

ADOPTED Summary Report
5th Counter-Terrorism Working Group
10 – 11 May, 2015, Boracay, Philippines

The **5th APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group Meeting** was held at the Boracay Garden Paradise Hotel, Aklan Island, the Philippines, on 10 – 11 May, 2015. The Meeting was presided by the Chair **Mr Oscar F. Valenzuela** (Philippines) and assisted by the Secretariat's Program Director **Mr Diego Garcia**.

The two-day meeting was attended by 14 out of the 21 APEC member economies, namely. Australia, Brunei, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, United States and Viet Nam.

Key outcomes of the 5th APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group Meeting

Opening Remarks by the CTWG Chair

The CTWG Chair, Mr Oscar Valenzuela, welcomed all delegates to the 5th APEC Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting. He took note of the priorities of the CTWG and the approval of the Work Plan for 2015, emphasized additional features to make it more responsive to the current terrorism threats confronting the APEC region, particularly in addressing foreign terrorist fighters and countering violent extremism.

On the 2015 Work Plan, he reiterated the deliverables on capacity building projects and the activities on implementing the Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy and enhancing the effectiveness of these by placing greater focus on monitoring and evaluating them, as well as in considering appropriate recommendations as set forth in the Independent Assessor's Reports.

The CTWG Chair also brought up the necessity of selecting a Vice Chair, as included in the agenda of the meeting.

Regarding the Report on the CTAP 2014 that was reported by the APEC Secretariat, the Chair noted that there were 15 updates from APEC economies, which showed that there are more opportunities than gaps, especially in the Protect Cargo Section.

He also expressed appreciation to the United States for the Secure Finance Workshop on New Payment Systems conducted during the side-lines of the 4th CTWG meeting. Additionally, he cited a list of inter-sessional activities and accomplishments, and also the objectives of the 5th CTWG meeting, in which he outlined the task of comparing and sharing experiences as well as assessing efforts as a working group, specifically on the four cross-cutting areas: secure travel, secure supply chain, secure finance and secure infrastructure; to determine the status of the implementation of the APEC Strategy on Counter Terrorism and Secure Trade 2013-2017; and, to determine what can be done for the APEC priority objectives in 2015, among others.

He mentioned that terrorism incidents continue to pervade the region, explaining that is a blight that affects everyone in the region, directly or indirectly. Some of these acts of terror have directly affected APEC member economies, disrupting the security in the region, which in turn affects commerce, trade, travel, and other economic undertakings. He encouraged members by saying that through our interactions, we may strengthen our established programs and measures, exchange best practices and bring new ideas to the fore. The fight against terrorism is a difficult one, but it is not an impossible one. Finally, he highlighted that we must continue to collaborate with each other and with relevant APEC Working Groups and stakeholders to speed up and maximize our efforts, in order to foster the spirit of collaboration and cooperation between our economies, concluding that it is through our unity, cooperation and collaboration, which we will succeed in our endeavors.

Adoption of the Final Annotated Agenda and Summary Report

The members reviewed and adopted the final annotated agenda **(2015/SOM2/CTWG/001)** for the meeting proposed by the Chair. After removing a paragraph with reference to the United Nations Security Council Resolution, the members endorsed the 4th CTWG Meeting Summary Report prepared by the Secretariat **(2015/SOM2/CTWG/002)**.

Secretariat Issues and On-going Tasks

The APEC Secretariat reported the Project Management issues and timeline, gave a briefing on the Project Session 1-2015, and also updated on the APEC Key Developments since last SOM meeting **(2015/SOM2/CTWG/003 & 003a)**. The Program Director emphasized the need to prepare the Concept Notes for funding approval in accordance with the guidelines and criteria. The members were informed that deadline for submission of concept notes for Project Session 2-2015 is on July 1, for September and October approvals.

The members were encouraged to take advantage of the APEC Secretariat projects and opportunities specifically on the four crosscutting areas and submit their respective concept notes as well as to review the updated Guidebook on APEC Projects for the development of the Concept Notes.

CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017

The Chair briefly discussed the CTWG Strategic Plan 2013-2017 which is a living document approved in 2013 and highlighted the fact that the CTWG should closely look into the strategic work plan considering the evolving terrorism threats, especially those that are not included in the strategic plan.

