Newsletter

UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme

1 October 2022 - 31 December 2022

Highlights

Back-to-back conferences with OSCE, 01-04 November: UNOCT and OSCE hosted conferences to discuss ways to responsibly use passenger data to prevent travel of foreign terrorist fighters, focusing on supporting States in implementing passenger data programmes.
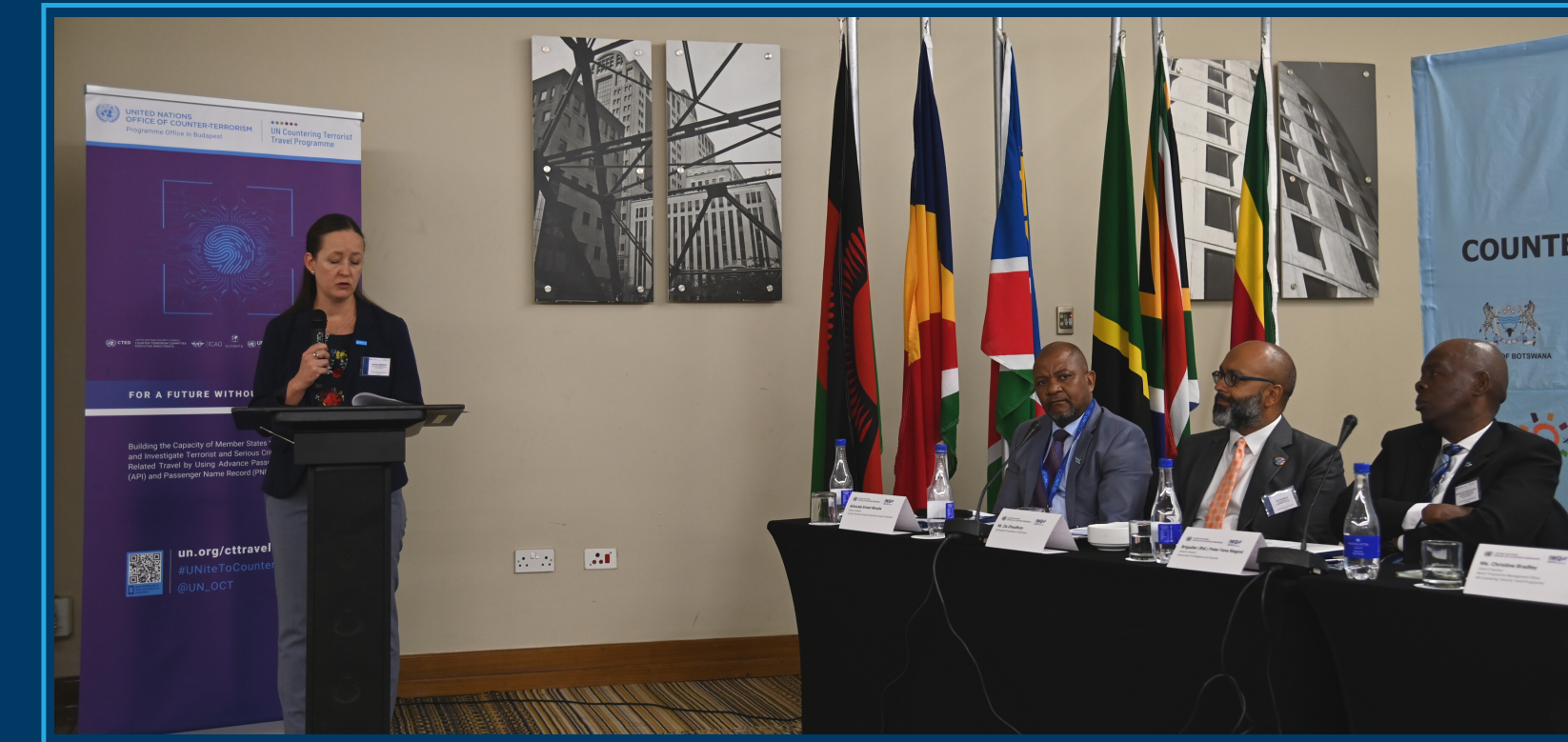
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Moldova, 17 November: UNOCT and the Republic of Moldova signed an MoU formalizing their partnership to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering terrorism and its nexus with organized crime.

