

# Strengthening National Security and Global Stability: The Paramount Significance of Joining ICSANT in Combating Nuclear Terrorism

## National Parliamentary Session on Nuclear Security

Savoy Hotel, Beau Vallon, Seychelles

20 July 2023



Parliamentarians for Global Action  
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global  
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires  
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي



The National Assembly of Seychelles

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# AFRICSIS OVERVIEW

- ❖ Nonprofit, founded Oct 2012 in Ghana, scope Africa
- ❖ Operating under Government partnership: Ghana and Cameroon
- ❖ Organizational structure: Intl Advisers (Chair: Prof. Geoffrey Emi-Reynolds), Executive Director (Hubert Foy), Program Directors, Researchers, Expert Network, Admin Staff
- ❖ Four main programs: **Nuclear Security and Nonproliferation**, WMD Nonproliferation and Disarmament, Global Warming and Security, Space and Satellite
- ❖ Major activities include: research, analysis, policy development, training, outreach and awareness raising, collaborative projects, capacity building, technical support, evaluation and assessment, advocacy



## AFRICSIS Vision & Mission

The mission of the African Centre for Science and International Security (AFRICSIS) is twofold: 1) to help African states comply with international treaties and conventions in order to prevent the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and 2) to promote and develop the safe and peaceful uses of nuclear, biological, and chemical technologies. AFRICSIS is a Public Policy Research, Analysis, and Engagement

# AFRICISIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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- Fostered regional peace and security
- Strategic engagement and collaboration
- Country specific guidance
- Policy-oriented technical studies
- Worked with parliamentarians and technical experts
- Advocated for the integration of robust nuclear safety and security measures
- Promoting nuclear security and non-proliferation in Africa
- Spearheading targeted stakeholder mapping studies and capacity-building initiatives



# AFRICA SECURITY BACKGROUND

# AFRICA TERRORISM TREND



Growing and diverse array of violent militant Islamist groups active within different geographic concentrations in Africa



trend is likely to continue into the foreseeable future



African Centre for Strategic Studies published a review of violent events involving militant Islamist groups in Africa (<https://tinyurl.com/m8uptvdu>, Jan 2022)

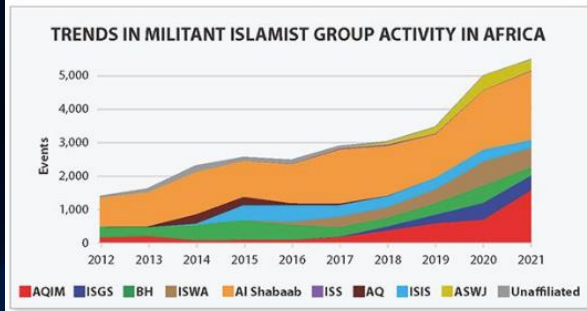
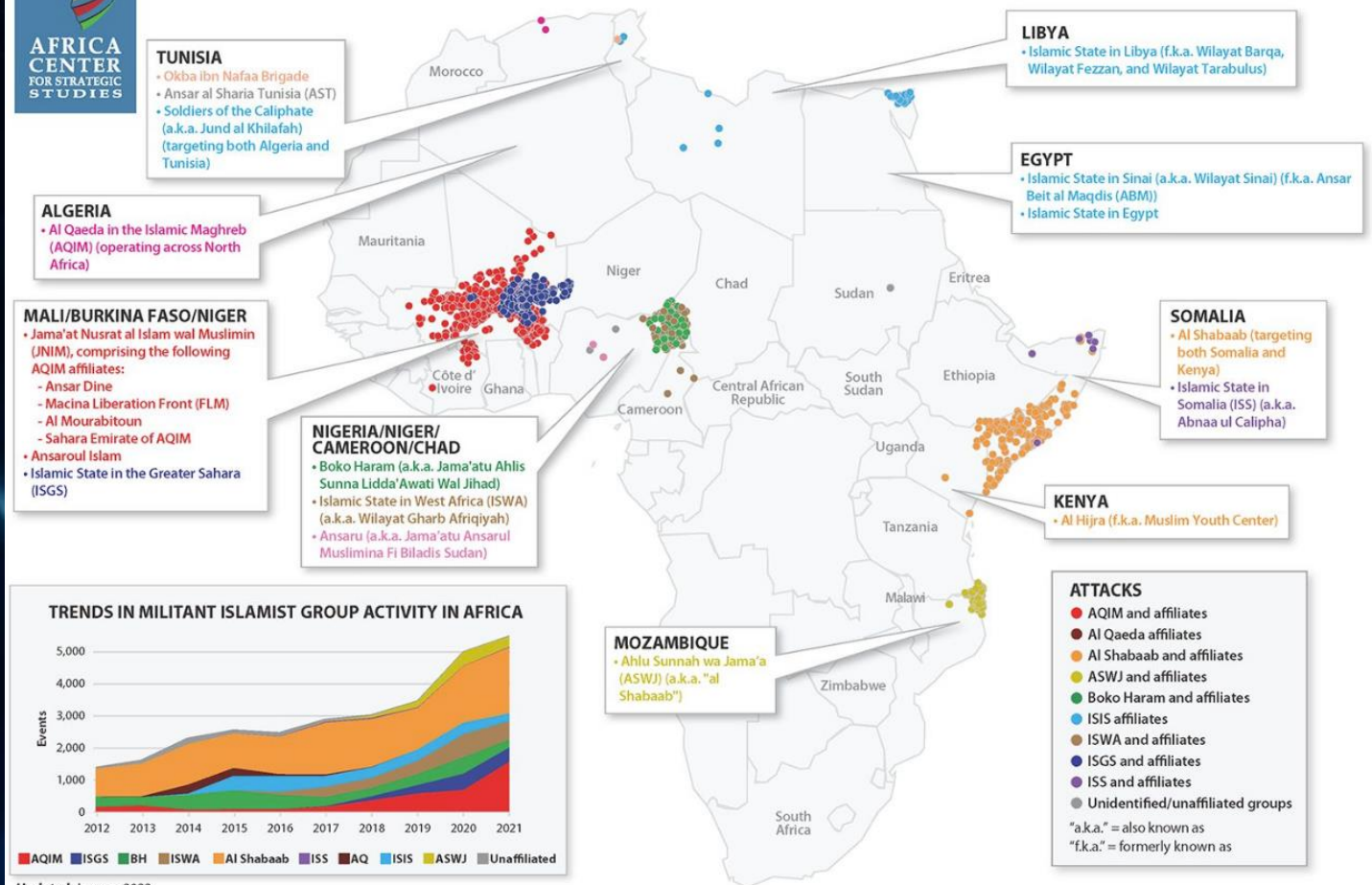


