**CTED and UNOCT return to Iraq to follow up on recent high-level visit**

United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee

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https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/news/2018/05/07/cted-unoct-return-iraq-follow-recent-high-level-visit/

In a follow-up to their recent joint high-level consultations in Iraq, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) conducted a joint mission to Baghdad in early May 2018, with the support of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

The objective of the joint mission was to identify specific capacity-building projects to be implemented in accordance with the counter-terrorism needs identified by the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

The delegation consulted with the Iraqi authorities on the delivery of targeted and results-oriented technical assistance to be implemented alongside existing assistance initiatives, in consultation with local actors.

The technical assistance will address countering terrorism financing; countering terrorist narratives; and developing youth skills, through technical and vocational training, to support Iraq’s efforts to prevent violent extremism. It will also address the development of a national counter-terrorism strategy and support Iraq’s efforts to prevent and respond to the use of weapons of mass destruction for terrorist purposes.

The joint team also met with the Mayor of Fallujah, to discuss targeted youth engagement and skills development, as well as with the United Nations Country Team, donors, international organizations, and civil society representatives.

The follow-up mission demonstrates the commitment of the UNOCT and CTED to provide rapid follow-up to the high-level visit of March 2018, within the framework of the sustained engagement of the United Nations in Iraq.