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# Preventing and Responding to WMD/CBRN Terrorism

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# UNOCT

**United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism** (UNOCT) established by General Assembly on 15 June 2017

**Mr. Vladimir Voronkov** appointed as **Under-Secretary-General** on 21 June 2017

**Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office** (CTITF) and **United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre** (UNCCT) subsumed to UNOCT

# UNOCT: Mandate and Objectives

Provide **leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates** entrusted to the SG from across the UN system

Strengthen the **delivery of UN counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance** to Member States

Enhance **coordination and coherence across the 43 Global Compact entities** to ensure balanced implementation of the four pillars of the Strategy

Ensure that **due priority is given to counter-terrorism** across the UN system and that the important work on PVE is firmly rooted in the strategy

**5 main Functions**

Improve **visibility, advocacy, and resource mobilization** for UN counter-terrorism efforts

# UNCCT: WMD/CBRN Programme



**Enhance capacities** of Member States, International Organizations and UN entities to **prevent, prepare** for and **respond** to **terrorist attacks** involving **WMD** or **CBRN** materials

# WMD/CBRN – Threat and Risk



**CHEMICAL**

Reported ISIL use of chemical weapons in Syria and Iraq

**BIOLOGICAL**

ISIL affiliates attempt to produce toxins for biological attacks in Germany and Indonesia

**RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR**

Reported ISIL seizure of 40 kg of low enriched uranium from Mosul University, Iraq

# Case Study



NEWS / AFRICA

## Robbers steal 'Ebola blood samples' in Guinea

*Samples believed to be infected with Ebola stolen from Red Cross courier during raid on a shared taxi in rural Guinea.*

22 Nov 2014

Guinea is one of the worst hit West African nations with almost 1,200 Ebola victims [Reuters]
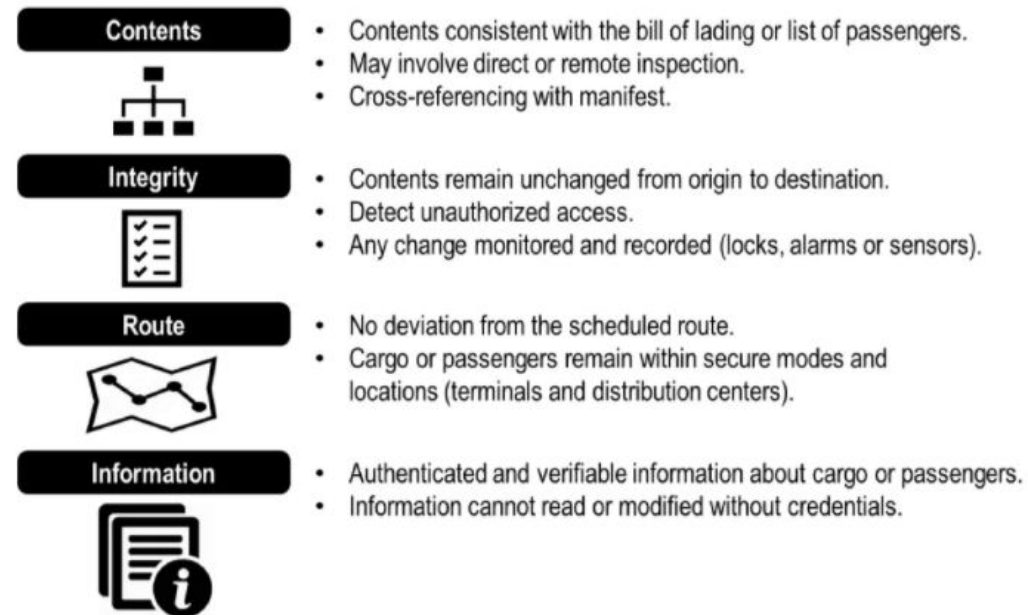
# Risks and Complexity of CBRN Transport

