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

CONCEPT NOTE

Regional Workshop on Border Security and Management Good Practices in response to the COVID 19 pandemic in the context of Counter-Terrorism

With the publication of the "*Good Practices in the area of Border Security and Management in the context of Counterterrorism: The Republic of Korea Model"*, officially launched in June 2022, phase I of the "Joint UNCCT-Republic of Korea Initiative to expand the UNCCT Border Security and Management Good Practices in response to the COVID 19 pandemic" formally concluded. As a follow-up activity, the Government of the Republic of Korea supported UNOCT-UNCCT in the continuation of the project's objective through phase II, which will comprise a regional workshop for the Southeast Asia Region to promote the best practices identified in the publication and two national workshop to identified beneficiaries in the same region. This workshop aims to increase and strengthen the awareness, knowledge and capabilities of Member States in border security and management. The publication will be used as a practical guidance tool to address measures that need to be taken by States to effectively implement the Security Council resolutions on counterterrorism and comply with public health measures.
The focus of the regional workshop is to strengthen regional cooperation on these matters and to enhance the awareness, knowledge and capabilities of border control officials, customs officers, and frontline law enforcement with relevant mandates in counterterrorism and border security. The workshop will provide participants with the tools and resources to work toward an Integrated Border Management System.

The regional workshop will provide an opportunity to address current regional good practices, trends, gaps, needs, and recent technological and other developments regarding the responsible use and sharing of biometrics in a counterterrorism context. This regional workshop will be organized in Seoul and the following Member States will be invited to participate: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Furthermore, a representative of ASEAN will also be invited. Each Member State is expected to send maximum three border security and counter-terrorism experts who in dedicated sessions would present their current practices in their respective countries. This regional workshop will be followed by two national workshops, to be organized by the first quarter of 2023, through which a dedicated assistance will be provided to the Member State.

The UNCCT-ROK Joint initiative aims to identify, collate and promote globally 'good practices' for border management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular focus on public health measures, which were able to contain the evolving health threat, and their intersection with terrorism.

The outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic and related public health response measures have had an unprecedented global impact. Most countries implemented restrictions on movement within or across borders and mandated using facial masks and other health protections. Understanding how this evolving global health threat and measures to contain it intersect with

efforts to counter terrorism and transnational crime at the regional and national levels is critically important to understand how to manage dangers associated with such disruptive circumstances in border management. Among the case studies observed, the Republic of Korea proved remarkably efficient in dealing with challenges posed by the global outbreak of COVID-19.

The Republic of Korea is one of the few countries that flattened the COVID-19 curve without imposing border closures. The country's approach focuses on the implementation of national border security and management capacities, measures relating to health screening on arrival, collection of public health-related data from travellers, and targeting of flights from high-risk locations, which, although maintaining an open border policy, still successfully helped to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Leveraging the 3Ts – widespread tests, rigorous tracing, and free treatment – has allowed the country to manage both inflow and outflow passengers openly and responsibly. Underlying factors also include the following elements: leadership, a whole-of-government approach, policy flexibility, and public trust built on transparency as significant attributes of the country's remarkable success in tackling COVID-19.

Members of terrorist organizations, including foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), continue to take advantage of porous borders across the globe. In the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288) and subsequent reviews, the General Assembly resolved to step up national efforts and multilateral cooperation to improve border control. It also resolved to continue working within the UN system to support the reform and modernization of border security and management systems of Member States at all institutional levels.

Additionally, the UN Security Council has similarly emphasized the importance of border security and management as a critical component in countering terrorism, notably preventing cross-border movement of terrorists and illicit goods through the following resolutions: 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004), 1624 (2005), 2178 (2014), 2309 (2016), 2322 (2016), 2325 (2016), 2396 (2017), 2462 (2019) and 2482 (2019), amongst others. Furthermore, in resolution 2396, the Security Council calls on all States to implement several measures to detect and prevent the movement of terrorists through the adoption of effective national border security and management good practices, strategies and plans of action. These include developing and implementing systems to collect and share biometric data, adopting watchlists or databases of known and suspected terrorists, including FTFs, and connecting them to INTERPOL's 24/7 network to facilitate the screening of travellers at all ports of entry. Security Council resolution 2482 (2019) addresses the nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime. It encourages the Member States to strengthen border management by increasing awareness, training and capacity of relevant practitioners in border control to investigate and prosecute terrorists and terrorist groups and transnational criminal organizations. To support border officials in effectively identifying and preventing their movement and enhancing coordination of cross-border investigations.