After the discussion, the following amendments were proposed by CTWG members: Indonesia proposed to hold a workshop under Business Resilience and Recovery to be implemented in 2016. Although the concept note has yet to be finalized, the purpose is to share best practices in Public and Private Partnership in tourism, using the experiences of Indonesia in the Bali and Jakarta Bombings as examples on how the business sector managed in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. Indonesia formally introduced the initiative to be included in the matrix and asked for the support of other APEC Member Economies to co-sponsor the event.

The US has remaining updates on the matrix regarding the several workshops hosted by the country in past years. The US will directly coordinate with the Secretariat on the results of these initiatives.

Considering that 2015 is the middle term of the implementation of the CTWG Strategic Plan, Japan proposed the evaluation of the progress and discussion of the course of direction of APEC Strategy in order to exchange opinions among APEC member economies.

The Chair supported the statement of Japan and further proposed a review of the status of where the CTWG is in terms of implementing the strategy and the things that still needs to be done in reference to the current emerging threats of terrorism. The Chair also proposed the review of projects being undertaken in the four cross-cutting areas.

Russia expressed its support to the initiative of Indonesia in ensuring the resilience of the business sector, especially economies in the ASEAN region that rely heavily on tourism. Furthermore, Russia proposed that the concept of the public-private partnership, initially introduced by Indonesia, should also be considered in the next STAR Conference.

Japan highlighted the importance of including the Passenger Name Record (PNR) in the CTWG Strategy.

Counter-Terrorism Action Plans Updates

Following a brief discussion regarding the timeline of the submission of the CTAPs updates, Members agreed to submit them every two years instead of annually, in order to coordinate with relevant agencies to produce a more accurate update. In this regard, the next CTAP submission should be done before the SOM3 in 2016. APEC Secretariat will coordinate the inter-sessional work and then prepare the CTAP Summary Report to be presented in CTWG Meeting in the margins of SOM1 2017.

The following economies submitted/briefed on their respective CTAP updates:

- Chile **(2015/SOM2/CTWG/007&008)**
- The Philippines **(2015/SOM2/CTWG/009)**
- Republic of Korea
- Papua New Guinea
- Viet Nam

Implementation of the CTWG Work Plan and the Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy's cross-cutting activity areas

The Russian Federation briefed on the "Evaluation of the ISIL Threat to the APEC Region", anticipating that in the near future, there will be increased activities of ISIL and other terrorist groups in Middle East and North Africa. The representative from Russia underscored the fact that insurgents improved their operational posture along the Gulf Area and potentially may put international shipping operations in chaos, concluding that certainly the spread of instability will have a direct impact on security of other states' interest worldwide and posing tangible threat to international economies.

The Russian delegate indicated that there are over 9,000 ISIL-affiliated website in the Internet; 43,000 Twitter accounts and 10,000 Facebook accounts. Also, he specified that there are around 2,000 Russian speaking Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) enrolled in terrorist organizations in the Middle East Regions, while there were more than 500 attacks on Russian Internet sources launched by the ISIL cyber caliphate. The victims ranged from banking institutions, construction companies, industrial plants and scientific centers.

Indonesia reported on the Indonesian Response to the Threat of Foreign Terrorist Fighters, explaining the route taken by FTF going to Syria, which accounted for a number of terrorism recidivists and some children of Indonesians engaged with ISIS (more than 100 Indonesians are involved and the number is increasing). The Indonesian delegate stated that this type of threat clearly shows that a country needs not only focus on national level but to also forge close collaboration with other APEC Member Economies to combat FTF, in order to transform the APEC Leaders commitments in fighting against FTF into concrete policy and actions.

Regarding the main responses to FTF Returnees, the Indonesian delegate briefed on the following: the "Community Awareness Program" which aimed at increasing awareness on the danger of ISIS at the same time empowering communities to be more resilient against ISIS propaganda; highlighting the important role of religious organizations at the forefront in condemning IS' ideology and its brutal activities; the "Intervention program in prison" that aimed at lessening the support to IS among terrorist prisoners, due the number of prisoners showing sympathy and allegiance to ISIS.

The Indonesian delegate also mentioned the "The Monitoring and Intelligence System" to prevent Indonesians to travel to Iraq and Syria to join the ISIS, which was working in close cooperation with foreign governments and as a result there have been cases of arrested Indonesians in Malaysia and Turkey that were deported back to Indonesia. Finally, the Indonesian delegate briefed on the "Legal measures and law enforcement" to prosecute those FTF returnees and those attempting to join the ISIS, explaining that Indonesia now is in the process of drafting a legislation that forbids Indonesian from supporting and joining ISIS.

Japan indicated that as a victim economy of the ISIL activity, it strongly condemns its ideology that spread through Internet propaganda and radicalization of FTF, which are common to all countries, including APEC economies. Japan appreciates the recommendations of Russia and Indonesia on ISIS that contribute to Japan's anti-terrorism efforts.

The Philippines acknowledged the importance of social media in the recruitment and radicalization of violence, mentioning that the role of economies is to challenge extremist propaganda and to educate the people to think critically as a proactive measure and to include this in our strategy.

The Philippines' delegate commented that in order to upgrade the capabilities of the law enforcers and security officers in navigating the social media, the Philippines is collaborating with the development and social services related agencies to help address the communities vulnerable to radicalization. Also, he suggested the following course of actions for consideration of the CTWG in future program developments: "Development of law enforcers and security officers in navigating the social media as a potent tool in information dissemination, advocacy campaign and public relations activities; "Economies to design a holistic program that will address the root causes of radicalization and violent extremism; and "Religious rehabilitation and social reintegration should be carried out through proper counseling and education to extricate people from their misguided ideology". Finally, he mentioned that the Philippines is interested in coming up with a project proposal regarding all of these suggestions.

China stated that terrorist activities in the region are on the rise and the situation in the Asia-Pacific region is undergoing complex changes. The infiltration of terrorists from other regions is exacerbating the situation. The thoughts and ideas of violence and extremism are widely disseminated. The Chinese delegate explained that the collusions among terrorist groups were growing while cross border terrorist activities was increasing, and FTFs are a great threat to APEC Member economies, while the use the Internet is now more frequent for terrorist activities. All these are posing new threats and challenges to regional security and stability. He highlighted that China is also a victim of terrorism and suffered direct threat from East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) in recent years. ETIM releases videos frequently in the Internet disseminating the thoughts of Jihad. ETIM also conspired with other international terrorist groups, which poses major threat not only to PRC but also to the Asia Pacific Region.

PRC attaches great importance to anti-terrorism and the country makes great efforts to prevent the spread of terrorism and extremism; at the same time, it continuously builds counter-terrorism mechanisms and realize its national security through comprehensive governance and administration. PRC has established a counter-terrorism mechanism to nearly 20 countries. PRC also conducts practical cooperation such as intelligence sharing and personnel training with many countries, and also helps other countries to improve their counter-terrorism capacity building. PRC also attached great importance to the works of the CTWG in promoting and improving regional counter-terrorism cooperation, regional capacity building, and regional security in trade activities. PRC continuously fulfills its commitment in counter-terrorism of APEC Leaders and Ministers by sharing experiences and cooperating with CTWG and APEC Member Economies in the areas of secure supply chains, travel, finance, infrastructure and network, in the view of regional peace and stability

Secure Supply Chains

The United States acknowledged the organization of Russia, China and Indonesia of the recent STAR Conference that highlighted the area of cargo security by enabling the public and the private sector share their ideas on the issue. The US delegate inquired from the CTWG members if there were any interested in discussing this topic further through a workshop while also opened the floor to know members' opinion on what should be the specific topic addressed if the US intend to propose a workshop.

Japan highlighted that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted and this stipulates the increase in business resilience and protection of assets. The delegate from Japan answered the question posed by the US and agreed on the complexity of the stakeholders in the supply chain. He proposed the approach of engaging private-private, private controlling regulating agencies, cross-border coordination and cooperation between the agencies, and cross-border public and private, explaining that the proposal is orthodox but it is the only way Japan sees that would capture the entire vision.

