“Securing the present, protecting the future”

Understand, preventing and addressing the risk of misuse of CBRN science and technology by terrorist groups and other non-State actors

Side-event to the
Meeting of the States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention

United Nations Office at Geneva
Room XXIV, Palais des Nations, Geneva
4 December 2018, 13:00 - 15:00

New scientific and technological developments, or so-called emerging technologies, are transforming life, industry, and the global economy in positive ways. At the same time, these developments also have significant potential to be misused by terrorist groups and other non-State actors to facilitate new and innovative attacks or to amplify the impact of attacks involving weapons of mass destruction or their constitutive chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) materials. It is therefore imperative to raise awareness throughout the international community about the potential misuse of emerging technologies such as 3D printing, nano-technology, synthetic biology, artificial intelligence and drones.

Programme

13:00 -13:15 Arrival of participants – Light lunch and refreshments

13:15 -13:20 Welcome and formal opening

- Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) - Video message

13:20 -14:00 Session I: Understanding the risk

Moderator:

- Mr. Adrien Sivignon, Coordinator, Bioterrorism Prevention Unit, CBRNE sub-directorate, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

Panellists:

CBRN risks associated with the misuse of technologies: biotechnology and synthetic biology

- Mr. Francesco Marelli, Head of Unit, CBRN Risk Mitigation and Security Governance, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
Understanding the risk: the perspective of Kenya

- Mr. Ali Gakweli, Government Chemist, Government Chemist Department, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Kenya

Potential malicious uses of Artificial Intelligence by non-state actors and terrorist organisations

- Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli, Cluster Leader, Global Risk and Resilience, Emerging Security Challenges Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy

14:00 – 14:40 Session II: Preventing and addressing the risk

Moderator:

- Ms. María Eugenia de los Ángeles Rettori, Programme Manager, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), UNOCT

Panellists:

Links between terrorism and proliferation: the approach of France

- Ms. Isabelle Daoust-Maleval, Head of Office of Disarmament and Counter Proliferation, Directorate General for International Relations and Strategy, Ministry of Defense, France

Investigating the Darknet and countering the illicit use of drones: INTERPOL’s approach

- Mr. Adrien Sivignon, INTERPOL
- Ali Rached, Policy Analyst, CBRNE sub-directorate, INTERPOL

Using Artificial Intelligence to Strengthen Global Epidemic Surveillance

- Mr. Kamran Khan, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Bluedot

14:40-14:50 Closing remarks

- Mr. Adrien Sivignon, INTERPOL
- Mr. Francesco Marelli, UNICRI