The review found a near doubling in violence linked to militant Islamist groups in the Sahel in 2021 (from 1,180 to 2,005 events) highlights the rapidly escalating security threat in this region.



The figure illustrates the existence of a credible threat of a terrorist attack involving nuclear or radioactive material.

# AFRICA'S ACTIVE MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUPS



Updated: January 2022

Note: Compiled by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, this graphic shows violent events involving the listed groups over the 12-month period ending December 31, 2021. Data on attacks or fatalities does not attempt to distinguish the perpetrators of the events. Group listings are intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered official designations. Due to the fluid nature of many groups, the listed affiliations may change.

Sources: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED); Daniel Byman; HumAngle; International Crisis Group; SITE Intelligence Group; The Soufan Group; Stanford University's Mapping Militants Project; Stratfor; Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium (TRAC); and Aaron Y. Zelin.

*A 70-percent annual increase in violent events linked to militant Islamist groups in the Sahel propelled a new record of extremist violence in Africa in 2021.*

# CIVIL WARS & CONFLICTS

- The number of state-based conflicts in Africa declined slightly in 2021, but remains higher than a decade ago (<https://tinyurl.com/2p85h53x>, 2022)
- Trends show an increase in non-state conflicts in Africa
- For many countries with conflicts, security measures are inadequate.
- In other countries, including where terrorists operate, governance is patchy and regulation is weak.

The End.





# NONPROFIT ROLE

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- Capacity Building
- Research and Development
- Awareness Raising
- Advocacy and Lobbying



# NONPROFIT RESEARCH

- ❑ Enhancing ICSANT universality.
  - ❑ better understand evolving nature of nuclear and terrorist threats
  - ❑ develop effective strategies to counter them.

**NTI**  
BUILDING A SAFER WORLD

GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON NUCLEAR SECURITY PRIORITIES  
**NUCLEAR SECURITY PRIMER: THE EXISTING SYSTEM**  
Updated January 2016

This Nuclear Security Primer provides an overview of the key international organizations, agreements, guidelines, multilateral engagement mechanisms, and implementation services that make up today's nuclear security system. It also summarizes the benefits and limitations of each.

