



Terrorism

Terrorism in all its forms constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security. INTERPOL has designated the fight against terrorism as a priority crime area and has committed significant resources to supporting member countries in their efforts to protect their citizens from all types of terrorism, including bioterrorism, firearms and explosives, attacks against civil aviation, maritime terrorism, and weapons of mass destruction.

INTERPOL collects, stores, analyses and exchanges information about suspected individuals and terrorist groups with its member countries through I-24/7, its secure global police communications system. The Organization also co-ordinates the circulation of alerts and warnings by means of specific tools such as its colour-coded international notices system.

Fusion Task Force

At the forefront of INTERPOL's counter-terrorism activities is the Fusion Task Force (FTF). Created in 2002, the FTF assists member countries in terrorism-related investigations through a multi-disciplinary approach. Its primary objectives are to identify members of groups involved in international terrorist activity and to provide a searchable database of wanted or suspected terrorists. At the end of December 2009, 121 member countries were contributing to terrorism-related matters, with 218 designated FTF contact officers forming a global network of specialists in this area.

Six regional task forces have been created, each co-ordinated by an expert in the field of counter-terrorism for the geographical area in question:

- Project Al Qabdah (Middle East and North Africa);
- Project Amazon (Central and South America);
- Project Baobab (East, West and Southern Africa);
- Project Kalkan (Central and South Asia);
- Project Nexus (Europe);
- Project Pacific (Southeast Asia and Pacific Islands).

These projects are designed to identify active terrorist groups and their membership in specific regions; solicit, collect and share information and intelligence; provide analytical support; enhance the capacity of member countries to address the threat of terrorism, and identify and request FTF contact officers in member countries.

A working group meeting is held annually for each project. These meetings are operationally focused and bring together specialists to exchange information, examine the current trends and issues in the region and discuss case studies. The working groups provide a firm foundation from which to launch specific investigations and, ultimately, dismantle terrorist networks and make arrests.

INTERPOL



Operational assistance and tools

INTERPOL also provides assistance to member countries in the event of a terrorist attack. In the aftermath, member countries may request the assistance of an INTERPOL Incident Response Team (IRT), which can provide a range of investigative and analytical support services at the incident site in co-ordination with the General Secretariat. These include:

- the issue of international notices for fugitive terrorists;
- database queries of fingerprints or suspected fraudulent passports;
- money laundering expertise;
- victim identification co-ordination drawing on a wide network of international experts and laboratories.

In addition, the INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notice was created in 2005 to alert member countries to individuals and entities associated with Al Qaeda and the Taliban, as listed by the 1267 Committee of the UN Security Council, and to help countries implement the freezing of assets, travel bans and arms embargoes. By the end of December 2009, more than 350 individuals and entities subject to UN sanctions were listed on the INTERPOL website.



www.interpol.int

Contact information

E-mail: info@interpol.int

For matters relating to specific crime cases, please contact your local police or the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in your country.