



INTERPOL

**SUMMARY**

**GLOBAL  
COUNTER-TERRORISM  
STRATEGY**

## INTRODUCTION

International terrorist attacks have reached an alarming scale in levels of violence, and the consequent societal impact and threats to international peace and security have encompassed all regions.

The complex combination of shifts in travel patterns, fraudulent travel documents, far-reaching and devastating attacks, and communication and social media manipulation have led to a 'decisive stage' in the fight against terrorism, which demand a comprehensive, coordinated and appropriate response.

INTERPOL is increasingly perceived as a key international partner in the fight against terrorism by national law enforcement authorities, and regional and global partners around the world.

## SCOPE

INTERPOL's counter-terrorism mandate is to assist its member countries to prevent and disrupt terrorist activities through the identification of members of terrorist networks and their affiliates, by tackling the main factors enabling their activities: travel and mobility, online presence, weapons and materials, and finances.

The *Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy* is a five-year (2016-2020) flexible strategic framework that shapes INTERPOL's ongoing counter-terrorism efforts and global actions. The Strategy's overall implementation is the responsibility of the INTERPOL Counter-Terrorism Programme, while its geographical scope focuses on four regions acting as coordination zones for its activities: Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe.

## PREVENT AND DISRUPT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

# ACTION STREAMS

The Strategy defines five action streams where INTERPOL will assist member countries:

- 1. Identification:** Detection and positive identification of members of known transnational terrorist groups and their facilitators.
- 2. Travel and mobility:** Enhancing national and regional border security and reducing cross-border movement of terrorists and their affiliates, and identifying and disrupting networks that facilitate their travel.
- 3. Online presence:** Preventing and countering the exploitation of cyberspace for terrorist purposes, by enhancing identification and detection efforts.
- 4. Weapons and materials:** Identification, tracking and interception of the illicit trafficking of conventional weapons – such as firearms and explosives – and unconventional materials – chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear – necessary for terrorist activities.
- 5. Finances:** Tracing and disruption of financial streams funding terrorist activity and facilitation.



## CAPABILITIES AND DELIVERY

The action streams are aligned with the relevant policing capabilities that INTERPOL provides to support its member countries: Police data management, Intelligence analysis, Forensic support, Border security, and Capacity building.

The implementation of the action streams will be accomplished through a Counter-terrorism hub at the General Secretariat, which will oversee and coordinate the global implementation, and several regional Counter-terrorism nodes which will be strategically located and equipped to play a major role in the concrete delivery of activities.

There will be close coordination with regional bodies and their respective law enforcement arms to avoid duplication and maximize resources, while partnerships with international organizations such as the United Nations relevant bodies are vital to avoid the fragmentation of the global security architecture in responding to terrorism.

## INTERPOL'S OPERATING MODEL

Today's crimes are increasingly complex. They are interconnected and global, and they take place on both physical and virtual levels. More than ever, there is a need for multilateral police cooperation to address the security challenges affecting societies.

With its 190 member countries, INTERPOL is ideally placed to work with law enforcement agencies around the globe to strengthen their ability to prevent crime and identify and arrest criminals. Partnerships with other regional and international organizations strengthen the combined approach to tackle common challenges.

INTERPOL's activities are centered around three global crime programmes: Counter-terrorism, Organized and Emerging Crime, and Cybercrime, each of which has a 2016-2020 strategy. These strategies, and the initiatives within them, will evolve to reflect the dynamic nature of the operating environment.

These programmes are all supported by a set of policing capabilities that the Organization provides member countries. These are police data management, criminal analysis, forensic support, fugitive investigate support, a Command and Coordination Centre, capacity building and training, innovation and special projects.