First Meeting of the Southern Africa Regional Informal Working Group (IWG), 24 November: CT Travel, organized a two-day IWG meeting for 34 delegates representing law enforcement, counter-terrorism, security, and civil aviation agencies from 11 countries in the SA region.

Passenger Information Unit (PIU) Inauguration in Botswana, 23 November: UNOCT and UN Botswana launched the PIU, the first one established in Sub-Saharan Africa as a milestone achievement for, police, customs, and security services.

Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Mongolia, 02 December: UNOCT and the Government of Mongolia signed an MoA governing the deployment and licensing of the UN 'goTravel' software to Mongolia's Passenger Information Unit (PIU).

Interpol-ICAO Passenger Data Seminar, 19 December: UNOCT CT Travel Programme supported the second "INTERPOL-ICAO Passenger Data Exchange Forum" bringing together over 120 international and national experts from more than 70 countries.

Capacity Building

Training: Three UNOCT-led training took place: one for Namibia (API and PNR Interactive Training Course), one for Botswana (goTravel basic user training), and finally one for the participants of the SCO RATS (Regional Training).

Operational: UNODC/AIRCOP undertook five study visits: Moldova to Latvia (virtual), Côte D'Ivoire to France, Iraq to Romania, Moldova to Romania, and Azerbaijan to Norway. Additionally, eight operational working group meetings were organized, four of which focused on PIU ToR drafting in Azerbaijan x2, Mongolia, and Namibia.

Legal: UNODC/TPB provided legislative assistance, and reviewed the passenger data legal and/or regulatory frameworks of four beneficiary Member States, namely Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, and Switzerland. 20 Legal Working Group meetings were held throughout the quarter.

IOM: Held four meetings promoting CT Travel across three countries, and a plenary meeting for AIRPOL. Three different coordination briefings with IOM field offices and provided support to Programme activities in Djibouti (Legal), and Moldova (Study Visits).

Transport Industry: ICAO held eight working group meetings with different beneficiary countries as well as one connectivity meeting with Mongolia.

Technical: UNOICT held 11 working group meetings focusing on goTravel deployment or installation, and another 17 meetings or interactions regarding software maintenance support. 27 IT support tickets were received, of which OICT responded to 26 from Member States with MoAs, and to one with Member State without an MoA during this period. A total of 17 tickets were resolved, and 10 tickets are in progress.

CT Travel: 2019 - Present

60 Beneficiary Members States

28 Members States assessed incl. CARICOM

28 Roadmaps developed

2 Country in production with goTravel

09 Countries in pre-production testing goTravel

About CT Travel

The objective of the UN CT Travel Programme is to build Member States' capabilities to prevent, detect and investigate terrorist offenses and other serious crimes, including related travel, by:

- Collecting and analyzing travel information such as passenger data, namely Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR);
- Improving the use of international databases with known and suspected terrorists and criminals, such as the databases of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); and
- Enhancing international information exchange, in line with UN Security Council resolutions 2178, 2396, and 2482.

The detection capabilities, commonly referred to as Passenger Information Units (PIUs), that the Programme helps establish are in charge of processing passenger data provided by the transport industry using the UN 'goTravel' software solution, based on solid legislation and regulations established with the Programme's assistance.

CT Travel Strategy

The Programme provides assistance to Member States across four key pillars of work:

Pillar I
Legislation support for API and PNR

Pillar II
Operational support for Passenger Information Units (PIUs)

Pillar III
Transport industry engagement

Pillar IV
Technical support for goTravel

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UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

Executive Summary | Key Successes in Numbers

Throughout quarter four, CT Travel held 32 engagements, including seven All Pillar Country coordination meetings with national focal points, that were held with all partners. Throughout the same quarter, CT Travel also met with two international organizations, CEPOL (with two regional workshops delivered), and WCO to discuss possible areas of cooperation, with additional 16 Bilateral coordination meetings across 13 Member States, another three maritime-focused meetings, and a Steering Committee meeting with the EU, in addition to seven internal coordination meetings, with an overall of 17 communication products (press releases/web stories/tweets) were published during this period.

