



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
Programme Office in Doha

Parliamentary Engagement
in Preventing and Countering Terrorism



African Parliamentary
Union (APU)



مجلس الشورى
The Shura Council
State of Qatar • دولة قطر



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21 November 2023

Excellency,

I have the honor to inform you that the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), in cooperation with the National Assembly of the Togolese Republic, the African Parliamentary Union (APU), the Interparliamentary Committee of the Group of Five for the Sahel (IPC G5 Sahel), and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, is organizing the “High-Level Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Conference on Youth Engagement” and the “First Meeting of the Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Working Group for Africa” on 19 and 20 January 2023, respectively, in Lomé, Togolese Republic.

The events will continue the work initiated at the two-day high-level parliamentary conference on “Understanding the Terrorist Threat in Africa: New Challenges and Necessary Measures”, organized by UNOCT, in cooperation with APU and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, in March 2022 in Doha. During the conference, the participating parliamentarians and representatives of parliamentary assemblies and international organizations discussed and proposed follow-up actions, including the appointment of a national parliamentary delegation to UNOCT and the creation of a Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Working Group for Africa.

The “High-Level Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Conference on Youth Engagement” will bring together African youth leaders, members of parliament and representatives of parliamentary assemblies, stakeholders, along with experts, civil society organizations, and policymakers, to discuss the important role the youth can play in stemming terrorism and violent extremism and how legislators could support it and help prevent radicalization of youth.

The “First Meeting of the Parliamentary Counter-Terrorism Working Group for Africa” will specifically focus on designing and promoting parliamentary strategies aimed at addressing security issues in Africa, namely on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, including national strategies and action plans, border security management, and the urgent need for addressing the security situation in West Africa and the Sahel regions.

Furthermore, with reference to the communication disseminated to Parliamentary Assemblies by the APU Secretariat on 6 June 2022, I wish to reiterate our encouragement to you to designate a parliamentary delegation to UNOCT, in order to ensure a continued and systemic engagement to implement the recommended actions stemming from UNOCT initiatives, including the recommendations that will be formulated by the first meeting of the Working Group for Africa.

Addressed to:
His/Her Excellency
Speaker of the Parliament

I would be grateful if your office could save the date for the two events, and kindly ensure a delegation to UNOCT is appointed at your earliest convenience, by providing the information to Mr. David Alamos (email: David.alamos@un.org) copying Ms. Bouchra Bouchkouj (email: Bouchra.bouchkouj@un.org).

An official invitation to the High-Level Conference and Working Group Meeting, with all registration details, will be kindly circulated by the African Parliamentary Union in the next days.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mauro Miedico'.

Mauro Miedico
Deputy Director
Chief, Special Projects and Innovation Branch
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism