

Strategic CBRN Table-Top Exercise

Tuesday 21st September 2021, 08:00-11:30 EST / 13:00-16:30 GMT / 14:00-17:30 CET

Background

The Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN) is 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 focusses on CBRN(e) threats, specifically those posed by the use of chemicals in a terrorist attack.

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 priority area 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 a chemical attack. It will:

- Raise awareness of the CBRN(e) threat, with a focus on Chemicals
- Understand potential consequences and cascading effects of a chemical 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 CBRN(e) 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

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, emergency services, or multi-agency resilience partnerships
- Offer specific expertise relating to counter terrorism, 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

Opening Keynote Address
Mr. Andy Roe London Fire Commissioner, London Fire Brigade UK National Fire Chief Council Counter Terrorism and CBRN Lead
CBRN(e) Terrorism: Understanding Chemical Attacks
Mr. Jeffrey Muller Senior CBRN Expert Consultant United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
Immersive Scenario-Based Exercise
Facilitated break-out groups – see participants list
Facilitated Feedback
Mr. Jeffrey Muller Senior CBRN Expert Consultant United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
Closing Keynote Address
Dr Jehangir Khan Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

Joining Instructions

Microsoft Teams

The exercise will be facilitated online via Microsoft Teams (see accompanying virtual protocol). Please follow the link within your calendar invitation to access the event as this supports functionality. The link has also been provided within the covering e-mail, otherwise you can 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:

- United Nations [webpage](#) on CBRN terrorism
- [United Nations publication](#) on *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks*
- 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.