October: One SCO-RATS regional training was held on 24-27 October, and one interactive training for Namibia was held on 9 October.

December: One MoA was signed with Mongolia on 2 December, a study visit for Moldavian officials to the Romanians PIU was organized on 9 December, another study visit for Azerbaijani officials to Norway PIU was organized on 17 December, INTERPOL-ICAO Passenger data seminar took place on 19 December.

November: Two seminars by OSCE and UNOCT on the use of passenger data were held from 1 to 4 November in Vienna, one national consultation with Benin took place on 4 November, and with Kyrgyzstan on 30 November, one MoU was signed with Moldova on 17 November, one goTravel user basic training was held in Botswana on November 23rd, the first meeting of the Southern Africa Regional Informal Working Group (IWG) took place on 24 November, followed by the PIU inauguration in Botswana on 23 November.

Building Sustainable Regional Approaches to API and PNR Implementation

Regional Informal Working Groups (IWGs)

- **West Africa IWG:** One virtual meeting involving 63 experts from 13 Member States, supplemented by virtual thematics across all four pillars.
- **Southern Africa IWG:** First in-person meeting took place in Botswana involving 65 experts from 12 Member States.
- **Eastern Europe IWG:** Second in-person meeting took place with 33 experts from 13 Member States.

Upcoming Activities

January:
- Interactive training for Eswatini;
- Consultation in Ethiopia; and
- EU IWG Global Day.

February:
- Launch of goTravel users community;
- MoU Signing Ceremony with Belgium Passenger Information Unit; and
- Philippines Site Visit to Bureau of Immigration for Server Installation.

March:
- Train-of-Trainer Course and the Curriculum Development event for the second phase of the OSCE MTT;
- Consultation in Pakistan;
- Interactive training for Niger;
- Rules-based targeting training peer review; and
- Coordination mission with Djibouti.

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Training Approach

CT Travel Programme has a variety of training courses available for Member States:

- CT Travel Foundational course covering four eLearning modules on the basics of API and PNR, the international legal framework, a PIU and a Passenger Data Single Window, and Hit and Match, delivered self-paced online;
- An Interactive CT Travel Training course delivered in-person or hybrid over four-five days and covering all key aspects of the Programme;
- A Specialised Rules Based-Targeting Training designed for operators and analysts in the Passenger Information Unit;
- A goTravel-user basic training designed to apply the RBT training in the goTravel system; and
- A Technical IT training on the deployment and installation of goTravel.

Here is the link to the brochure on the website.

CT Travel Training Delivery: Three Member States enrolled online for the Foundational course for Moldova, Norway, and Togo. Two interactive CT Travel training courses for Moldova and Togo, and one Specialised Rules-based Targeting Training for Norway.

CT Travel Training Development: Development of new eLearning and microlearning modules, on (i) Maritime, (ii) Human Rights, (iii) goTravel.

60 Beneficiary Member States

The Programme welcomed seven new beneficiary countries throughout the quarter: Fiji (14 October), Pakistan (25 October), Malawi (2 November), Ukraine (15 November), Guinea (25 November), Georgia (28 November), and Algeria (22 December).

Algeria	Georgia	Mongolia	Switzerland
Azerbaijan	Guinea	Morocco	Tajikistan
Benin	Iraq	Namibia	UR Tanzania
Botswana	Israel	Niger	The Gambia
Côte d'Ivoire	Kazakhstan	Nigeria	The Maldives
Djibouti	Kenya	Norway	The Philippines
DRC	Kyrgyzstan	Pakistan	Togo
Eswatini	Luxembourg	Paraguay	Ukraine
Ethiopia	Malawi	Sierra Leone	Viet Nam
Fiji	Mali	South Africa	CARICOM
France	Mauritius	Sri Lanka	(representing 15 Member States)
Ghana	Moldova	Sudan	