



Statement by Mr. Sandro Calvani
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**Follow-Up OSCE PPP Conference on Public-Private Partnership
Conference on “Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the
Business Community in Combating Terrorism”**

15 September 2008, Vienna

***On behalf of the United Nations
Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)***

Excellencies, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, Good morning.
It is a great pleasure for me to address you on behalf of both UNICRI and the
United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, of which UNICRI
is a member entity.

First, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut,
Secretary General of the OSCE, for the invitation to participate in this OSCE
PPP Conference, as well as to the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office. I would also
like to thank Mr. Raphael Perl, Head of the Action against Terrorism Unit of
OSCE and his team for their commitment to the organization of this Conference,
which was made possible by the contributions both from the public and the
private sector, namely the United States Mission to the OSCE, the Government
of Spain and the Russian company Norilsk Nickel.

As you may know, the General Assembly held a meeting on the implementation
of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy a few days ago in New
York, on 4 and 5 September. On the occasion, it adopted a resolution renewing
its commitment to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and combat
terrorism and calling on Member States, the United Nations, and international,
regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the
United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in all its aspects.

The resolution also references the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism
Implementation Task Force (CTITF), as well as its interaction with the General
Assembly on a regular basis, in line with the appeals of various Member States,
which emphasized the pivotal role of the CTITF in promoting coordination and
coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of United Nations entities.

The subject of public-private partnerships has become increasingly important for the work of the United Nations, as can be witnessed by its reference in the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as in work on the subject carried out within the framework of the Task Force.

Public-private partnerships are also receiving stronger attention from regional organizations, such as OSCE, which has often captured the importance of the role of the private sector and the civil society in encouraging moderate attitudes, tolerance, social integration, as well as in broadcasting messages that condemn terrorism.

When considering the nature and scale of threats posed by today's terrorism, participants of the OSCE's conference on Public-Private Partnerships held in June 2007, noted that "a combined effort involving governments, civil society and business is necessary to enhance joint, independent or coordinated multidisciplinary research on terrorism".

The Global Strategy includes measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism, which includes encouraging the UN to consider reaching out to the private sector seeking their cooperation in capacity-building projects.

Before highlighting the main references made to public-private partnerships in the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, allow me to give a brief overview of the Task Force. The Task Force is composed of 23 UN system entities and INTERPOL, including entities both with and without an explicit counter-terrorism mandate. It was created by the Secretary General in 2005 to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system. It does so by facilitating the sharing of information among CTITF entities about their areas of activity, creating opportunities for increased collaboration. It also does so through working groups consisting of Task Force entities that are undertaking joint programs of work in areas identified in the Strategy that can benefit from such engagement. Within this coordination and coherence function, the Task Force has also been assisting Member States with aspects of their efforts to implement the Strategy.

In accordance with the Global Strategy, the Task Force has devoted attention to areas such as conflict prevention and resolution, addressing radicalization and extremism that lead to terrorism, supporting and highlighting victims of terrorism, preventing and responding to weapons of mass destruction attacks, tackling the financing of terrorism, countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, facilitating the integrated implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, protecting human rights while countering terrorism, and, finally, strengthening the protection of vulnerable targets, of which I will speak some more today..

In Section III, paragraph 13, the Strategy explicitly encourages the identification and sharing of best practices to prevent terrorist attacks on particularly vulnerable targets and recognizes the importance of developing public private partnerships in this area.

To this end, within the Task Force, a Working Group on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets has looked at, among other things, enhancing cooperation between the public and private sectors in the field of vulnerable target protection. Within this framework, UNICRI has led an “action-oriented” analysis initiative on public-private partnerships for the protection of vulnerable targets against terrorist attacks, bringing together public authority and private sector representatives and experts to facilitate the collection of technical information and security practices from different regions of the world.

A report on the work is forthcoming, and an executive abstract of the report is available on the Task Force web-site, outlining the main findings of the “action-oriented” analysis initiative.

In order to understand more profoundly the complexity of public and private sector cooperation and to examine their respective perspectives, we sought to stimulate dialogue and develop a common language between the two.

Overcoming communication barriers, enhancing trust, “building bridges” between the personnel of private and public entities will prove to be very effective in times of need.

Through the elaboration of the analysis, we have observed that, even though Member States retain primary responsibility for protecting vulnerable targets, the implementation of security strategies, considering the multitude of possible targets and the resource limitations, requires the support of the private sector.

We have identified the need to encourage private sector involvement and investments in security issues while promoting the approach of “security as an investment” and not as cost.

We have also observed important developments at the local level, examples of successful cooperation established by cities all around the world which have significantly increased the role of the civil society and the business sector in the development of new security governance strategies.

The positive engagement of Member States in the review of the implementation of the UN Global Strategy, along with the enthusiasm shown by the private sector in welcoming the work on public-private partnerships launched within the CTITF, are clear evidence that public and private sectors are today ready to intensify their cooperation in the security field.

I am convinced that the Conference that has brought us together here in Vienna is important occasion for the public and the private sector to identify common objectives, develop a common language and share information on new strategies to counter terrorism and advance the security of people all around the world.

I would like to apologise for not being able to attend the whole conference due to other commitments.

Mr. Brian Powrie from my office will attend on my behalf.

Thank you very much for your attention.