

## **Virtual Strategic Bioterrorism Table-Top Exercise**

*Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 08:00-11:00 EST / 13:00-16:00 GMT / 14:00-17:00 CET*

### **Background**

The Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN) are hosting a strategic exercise in partnership with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) of the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT). This virtual and interactive session follows the CTPN Bioterrorism conference and the publication of the CTPN report on “Bioterrorism: Applying the Lens of COVID-19”.

The exercise will provide an opportunity for a select group of strategic and tactical leaders from across CTPN cities to take a deep-dive into this re-emerging priority alongside UNOCT/UNCCT, relevant International Organisations and subject matter experts. The exercise will be facilitated through interactive scenario-based discussions that harness the expertise and experiences of delegates. It will further create opportunities to reflect on how multi-agency preparedness and response arrangements could be enhanced, and resilience developed, with a specific focus on the city level.

### **Aim and Objectives**

To convene a select group of international strategic leaders to engage in a multi-agency immersive exercise. The exercise aims to provide a platform to inform and develop the arrangements of cities and organisations in preparing for and responding to bioterrorism. It will:

- Raise awareness of advances in biosciences and technology, and how this may influence the threat and impact of bioterrorism in the short, medium and long term
- Understand potential consequences and cascading effects of a bio-attack
- Consider arrangements and development opportunities through scenario-based discussions
- Apply key principles, lessons and recommendations from previous experiences
- Discuss strategic objectives and actions for the protection of people and premises
- Identify how bioterrorism preparedness is enhanced by wider societal resilience planning
- Enable the transference of knowledge between domestic and international partners
- Inform future priorities and the development of arrangements, plans and procedures.

### **Audience Profile**

In order to achieve the aim and objectives, and maximise value for all involved, participants:

- Serve as a strategic or tactical leader that would represent their organisation on a regional Strategic Coordinating Group or have a senior role/specialism in relation to CBRN
- Be a representative of a public sector organisation, specifically representing police services, public health, local authorities, city infrastructure (protection or delivery of), and other emergency services or multi-agency resilience partnerships
- Offer specific expertise relating to counter terrorism, bioterrorism, security and/or resilience.

## Exercise Overview

### **Convened and facilitated by:**

*Alex Townsend-Drake*

*Head of Programme, Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network*

*Maria Eugenia Rettori*

*Head of Preventing and Responding to WMD/CBRN Terrorism Unit*

*United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre of the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism*

### **Exercise delivered and moderated by:**

*Jeffrey Muller*

*Senior CBRN Expert Consultant*

*United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism*

<b>EST 08:00</b>	<b>GMT 13:00</b>	<b>CET 14:00</b>	<b>Opening Keynote Address</b>
			Ms. Anna König Jerlmyr Mayor of Stockholm
<b>08:20</b>	<b>13:20</b>	<b>14:20</b>	<b>Bioterrorism: An Evolving Threat</b>
			Mr. Jeffrey Muller Senior CBRN Expert Consultant United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
<b>08:40</b>	<b>13:40</b>	<b>14:40</b>	<b>Immersive Scenario-Based Exercise</b>
			See participants list for group facilitators
<b>10:00</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>16:00</b>	<b>Facilitated Feedback</b>
			Mr. Jeffrey Muller Senior CBRN Expert Consultant United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
<b>10:30</b>	<b>15:30</b>	<b>16:30</b>	<b>Closing Keynote Address</b>
			Dr. Jehangir Khan Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

*Note: all timings are approximate and are displayed to reflect the time-zones of CTPN members.*

## Joining Instructions

### Registration and Format

All registrations are to be submitted as full name, title and organisation to [ctpn@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:ctpn@london-fire.gov.uk) no later than Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Details to join the event will be sent to registered participants only.

This is a virtual online event. It will be facilitated remotely via Microsoft Teams. A link to access the event can be found within the calendar invitation. Otherwise, simply click [here](#).

### Chatham House Rule

Note that this is a closed event by invitation only. To encourage open discussions, Chatham House Rule will apply. Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers, nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

### Pre-Reading

Delegates may wish to consider the following materials in advance:

- CTPN report on *Bioterrorism: Applying the Lens of COVID-19*
- [United Nations publication](#) on *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks*
- United Nations [webpage](#) on CBRN terrorism and [videos](#) on the biothreat
- Relevant legislation, plans and procedures or guidance appropriate to participants roles

### Other Notes

- This is an international exercise with a range of cities and organisations represented
- The event will be conducted in English and there are no translation facilities available
- The accompanying virtual event protocol should be followed to assist facilitation
- Queries in advance of the event should be e-mailed to: [ctpn@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:ctpn@london-fire.gov.uk).