Finally, Japan proposed to include the efforts of the CTWG on counter-terrorism into the Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting. Japan asked for the CTWG Members to review the

proposed statement that will be circulated. The economies present in the CTWG are responsible for a secure supply chain and secure the prosperity of each economy.

Secure Travel

The United States updated members on a potential CTWG Workshop on Secure Travel that will address the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighter travel. The United States' delegate acknowledged the presentations of Russia and Indonesia in depicting the threats posed of the FTFs in the region, as well as recalling that the proposal of the US during the 4th APEC CTWG Meeting in Subic on conducting a workshop on FTF was well received.

The US is making sure that their Concept Note on a FTF workshop will be rooted in "implementing the Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy; in the existing international responsibilities and good practices particularly UNSCR 2178 and The global Counter-Terrorism Forum in The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum on Good Practices for a More Effective Response to the FTF Phenomenon; and existing capacity building initiatives such as the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF) conducted in Perth, Australia on aviation security, which underscored the importance of information sharing to help address the FTF threat.

The US developed a menu of options that the workshop could potentially address:

- The evolving FTF threat in the region, including the identification of FTF travel patterns;
- International responsibilities regarding FTF travel under UNSCR 2178;
- Domestic, regional and international good practices on addressing the FTF travel including those listed in The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum;
- Mechanisms for detecting and interdicting FTF transits, departure and return, including Advance Passenger Information (API) and PNR;
- Tools of improving sharing information on FTF travel through international mechanisms such as the Interpol;
- Good practices for improving travel document security and airport security; and
- Administrative measures to address interdicted FTFs.

The Chair commended the US for spearheading and initiating a Concept Note on FTF.

Australia thanked the US for the proposal made and explaining that it dovetails the recently hosted event of Australia aviation security. Australian delegate mentioned that he looks forward to contributing to the workshop and extends its support to make it happen.

Indonesia will also contribute to the proposed workshop of the US. By briefing the challenge faced by border security officers who do not have a list of FTF returnees, the Indonesian delegate commented that they also faced issues with fake travel documents (visas and personal information) of FTFs, which is the reason why is very important for economies to strengthen their capabilities of monitoring. Also, Indonesia stated that they will establish a close cooperation with other APEC Member Economies

The US proposed that the workshop on FTF be held in the margins of SOM3 in Cebu. The US solicited the insights of the CTWG for proposals on experts as potential resource speakers for the workshop, and at the time he clarified that the theory behind the workshop is to propose something tailored on the needs of the Asia-Pacific region.

The US gave four (4) updates on the Travel Facilitation Initiative (TFI):

- Airport Partnership Program. In 2014, the Tourism Working Group (TWG) developed an APEC project proposal to identify a small pilot group of airports to work with experts across the APEC region to develop and showcase best practices in facilitating travel processes. This project has received preliminary APEC funding approval and will start in the second half of 2015; initially by collecting information on best practices and a follow-on workshop in 2016;
- The SCE approved the two-year extension of the TFI's Steering Council's mandate until 2017;
- The TFI Steering Council is looking into a 2015 assessment in the initiatives and draft self-funded concept note was circulated to the CTWG which will be presented in the margins of SOM2 for SCE's endorsement; and

- Opened the nomination to all APEC Member Economy for the 2016 posts as CTWG representative and TFI coordinator to the TFI Steering Council.

Chinese Taipei, Japan, China, and Russia welcomed and supported the proposal of the US on the workshop on FTF and fully expressed their will to bring their respective expertise to share practical knowledge on this matter.

The APEC CTWG members reached a consensus for endorsing the Concept Note on the US self-funded activity between the margins of SOM3 in Cebu.

Secure Finance

Russia briefed on countering ISIL Financing. The Russian delegate explained that after the UNSC adopted the Resolution Nos. 2161, 2170 and 2178 related to the ISIL financing, Russia circulated the notification to financial institutions providing them update for further action. The Supreme Court of Russia recognized ISIL as a terrorist organization and banned its activity in the country. Joining or supporting ISIL in Russia is deemed as a criminal act. The Russian Federation investigated almost 100 legal cases related to ISIL. Finally, the Russian delegate encouraged other economies to take the initial step and recognize ISIL as a terrorist organization.