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- ❑ Identify potential gaps in ICSANT ratification process
  - ❑ cultural sensitivities and local realities
  - ❑ inform policy decisions to address them.
- ❑ Contribute to enhancing the universal adherence and effective implementation of ICSANT;
- ❑ Ultimately, promote global security and stability

**NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014**  
NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT  
SWEDEN

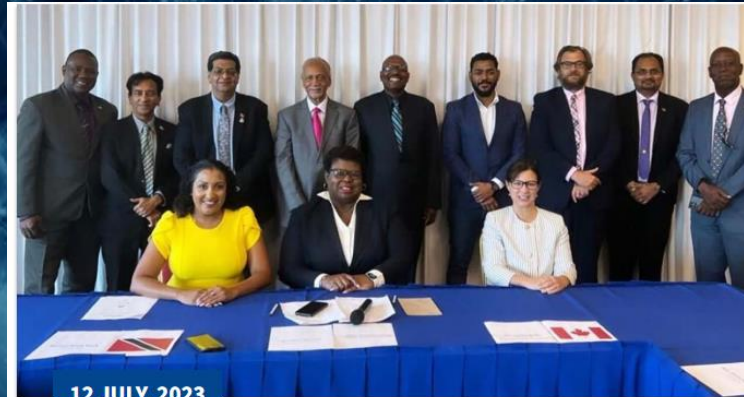
- SUPPORT THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE CPPNM AND ICSANT**  
Sweden on 22 March 2013 ratified the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM). Preparations are ongoing to complete the ratification process, which is expected to conclude in 2014.  
Sweden signed the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) in 2006. Preparations are ongoing to complete the ratification process, which is expected to conclude in 2014.  
Sweden has regularly contributed to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund. Between 2003 and 2012, Sweden's contribution to the Nuclear Security Fund amounted to SEK 3.5 million. Sweden will continue to provide additional funds to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund to the extent possible. Sweden participates in the Agency's INSEN, International Nuclear Security Educational Network, and carries out training activities in Ukraine and in three regions of Russia (Tomsk/Sibirsk, Ekaterinburg/Ural and St. Petersburg). During 2012 and 2013 this support amounted to 256 000 euros.  
Sweden together with Norway has supported Russia with measures relating to physical security for a vessel that transports spent nuclear fuel from Russian submarines.
- CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE IAEA NUCLEAR SECURITY RELATED ACTIVITIES**  
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- SUPPORT NUCLEAR SECURITY RELATED INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES**  
Sweden is participating in the international efforts to promote nuclear security. Sweden is a partner country in the G8 Global Partnership as well as in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. The Swedish Government supports a number of projects carried out by the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority in cooperation with counterparts in Russia, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. In 2012 - 2013 the allocation amounted to SEK 100 million. The projects aim at improving nuclear security and nuclear safety and providing non-proliferation with reference to the objectives of the Global Partnership and the UNSCR 1540.  
The efforts have in the period since 2012 focused on improving the combating infrastructures and capabilities concerning illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials at regional levels in Russia. Moreover, physical protection installations have been planned and built at several sites in the isles with whom Sweden cooperates.
- CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS EFFORTS ON HEU SECURITY AND MINIMIZATION**  
There are no HEU-fueled research reactors in Sweden. Sweden converted its HEU-fueled research reactors to LEU in the 1990s. Today, Sweden does not have any research reactors in operation. Sweden contributes to the international efforts to find means to minimize the use of HEU.  
In a joint effort with the United States, in 2012 Sweden transferred separated plutonium from historical Swedish nuclear research and development activities to the USA. The shipment was carried out under the US Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI).

# COMPLEMENTARY & GAP FILLING

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- ❑ Collaboration improves adherence conditions.
- ❑ Nonprofits provide valuable expertise, research, and training
- ❑ Governments provide political support, and access to relevant data and facilities.
- ❑ Recent examples of such collaborations include:
  - ✓ African Center for Science and International Security (AFRICISIS): Africa
  - ✓ Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA): Global
  - ✓ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC): Global
  - ✓ United States Department of State: Global
  - ✓ European Union (EU): Europe and beyond
  - ✓ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): Global
  - ✓ United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCTT): Global
  - ✓ International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): Global

# 1 – PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION



## **National Parliamentary Session in Trinidad and Tobago on Nuclear and Radiological Security**

The primary focus of the session was to promote the ratification of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (ACPPNM) and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) in Trinidad and Tobago.

# 2. INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY



The screenshot shows the IAEA website header with the logo and navigation menu. Below the header is a blue banner with a network graphic and a red pin icon. The text on the banner reads: "International Conference on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources – Accomplishments and Future Endeavours" and "20–24 June 2022, Vienna, Austria".