In 2017, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), through the Border Security Initiative (BSI), jointly developed a set of non-binding 15 Border Security and Management (BSM) Good Practices in

the context of counterterrorism and stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs). The BSM Good Practices aim to assist UN Member States' implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant UN Security Council resolutions to address the overall challenges that porous borders pose and extended remote green border areas between States. The BSM Good Practices are intended to inform and guide governments as they develop policies, guidelines, programs, and approaches for effective BSM, to strengthen cross-border cooperation and border surveillance in a counterterrorism context. All Member States are encouraged to consider using these good non-binding practices while recognizing that implementation of these good practices must be consistent with applicable international law and national law and regulations and could be adapted to specific regional and sub-regional realities and needs.

Based on the outcome of the scoping mission and the national consultations held with key stakeholders within the ROK Government, in 2021; UNCCT led the drafting of a focused publication on the BSM Good Practices, which will supplement the existing practices, to enhance border security and management in the context of counter-terrorism while also ensuring public health and hygiene standards. The publication was made possible through the contribution of World Customs Organization (WCO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the Stimson Centre, in cooperation with the Migration Research and Training Centre and the Institution for National Security Studies of the Republic of Korea.

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AGENDA

REGIONAL EXPERT WORKSHOP
"Border Security and Management Good Practices in response to the COVID 19 pandemic in the context of Counterterrorism"

Diplomatic Center
Seoul, 24-28 October 2022

Day 1 - 24.10.2022	
09:30-10:00	**Registration of participants**
10:00–10:30	**Opening Ceremony** UNOCT-UNCCT, Head of CTS Section Representatives from the Government of the Republic of Korea, NCTC, ROK
10:30–10:45	**Group photo and Coffee break**
10:45–11:15	**Session I: Introductory session to the objectives of the Regional Workshop** UNOCT-UNCCT BSM
11:15-12:00	**Session II: Terrorist threats trends in the Southeast Asia Region** UNOCT/UNCCT Strategic Coordination Centre Bangkok
12:00–13:30	**Lunch break**
13:30-14:15	**Session III: Presentation of the Document "Good Practices in the area of Border Security and Management in the context of counter terrorism: the Republic of Korea Model"** UNCCT- BSM Stimson Centre
14:15–15:00	**Session IV: ROK Counter-terrorism strategy** INSS
15:00-15:45	**Session V: ROK Pandemic related Good Practices at the border** MRTC
15:45-16:00	**Wrap up Day 1**

Day 2 - 25.10.2022	
09:30-10:15	**Session VI:** BSM **"Good Practices in the area of Border Security and Management in the context of counter-terrorism".** UNCCT-BSM

IOM UN MIGRATION STIMSON WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION INSS 국가안보전략연구원 MRTC Migration Research & Training Centre 이민정책연구원

10:15-11:00	**Session VII: Integrated Border Management strategies at borders** IOM Bangkok Senior Regional Specialist IBM
11:00-11:15	**Coffee Break**
11:15-12:15	**Session VIII: Presentations from participating countries (Part 1)**
12:15-13:15	**Session VIII: Presentations from participating countries (Part 2)**
13:15-14:15	**Lunch Break**
14:15-15:00	**Session IX: WCO Border Security Initiatives**
15:00-15:15	**Coffee Break**
15:15-16:00	**Session X: INTERPOL databases and their use TBC** ROK Interpol NBO

Day 3 – 26.10.2022

08:30–12:30	**Visit to the Incheon International Airport** **(**presentation from KIS and CT Unit of KNPA)
12:30-13:30	**Lunch Break**
13:30–17.30	**Visit to the Incheon Maritime Port** (presentation by KCS and Coast Guard)

Day 4 – 27.10.2022

09:30–10:15	**Session XI: Integrated Border Security Management and Human Rights** (in collaboration with HR focal point at NCTC)
10:15–11:00	**Session XII: The responsible use of technologies at border in the context of Countering terrorism counter terrorism**
11:00-11:30	**Coffee Break**
11:30–13:00	**Session XIII: 3T Technology and its potentials in terrorism prevention** IOM ROK Expert
13:00–14:30	**Lunch Break**
14:30-16:00	**Exercise Session on the Good Practices Document TBC** (STIMSON-INSS-MRTC)

Day 5 – 28.10.2022

09:30-10:45	**Session XIV: Wrap up of the workshop and conclusion remarks** UNCCT-BSM Stimson - IOM - WCO
10:45-11:00	**Coffee Break**
11:00-11:30	**Closing Ceremony** UNCCT-BSM *Representatives from the Government of the Republic of Korea, TBD*