Moreover, the Russian delegate commented that on 12 February 2015 the UNSC adopted under Chapter 7, the UNSCR 2199 aimed at disruption of the oil trade by ISIL as a source of terrorist financing. The draft of the UNSCR was prepared and circulated by the Russian Federation co-sponsored by 55 states and unanimously supported by the UNSC. The UNSCR banned in oil and oil products with ISIL. Such engagement will be a support to ISIL and will be sanctioned according to the list of the UNSCR. Sanctions will include travel ban and freezing of financial assets.

The Russian delegate underscored their participation in the short-term study initiated by the US in the FATF to identify the financing of ISIL and highlighted that Russia is also proposing a similar study be conducted for APEC covering a thorough listing and identifying of financing of ISIL.

Peru briefed on police activities to fight money laundry (coming from drug trafficking) and police activities to fight terrorism and its financing. The Peruvian delegate explained that since 1992, Peru has been fighting "Sendero Luminoso" with successful elimination of the group and the dismantling of leaders and Lebanese terrorist belonging to Hezbollah. Peru is combating money laundering from drug trafficking by monitoring control exercises in illegal handling in certain areas. Also, the delegate commented that Peru is implementing national action plan for fighting terrorism in customs points and border areas, as well as is strengthening the police in points to avoid international terrorists.

The delegate from Peru stated that since 2010, the Peruvian Police has made developments in counter-terrorism and participated in police activities against terrorism and drugs. The Peruvian delegate provided examples that included operation recovering assets and arrests involved with money laundering. Also, the Peruvian delegate cited the Lebanese citizen terrorist Mohammad Ghalen Banbar arrested by the Peruvian authorities—on 28 October 2014, explaining that the modus operandi is to recruit individuals and prepare them for attacks.

Finally, he explained that since 2011 the public prosecutor and three (3) specialist squad from the National Police, anti-drug crimes and money laundering and terrorist financing participated in a joint work have performed twelve exercises on financial investigation in coordination with Chile, Ecuador and Colombia.

The Japanese delegate shared their counter-terrorism efforts, explaining that Japan has set-up a domestic restoration on the transfer of criminal proceeds and they expected to consider cooperation and collaboration with APEC Finance Minister Process.

Secure Infrastructure

The Russian delegate briefed on "The experience in providing security of critical energy infrastructure". He commented that terrorists still target facilities relating to critical infrastructure and public support

systems. Though oil and gas pipelines are placed underground, there are markings that indicate their exact locations and these made them accessible to terrorist attacks. Attacks to these pipelines do not only involve human life but economic loss, domestic and international losses. Attacks to these pipelines will seriously affect the economic system and can also cause political damage.

The Russian delegate reported that in 2012 the Russian government adopted the Energy Security Doctrine, defining the mandate of executive authorities in the field of energy security provision. He said that Russia has developed sufficient legal basis to adequately secure fuel and energy facilities. The police officials are exercising actual supervision of security requirements implementation at fuel and energy facilities. Facilities are categorized based on individual security certificates and defense plans, and the risks and possible consequences of the facilities. Around 93% of the fuel and energy facilities nationwide was placed under security protection. He commented that in order to provide cooperation and coordination among different operational units, joint anti-terrorism trainings were conducted annually in the region, while the protection of fuel and energy facilities is considered a priority of the strategic energy policy of Russia.

The Russian delegate reported on "Providing security of critical information infrastructure". He highlighted that Industrial Controlled System (ICS) employed in critical infrastructure facilities are linked to global information networks and involved the wireless communication technologies. He explained that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is being used by terrorists for fund raising, establishing operations and links in propagating ideological views and recruitment of new followers, intelligence gathering and tampering with the regular use of critical infrastructure. Finally, he said that while the use of Internet is commonly being used by terrorists, the attack to an information infrastructure will impact other sectors linked to the ICS causing financial, economic and environmental crisis.

