states to build their capacity to combat terrorism; facilitate technical cooperation between states; and offer a forum for the United States to engage with traditional and non-traditional allies on developing common strategies to address aspects of the evolving threat. This session will examine the UN’s contributions to date and U.S. engagement with the United Nations on counterterrorism since 9/11. It will highlight what the United Nations can offer and what steps the United States could take to maximize the UN’s counterterrorism contributions and enhance its strategic engagement with the world body on this issue.
- **Peter Yeo**, Executive Director, Better World Campaign
 - **Jean-Paul Laborde**, Special Adviser to the Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Political Affairs
 - **Christian Mahr**, Legal Officer, Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, United Nations
 - **Brian Wilson**, Legal Expert, Al-Qaida/Taliban Sanctions Monitoring Team, United Nations
- 11:00-11:15** **Coffee**
- 11:15-12:45** **Session II: The role of regional organizations and mechanisms** – Regional organizations have at their disposal knowledge and expertise on local issues that make them well-suited to develop approaches that take into account cultural and other contextual issues and undertake region- or subregion-specific initiatives or other actions that complement and build on global counterterrorism objectives. They can lend political support for counterterrorism and can serve as transmission belts between global

counterterrorism standards and best practices and implementation on the ground. Regional and subregional organizations can facilitate the exchange of expertise and information among governmental and non-governmental experts, as well as the sharing of good national practices and lessons learned from national implementation among the countries. They can also develop frameworks of regional or subregional cooperation among relevant experts and institutions.

- **Ambassador Boubacar Diarra**, Director, African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, African Union
- **Raphael Perl**, Head, Action against Terrorism Unit, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
- **Gonzalo Gallegos**, Secretary, Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism

12:45-13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:15 Session III: Improving counterterrorism cooperation in the Horn of Africa – With its interlocking inter- and intra-state conflicts, failing and failed states, and ongoing civil war and festering insurgency in Somalia, the Horn of Africa is perhaps the most conflict ridden region in the world. It is also perhaps second only in importance to Iraq and Afghanistan in terms of U.S. counterterrorism priorities. In many ways, counterterrorism has come to define U.S. policy towards the region. Some argue that the United States' "overwhelming focus on stemming terrorism [in the Horn] is overshadowing U.S. initiatives to resolve conflicts and promote good governance -- with disastrous implications for regional stability and U.S. counterterrorism objectives themselves." This session will seek to reevaluate U.S. counterterrorism policy in the Horn of Africa and examine prospects for deepened regional cooperation against terrorism in this troubled region.

- **Abebe Muluneh**, Senior Training Coordinator, IGAD Capacity Building Programme Against Terrorism
- **Captain Jean Vite**, Liaison Officer for the African Union, Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa
- **Anneli Botha**, Senior Researcher, Institute for Security Studies

15:15-15:30 Coffee

15:30-17:15 Session IV: Improving counterterrorism cooperation in South Asia – The circumstances surrounding the horrific November 2008 attacks in Mumbai, much like the September 2008 bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, and the many other terrorist acts before and after it across South Asia, have underscored both the regional nature of the terrorist threat and the need for greater cooperation within the region to address it. This session will explore ways to strengthen such cooperation. Among other things, this session will explore whether there is a need to create a mechanism in the region to stimulate more technical cooperation among counterterrorism practitioners.

- **Ambassador Husain Haqqani**, Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States
- **Ambassador Farooq Sobhan**, President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute
- **General Ved Prakash Malik**, President, Institute of Security Studies
- **Amal Jayawardane**, Executive Director, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies
- **Christine Fair**, Senior Political Scientist, RAND Corporation

17:15-17:30 **Wrap-up/Recommendations**

17:30-18:30 **Cocktail Reception**