- CBRN transport is in the public domain, placing the public and the environment at risk
- CBRN is on a conveyance and packaged for easy movement to hiding places or high consequence locations
- Shipment configurations could result in a release during an attack
- Conveyances are vulnerable during planned and unplanned stops
- Security measures possible at fixed sites cannot be implemented during transport
- Adversaries may use the Public as a diversion or force multiplier
- It involves multiple transport modes and authorities (State and international)

# Transportation Security

- Contents

- Integrity

- Route

- Information

- Transport security measures
  - Procedural
  - Physical
  - Personnel
  - Information

## Transport Security Dimensions

| **Contents** | • Contents consistent with the bill of lading or list of passengers.<br>• May involve direct or remote inspection.<br>• Cross-referencing with manifest. |
| --- | --- |
| **Integrity** | • Contents remain unchanged from origin to destination.<br>• Detect unauthorized access.<br>• Any change monitored and recorded (locks, alarms or sensors). |
| **Route** | • No deviation from the scheduled route.<br>• Cargo or passengers remain within secure modes and locations (terminals and distribution centers). |
| **Information** | • Authenticated and verifiable information about cargo or passengers.<br>• Information cannot read or modified without credentials. |

Supply Chain Security Dimensions

Source: adapted from M. van de Voort and A. Rahman (2004) "Securing Global Supply Chains", Port Technology International, 24th Edition, pp. 67-70.

# Transportation Security





## Protective Security elements

- **Physical Security**
  - Detect attempts
  - Delay access
  - Enable response

- **Personnel Security**
  - The right people
  - The trusted insider threat

## Information Security
  - 'Need to know' balanced with
  - 'Need to share'

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# Multiple Stakeholder Involvement

**Federal / State / Local Government**

- Regulatory Authority
- Customs, Border Protection
- Roads and Transport Agencies
- Environmental Agencies
- Traffic control centers
- Emergency services

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# Multiple Stakeholder Involvement

**Law Enforcement / Security Agencies**

- Which levels, who are involved?
- Which department leads?
- Federal, State, Local?
- Highway Patrol and Traffic
- Intelligence
- General Police
- Counter Terrorism
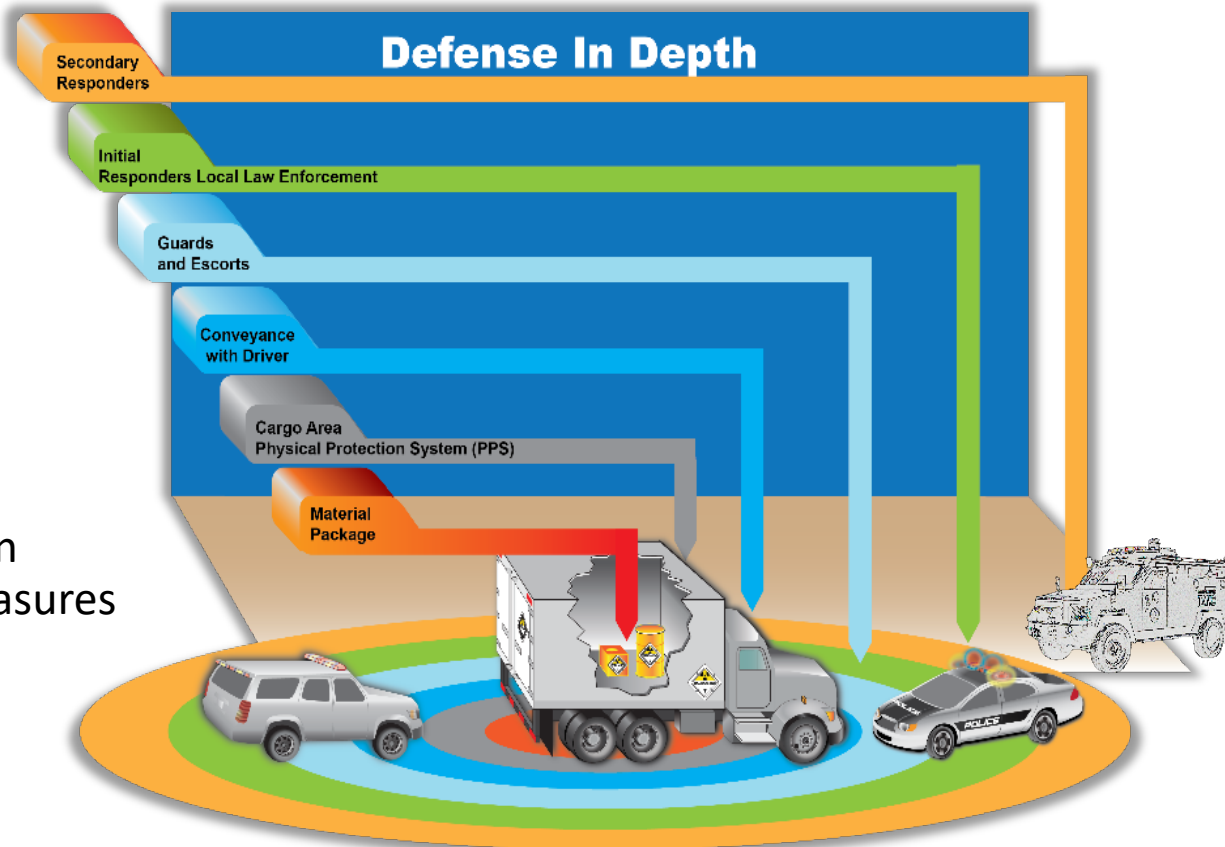- Tactical Support