IAEA  
International Atomic Energy Agency

Press centre Employment Contact

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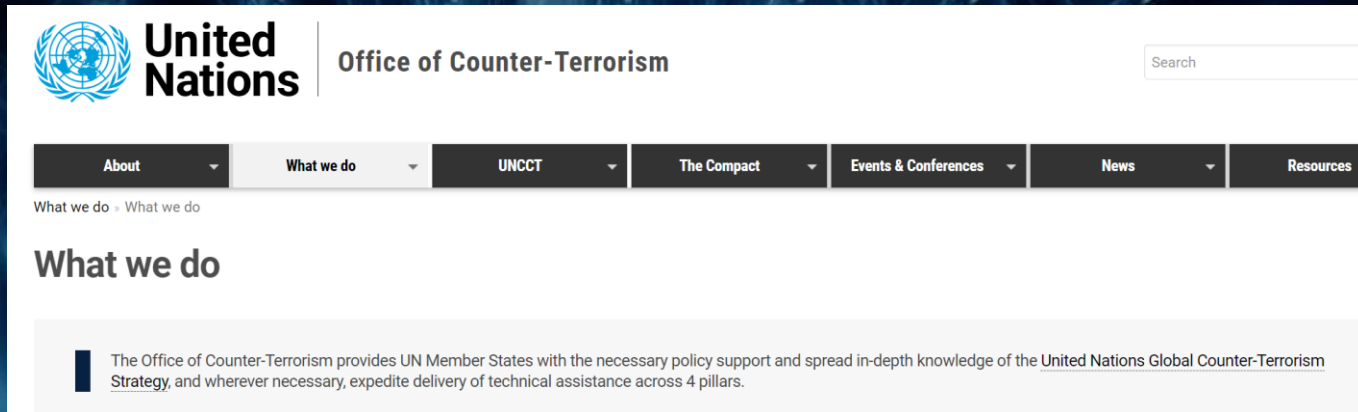
Search


Home / Events

International Conference on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources –  
Accomplishments and Future Endeavours  
20–24 June 2022, Vienna, Austria

- Promote the universalization and use of relevant legally binding (e.g., Joint Convention of the Safety Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management – “Joint Convention”, Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency – “Assistance Convention”, and International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism – **ICSANT**) and non-legally binding (e.g., Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its supplementary Guidance) international instruments.

# 3. UN OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM



 **United Nations** | Office of Counter-Terrorism

[About](#) | [What we do](#) | [UNCCT](#) | [The Compact](#) | [Events & Conferences](#) | [News](#) | [Resources](#)

What we do » What we do

## What we do

The Office of Counter-Terrorism provides UN Member States with the necessary policy support and spread in-depth knowledge of the [United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy](#), and wherever necessary, expedite delivery of technical assistance across 4 pillars.

### SPIB Special Projects and Innovation Branch

#### Engaging parliamentarians

Through this [Programme](#), UNOCT supports parliamentary action around the globe to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism building upon a “whole-of-society” approach. Our work is rooted in our common goal to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