The Russian delegate commented that the sustainable economic development is based on a Secured ICT system, and practical systems are made by Russia at three levels: legislative, organizational and technical: (i) Final draft of the federal law on Critical Security of the Russian Federation, which sets the criteria in categorizing the critical information infrastructure by actual risk level and setting requirements of critical information facilities, security systems of facilities, assessing the protective assessment in ensuring the security of the Russian Federation critical information infrastructure; and (ii) Operationalization of the Governmental system of detection and prevention of computer attacks on Russian Federation critical information infrastructure, which is engineered to avoid computer thefts. In 2012, Russia set up an organization responding to computer incident known as the Computer Incidents Response Team, a dedicated body tasked to coordinate agencies and organizations involved in prevention, detection, and mitigation of computer-related incidents among the ICT of the Russian Federation. One of the tasks of this body is practical interaction on both national and international attacks in detecting and identifying the sources; as well as the exchange of relevant information between competent agencies and other states.

Finally, the Russian delegate reported on "Law enforcement aspects of ensuring transportation security in Russia". Transport security is aimed to have a safe and stable operation of the transport complex. The basis of this approach include: "Elimination of threats"; "Classification of transport infrastructure facility"; "Evaluation of the vulnerability of transport infrastructure facility"; "Development and implementation of transport security requirement".

The Japanese delegate recommended that the Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) attending the SOM also in Boracay in May 2015 be provided with information for their perusal since it would deepen their understanding on counter-terrorism since there are cross-cutting issues, particularly on the cross-border international supply chain and international trade. While Japan acknowledged the demarcation among agencies from different economies involved in other working groups, members should be able to have access to the data on the CTWG, Japan recommended the inclusion of the CTWG concept at the ministerial level.

After the discussion was raised, the CTWG Chair acknowledged members agreement to circulate a message proposal via email to be endorsed and included in the Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT)

Updates on Relevant Activities and Measures in other International Fora

The Philippines' delegate cited its involvement, at different levels and capacity as project implementer or participants or subject matter experts (SMEs) in trainings, workshops, dialogues, working group meetings in international fora through the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism Dialogue; Australian-ASEANAPOL, INTERPOL; Global Counter-Terrorism Forum; United States, Special Operation Command Pacific (SOCPAC) National Counter Terrorism Center; and, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). These were conducted in consonance with the four pillars of Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy, namely: Secure Supply Chain, Secure Travel, Secure Finance and Secure Infrastructure. These are as follows:

- Proposal to conduct six (6) Counter-Terrorism trainings and workshops under the auspices of the Philippine Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), funded by Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) through the ASEAN-Japan Counter-Terrorism (AJCT) Dialogue.
- Implementation of two (2) projects under Secure Travel and Secure Finance through the conduct of seminar-workshops on Radicalization of Overseas Workers and Capability Enhancement to Monitor and Regulate the Flow of Funds for Terrorist Activities Passing Through Formal and Informal Channels, respectively. These workshops were held in March and April 2015.
- Project on Capability Development on Cyber Terrorism Response supported by the Australian-ASEANAPOL Counter Terrorism Leaders Forum.
- Conduct of the 3rd Multi-Lateral Counter Violent Extremism Conference "Youth and Terrorism: Countering the Narrative" on 02-06 February 2015.
- Participation in East Asia Summit Symposium on Religious Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration on 16-17 April 2015, which was sponsored by S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore. The summit explored emergent key challenges that have impacted on the terrorism landscape, as well as ongoing efforts at rehabilitation and social reintegration.
- Participation in the 17th Basic Course for representatives of the National Authorities held at the OPCW headquarters in The Hague from 23 to 27 March 2015.

The Philippines' delegate also apprised the CTWG members of an upcoming project, which will be a training workshop and sharing of best practices among AMS plus Japan on "Enhancing Monitoring and Regulatory Regime on the Tools of Terrorism (IED)" including its components, and firearms. He recalled that the last project for 2015 under AJCT Dialogue has a cross-cutting element with the four APEC work areas. It is a training workshop and sharing of Best Practices among ASEAN Members and Japan on Strengthening Collaboration for the Prevention, Suppression and Prosecution of Terrorism Cases.

