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UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism

Virtual workshop: Enhancing nuclear security at borders South East Asia region

CONCEPT NOTE

The prospect of non-State actors, including terrorists, gaining access to, or using, weapons of mass destruction (WMD) or chemical, biological, radiological and/or nuclear (CBRN) materials poses a significant threat to humanity and international peace and security. Given the especially devastating physical and psychological impact associated with the threat or use of nuclear weapons and nuclear or other radioactive material, nuclear terrorism is an issue of particular concern and justifies that the international community spares no efforts to prevent it.

In June 2018, it was reported that ISIL had seized 40kg of low enriched uranium from scientific institutions at the Mosul University in Iraq. This shows that the possibility of such materials falling into the hands of non-State actors or terrorists is certainly very real.

The United Nations General Assembly in 2005 adopted by consensus the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), which entered into force in 2007. ICSANT requires States Parties to, *inter alia*, criminalize certain offences relating to nuclear or other radioactive material, devices and facilities. As a legally binding instrument, the Convention obliges State Parties to extradite or prosecute alleged offenders and calls for cooperation among State Parties in preventing terrorist attacks by sharing information and assisting each other with criminal investigations and extradition. Together with the CPPNM and its 2005 Amendment, ICSANT serves as a primary tool to ensure that there is no safe haven for those who commit or seek to commit acts of nuclear terrorism.

The virtual workshop for South East Asia region will discuss the threat of nuclear terrorism and best practices in detection and response to illicit trafficking of RN material and the integration of nuclear security with traditional national security. The participants will have an opportunity to learn about operational and technical challenges and mitigating solutions for conducting R/N detection at official and unofficial points of entry (land and water border crossings), the available international assistance and how implementation of ICSANT and other relevant international



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legal instruments can strengthen nuclear security at borders and help facilitate international cooperation.

The event is organized under Component II of the EU-funded project “*Promoting universalization and effective implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*”. The project is implemented jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), through its United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT).

Please note that the link to access this event will be provided by email only to registered participants prior to the event. However, UNOCT-UNCCT advises participants not to share any confidential or sensitive information during the event.

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/3m4EKaL>