## Defense in Depth:

Implement several layers of defense, including both *administrative aspects* and *technical aspects* that adversaries would have to overcome or circumvent to achieve their objectives.

### Administrative Aspects:

- Procedures
- Instructions
- Sanctions
- Access control rules
- Confidentiality rules

### Technical Aspects:

Multiple layers of protection together with technical measures for detection and delay.



Defense In Depth

Secondary Responders

Initial Responders Local Law Enforcement

Guards and Escorts

Conveyance with Driver

Cargo Area Physical Protection System (PPS)

Material Package

# Capacity building

- **National level**
  [Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia]

- **Regional level**
  [Central Asia, Horn of Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Sahel, South Asia and South-East Asia, South East and Eastern Europe]

- **Global level**
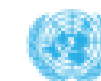  [ICSANT Project, CBRN trainings and awareness raising]



Central Asia

Europe

Middle East

North Africa

South and South-East Asia

Sahel
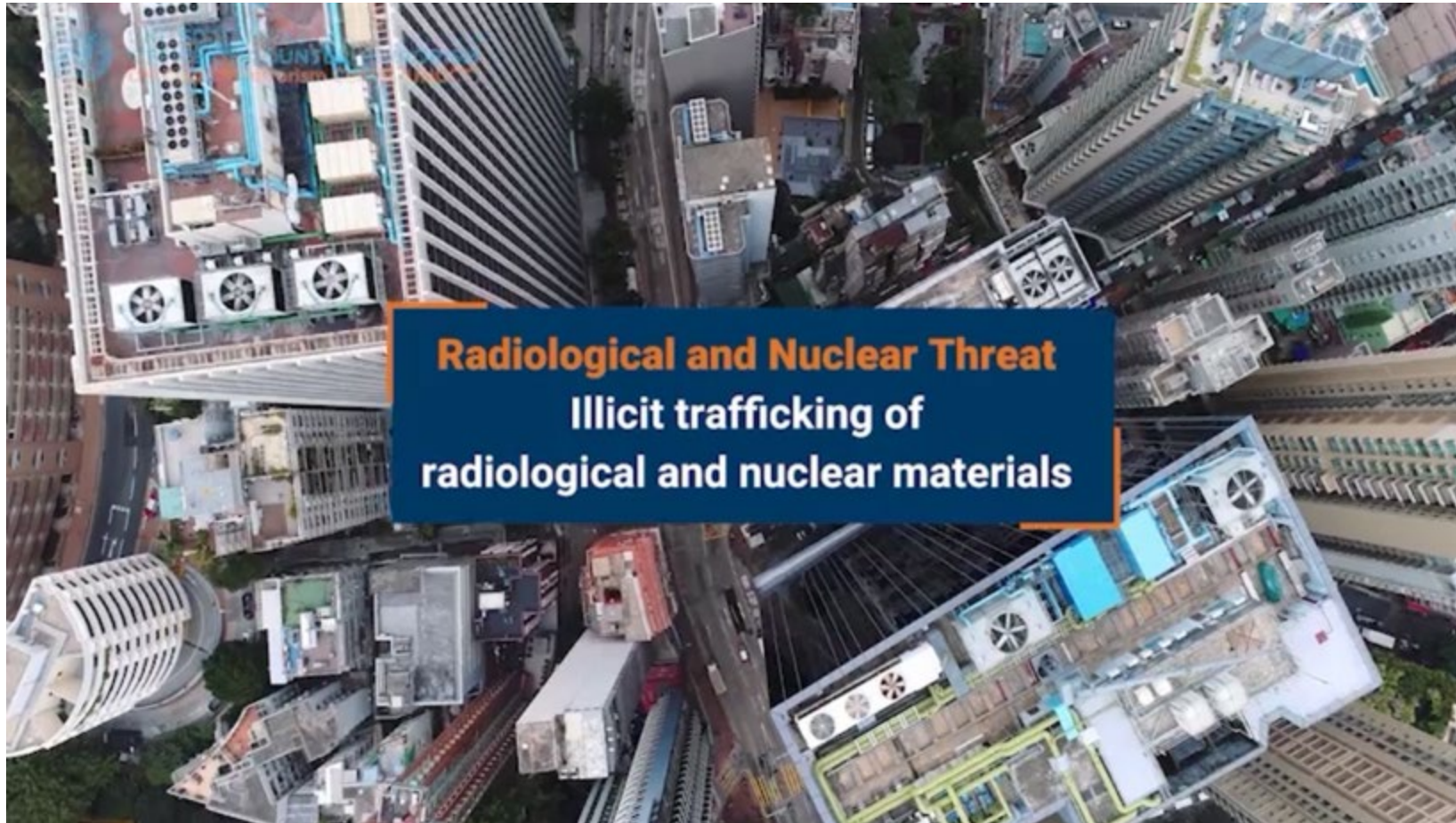
Horn of Africa

# New capacity-building courses

**LIST OF COURSES**

1. Outbreak Containment for Law Enforcement Course
2. Biological Countermeasures Course
3. Biological Incident – Table-Top Exercise
4. Chemical Countermeasure Course
5. Radiological and Nuclear Countermeasures Course
6. Chemical Incident – Table-Top Exercise
7. CBRN Law Enforcement Training Course
8. Radiological and Nuclear Incident – Table-Top Exercise
9. CBRN Countermeasures and Response Workshop
10. Basic Microbiology and Biological Threats Course
11. Basic Chemical Threats Course
12. Basic Radiological and Nuclear Threats Course
13. Intro to WMD Science Course
14. Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources Protection Activities Course
15. Intermediate Biological Threats Course
16. Intermediate Chemical Threats Course
17. Intermediate Radiological and Nuclear Threats Course
18. Advanced Biological Threats Course
19. Advanced Chemical Threats Course
20. Advanced Radiological and Nuclear Threats Course

## Twenty New Courses to Counter WMD/CBRN Terrorism

https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct/chemical-biological-radiological-and-nuclear-terrorism

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https://www.un.org/counter-terrorism-expo/#cbrn
http://webtv.un.org/watch/player/6169208148001

# Thank you

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