

Proposed Terms of Reference

IASC Results Group 3 sub-group on counter terrorism

As part of the priority focus on collectively advocating for the protection of principled humanitarian assistance against the adverse impact of counter-terrorism (COTER) measures, an IASC Results Group 3 sub-group on counter terrorism is established. The subgroup will be co-chaired by InterAction, Save the Children and OCHA.

Duration: February to December 2020

Proposed membership: IASC RG3 members, UN agencies, ICRC, IFRC, international and national NGOs (potentially through ICVA and/or InterAction) following and actively working on the subject. Each organization will be asked to appoint a focal point with the ability to allocate time to participating in meetings, contributing to the subgroup's work and ensuring its effectiveness.

Objectives

1. Develop a more proactive, joint narrative and more broadly a humanitarian advocacy approach to the impact of COTER on principled humanitarian assistance, bringing together the expertise, experiences and perspectives of a variety of humanitarian actors;
2. React promptly and lead the IASC response in case of emerging policy and legal threats to unimpeded principled humanitarian assistance as the result of counter-terror measures

Working Modalities

- Organization of monthly calls. More frequent calls can be set up in case of specific events and when rapid advocacy organization and collaboration is required
- Exchange of information on developments, research findings, etc. over email as necessary

Activities

1. Develop a work plan with key objectives and deliverables in accordance with directions agreed to at the December 5, 2019 meeting of the IASC Principals
 - a. Advocate for standing humanitarian exemptions in counter-terrorism measures [OCHA in collaboration with IASC Members]
 - b. Provide guidance to and ensure leadership by Humanitarian Coordinators and Humanitarian Country Teams to engage actors locally to address the impact of counter-terrorism measures [OCHA]
 - c. Deepen efforts to document the negative effects and make an evidence-based case [IASC Result Group 3]
 - d. Engage proactively in open and sustained dialogue with Member States to raise awareness on concerns and work toward practical solutions, including in Security Council resolutions, donor agreements and domestic legislation [IASC Principals]
 - e. Engage the UN counter-terrorism architecture (the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, the Office of Counter-Terrorism, Sanctions Committees) by

increasing the involvement of humanitarian actors in discussions around counter-terrorism [OCHA]

2. Identify opportunities for humanitarian advocacy on the impact of counter terrorism and key targets for 2020 and beyond;
3. Ensure consistency with other ongoing initiatives, such as the CTED/OCHA-led report on the impact of counter terrorism on principled humanitarian assistance and, potentially, the UN Global CT strategy review;
4. Develop common messaging that IASC Principals and individual organizations may use in their advocacy efforts;
5. Develop quick-impact advocacy strategies in case of emerging counter terror threats to principled humanitarian assistance and work with all relevant stakeholders in country (HCT, HC) and in capitals (including New York);
6. Ensure consistency with efforts undertaken by RG1;
7. Share relevant research, case studies, trainings, briefings and information on influencing opportunities.