While the Philippines is not a member of the Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF), it has been an active partner and participant to its training programs and dialogues. At the GCTF's "Workshop on Raising Community Awareness in Response to the FTF Phenomenon" in which the Philippines was invited, the latter shared the "Whole-of-Nation" approach to encourage community ownership of terrorism prevention projects which of course will have cross-cutting impacts on secure travel, and infrastructure.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Representative Presentation on "International Transport Related Legal Framework against Terrorism"

The UNODC Representative Mr Hernan Longo expressed deep gratitude to the APEC CTWG Chair and members and the APEC Secretariat for the invitation and for allowing him the opportunity to learn the different initiatives of the working group. His presentation dealt on the universal legal framework against terrorism, citing the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (2006) and its Action Plan and an overview of the 19 international conventions and protocols against terrorism, under the auspices of the UN, AEA, ICAO and IMO. Of the 19, 12 of the international conventions are related to transport and terrorism (maritime navigation and civil aviation) and are therefore relevant to APEC and the goals of the CTWG.

In addition, he explained that there are several relevant UN Security Council Resolutions related to counter-terrorism, many of which were adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. He noted that unlike treaties, the resolutions are mandatory to all UN Member States, hence they are legally binding. He underscored the relevance of the UNSC resolutions, developed, thought and designed by experts and technicians, as a useful reference framework that can be used by the APEC CTWG in relation to terrorism and in helping governments and respective authorities in policy formulation, as well as for the best interest of the APEC economies.

The UNODC Representative cited some common features of the treaties and conventions such as 1) list of terrorist acts; 2) criminalization of the acts or offenses, and; 3) regulation of jurisdiction in terrorism investigation. He highlighted that international cooperation, mutual legal assistance and extradition are challenging in view of the fact that UN member states have yet to criminalize the more than 60 terrorist acts; and, that the issue of jurisdiction and territoriality cause complication on the investigation insofar as which country will have the jurisdiction on the investigation of the terrorism case. He stressed that the UNODC will continue to advocate and will require for the cooperation of UN member and non-member states, believing that doing so is to their best interest of ratifying them.

On addressing foreign terrorist fighters (FTF), the UNODC Representative raised to APEC CTWG the relevance of the provisions under Article 13 of the 2005 SUA Convention regarding Mutual Assistance as another legal framework that can be used to restrict the FTFs freedom of movement. Specific reference was made on the commission of offenses within or outside their territories, information exchange (both informal and formal) in accordance with their law, and coordinating administrative and other measures taken as appropriate to prevent the commission of offences.

The UNODC Representative underscored the obligation of states to provide Advance Passenger Information (API) and address the financing of FTF and their online incitement. He discussed the provisions under UNSC Resolution 2178 (September 2014), which calls on all UN Member States to develop comprehensive policies to address the foreign terrorist fighters-related threats; and, for the improvement of national legal frameworks, as well as enhancing the capacity of relevant law enforcement and judicial institutions to effectively implement the laws. One of the useful provisions is the restriction of travel of FTF or alleged FTF, particularly for the purpose of preparing or perpetrating a terrorist act, clarifying concerns that the UNSC 2178 undermines the right of people to travel. It also has specific operative paragraph on prosecutions and criminalization, and penalizing those who finance, provide or receive training to and for terrorists and equipment, as well real or online incitement or using the social media to advocate violent extremism.

On his final note, the UNODC Representative informed the CTWG members the importance of the advocacy and assistance provided by UNODC, such as the ratification of CT instruments, legislative and amendment of national legislation to incorporate the international provision on civil aviation and maritime security. Further, he urged the CTWG members to take the opportunity of the assistance that the UNODC offers on capacity building for implementation on investigation, prosecution and adjudication of transport-related CT offences, and international cooperation on criminal matter related to transport CT offenses, particularly on technical assistance for training purposes.

Closing Remarks and Next Meeting

The Chair acknowledged the inputs of Members and expressed his sincere gratitude for their participation and contributions. He thanked as well to the APEC National Organizing Committee and the Conference Management Services for their valuable assistance in the conduct of the CTWG meeting, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority for the generous hospitality, and the members of the APEC Secretariat for the guidance and for the success of the CTWG plans and projects.

The next CTWG Meeting will be held in the margins of SOM3, 1–2 September 2015, in Cebu, the Philippines.