**UN CTED Initial Meeting – September 9, 2016**

UN CTED Representatives Present:

* Samia – Head of African section
* Marc – Legal officer, Nigeria
* Kelly – Legal officer, Africa team (background in prosecution)
* Cecelia – Human Rights Officer, CBE agenda (interest in transitional justice)
* Rebecca – Political Affairs Officer (unit closing gap between academic and CTED’s work)
* Deborah

Deborah – Overview of UNCTED

* \*NOTE: Deborah said she would share PPT for our reference
* UN counter terrorism groups
  + Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC)
    - Established 2001
    - Comprises all 15 security council members
    - Not a sanctions committee
  + CTITF
    - General assembly
  + Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED)
    - Primary mandate is to assist CTC
    - Relevant resolutions: 1373 & 1624
    - Identify shortfalls in implementation (but do not actually implement)
    - Promote awareness and adherence of human rights
    - Identify good practices
    - No means to provide technical assistance
* CTED Activities
  + Work primarily with 77 states most affected by terrorism
  + Conduct advocacy visits to countries facing terrorist threats
  + Assist member states with counter terrorism legislation
  + Seek to work with think tanks to compliment policy making
* Questions
  + Relationship with CTC & CTITF?
    - CTC subsidiary of security council
    - UN CCT – fund established for capacity building
    - CTITF meant to coordinate functions of all CT entities
  + Do countries approach them?
    - Starts with desk and institute assessment – 200 question questionnaire of compliance assessing CT capabilities
    - Take assessment and go to countries to verify
    - Produce recommendations for member states and technical assistance strategies
    - Sometimes there are discrepancies between self-assessment and CTED assessment, but generally there is a cooperative relationship
    - Assessments are confidential
  + How are countries prioritized?
    - Priority countries based on FTF reports
    - Has not been an issue for African countries (less demand in this region)
    - Don’t get that many requests because cannot provide technical assistance (countries go to CTITF for TA)
  + Monitoring and Evaluation
    - Public technical guide (available online – currently being updated)
    - Assess countries evenly
    - Similar method to FATF (terrorist financing)
    - CVE is a new element
  + Work in Nigeria
    - Good relationship with Nigeria, government is very open
    - Project: Improving Capacity of Criminal Justice System
      * Need for stronger prosecution and stronger evidence building
      * Hosting a series of workshops, working with EU and UNODC
      * This project spurred reintegration project – request came from national security advisor

UN Reintegration and Rehabilitation Efforts

* Focus started in 2014 after resolution 2178
* Emphasis on reintegration of “foreign” terrorists
* Feb. 2016 – findings / global best practices
  + Found that only ½ of FTF states had R&R processes (there has been some growth since then)
  + Many countries resource restrained and looking for low cost alternatives
  + Strategies have worked best in less politically charged contexts (peaceful environments) – may be rejected by communities in tense environments

Nigeria

* Objectives
  + Want to see what other member states are doing
  + Desire to determine the most proportionate and appropriate response
  + Want an integrated approach (potentially including community involvement)
  + Desire to understand other member states’ experiences, including previous Nigerian examples
* What is currently happening
  + EU already involved with reintegration and strengthening of criminal justice system
  + Reference to other promising R&R efforts ongoing in Nigeria – *explore these*
* Challenges
  + Criminal justice system is overwhelmed – want to tie reintegration to strengthening of CJ system
  + Difficult deciding what to do with minors
  + Line between victim/perpetrator very blurry – possible that detainees have been kidnapped/abducted; self-motivated; coerced; afraid of retribution; debt payment

Questions/Discussion

* Demographics of detainees
  + No good demographic profile available – all sorts of motivations, coming from different communities
  + Wide varying numbers (estimates of upwards of 8,000 detainees)
  + *Look at different numbers thrown around to try to develop consensus*
  + Some are in custody of army, SSS< prison service, national police service
  + Unclear what the number of defectors are vs. the number of combatants
  + Desire to assess the threat of each individual
* Role of NGOs
  + Some are doing R&R programs where government has not been involved
  + *Look into different approaches and efficacy of these programs (including potential approaches from other countries)*
* Country Examples
  + Denmark – Danish welfare system, rehabilitates prisoners
  + Mali – DDR processes combining camps with community projects
  + Somalia – Community violence reduction projects; problems with women coming back with children
  + Afghanistan – give community $ to reintegrate (rather than individual)
  + Algeria – one of first countries to experience FTF; charter for peace and reconciliation, came with amnesty for those with no blood on their hands; army not included (criticism)
  + Sri Lanka
  + Rwanda
* Nigerian context
  + Armed conflict settings pose unique challenges
  + Families are afraid to reintegrate children – problem of fear/trust
  + *Need to map communities* 
    - Possible that entire community supported group
  + Huge issue of IDPs
  + Food crisis in north
  + Crashing oil prices (70%+ of revenue comes from oil revenues – civil servants left unpaid or paid late)
* Existing CT and CV programs
  + Legal document: CT law
  + No laws in books on transitional justice and amnesty
  + International law providing guidance
  + CT law adopted 2011
    - Only 20-30 have gone through entire process
    - ~200 have been charged
    - Impossible to prosecute everyone
* Operation Safe Corridor
  + Unclear what relationship with this program will look like
  + Painted idyllic picture of military detainee camps
* Model Prison
  + EU funded
  + 40 young detainees
  + Psychological support and religious courses offered
  + Education, including university program (offered to children of employees as well)
  + Little explanation on why people were detained there and for how long
  + Not only Boko Haram detainees
* Regional scope
  + Looking at all countries affected in Lake Chad basin region
  + Have had discussions with ECOWAS
  + ECOWAS has CT regional strategy – *look into this*
* Similarity between policy advice with previous reintegration/amnesty programs in Niger delta
  + Situation deteriorating again in Delta
  + Take into consideration north/south dynamics and history
* Role of Nigerian Military
  + UNCHR investigating human rights allegations (CTED not a human rights body)
  + Potential self-reflection question: what role will the Nigerian military play in the post-December meeting?
  + Potentially could be incorporated into efforts to improve collection and preservation of evidence
  + Potentially offer R&R opportunities to military on a voluntarily basis? (look in South African TRC model / Rwanda)
* Other considerations
  + “amnesty” is a loaded term – haven’t used it with Nigerian government

Deliverables

* Short-term: Nigeria focused deliverables (not regional)
  + Other countries of Lake Chad basin region may be interested in findings – potential to expand scope in long run
* December meeting
  + CTED has convener role – first step in larger relationship with Nigerian government
  + Meetings in Abuja Dec. 13-15 – 2 days of technical meetings with experts from various countries, followed by government debrief on 3rd day
  + Meeting will be used to inform policymakers and Nigerian policy decision on CT
  + Need draft agenda
  + *Brainstorm the types of questions to plan for – what are the questions that government should be self-reflecting on*
* Understand international frameworks
  + FTF, transitional justice, and country profiles
* Cost benefit models
  + Economic and human costs of inaction
  + $ saving potential through R&R
  + Potential cost savings with prison sentence reduction

Timeline

* General Assembly debate taking place next week (9/19 – 9/23) – very busy
* Written report due end of November
* Oral presentation 12st week of December

What to expect from CTED

* Will share research that has already been completed
* Nigeria CT and CV policy docs
* List of proposed invitees
* Meeting concept note (or at least some part of it)

Resolutions to look into:

* 1373
* 1624
* 2178 – defines preventative strategies for countering violent extremism