



UNOCT Position Paper

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I. Background Information on UNOCT

On 15 June, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly, under Secretary-General António Guterres, adopted a resolution welcoming the establishment of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. The mission of the UNOCT is to inform member states on counter-terrorism strategies and to provide policy support to member states. The UNOCT primarily, but not exclusively, assists countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Central and South Asia, which are most affected by the threat of terrorist organizations. Its projects range from combating terrorist financing to supporting victims of terrorism.

The UNOCT is highly relevant in discussing and creating solutions to all three issues discussed at this conference, as all issues have a common element: the involvement of terrorist or violent non-governmental organizations, about which the UNOCT can provide information on how to combat.

The UNOCT will be able to inform Pakistan and Afghanistan, for example, on how to generate the best solutions for removing the Taliban and other terrorist organizations from the Durand Line region, not only to eliminate the terrorist threat but also to reduce tensions between key countries in the region.

However, the UNOCT's involvement is closer to the Bay of Bengal issue than the Durand Line issue, as maritime terrorism has a direct impact on the volatile situation in the Bay of Bengal and is one of UNOCT's main issues and area of expertise.

The final issue, curbing state-sponsored terrorism in Southern Asia, just like the second issue lies close to the UNOCT's area of expertise. And so the UNOCT will be of great significance when discussing this issue, as it will be able to provide information to member states and other relevant organizations on how best to combat and stop the funding of these terrorists by governments.

II. Past Achievements and Attempts of Country/Organization on the Issues

A. The question of the Durand Line:

- Preventing children and young adults from joining terrorist organizations such as, but not limited to the Taliban.
- Informing Pakistan and Afghanistan, among others, of a way to prevent and combat terrorism.



- Take steps to prevent funding of terrorist travel and terrorist organizations.
- B. Tackling maritime security threats in the Bay of Bengal:**
- The UNOCT has not yet taken specific measures to address maritime terrorism.
- C. Curbing state-sponsored terrorism in Southern Asia:**
- The UNOCT has not yet taken any action against state-sponsored terrorism.

III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Country/Organization on the Issues

A. The question of the Durand Line:

- The main objective is to eliminate all terrorist organizations, with as few civilian casualties as possible.
- The UNOCT encourages Pakistan and Afghanistan to work together to eliminate terrorist organizations from the Durand Line regions rather than further exacerbating the countries' alleged involvement with terrorist organizations.
- The UNOCT strongly discourages support for terrorist organizations such as, but not limited to Al-Qaeda and the Taliban by member states of the UN.
- UNOCT encourages Pakistan and Afghanistan to open up the borders to prevent future repercussions on the Pashtun population.

B. Tackling maritime security threats in the Bay of Bengal:

- The main objective is to minimize all unlawful activities in the Bay of Bengal.
- The UNOCT recommends the creation of the United Nation Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (UNBIMSTEC). By incorporating BIMSTEC into a UN body, the UN will be able to monitor it and more funds and resources will be available to secure the Bay as best as possible while minimizing the influence of non-littoral states.

C. Curbing state-sponsored terrorism in Southern Asia:

- The main objective is to eliminate any involvement of UN member states with terrorist organizations.
- Initiate thorough investigations of countries accused of involvement with terrorist organizations such as, but not limited to Al-Qaeda and the Taliban.
- Appropriate fines and/or sanctions against countries found guilty of involvement with terrorist organizations.



IV. Bibliography

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