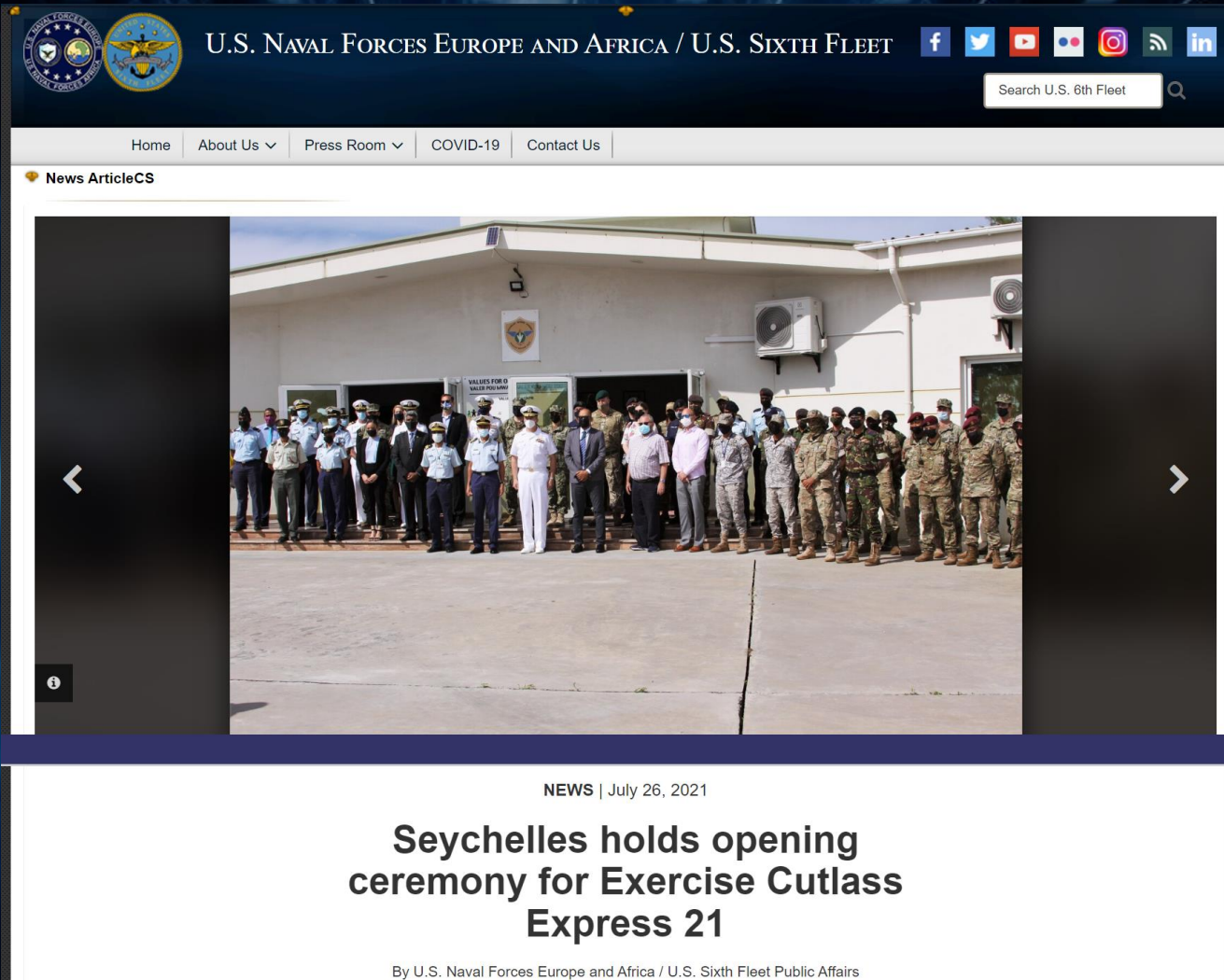
#### Civil society

Civil society makes unique and invaluable contributions to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Through its [Civil Society Engagement Strategy](#), UNOCT seeks to strengthen and more systematically [engage civil society organizations](#) at the global, regional, national and local levels with a focus on human rights, gender, and youth.



# BENEFITS

# 1. STRENGTHENING NATIONAL SECURITY



U.S. NAVAL FORCES EUROPE AND AFRICA / U.S. SIXTH FLEET

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News ArticleCS

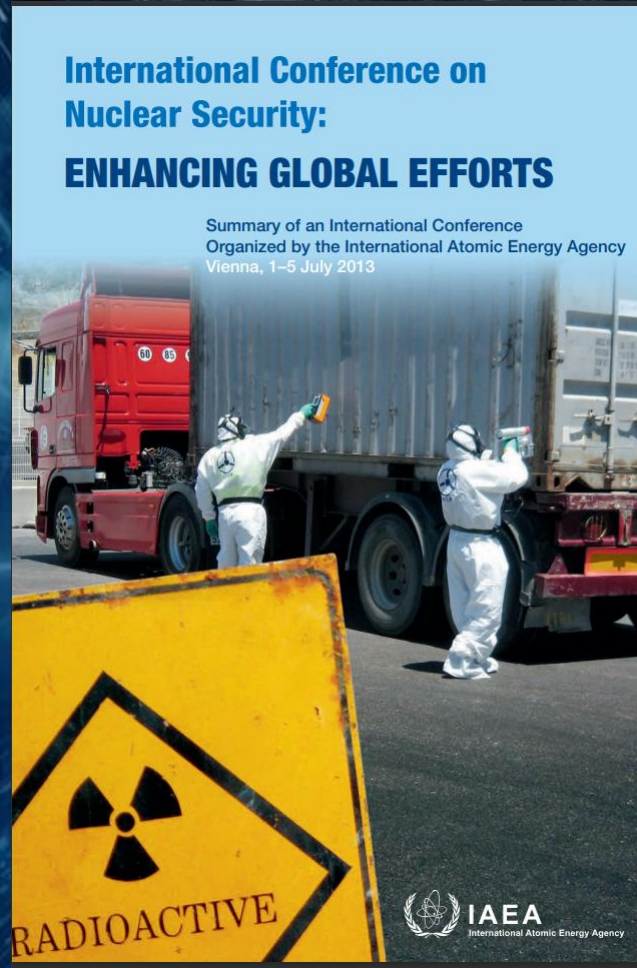
NEWS | July 26, 2021

## Seychelles holds opening ceremony for Exercise Cutlass Express 21

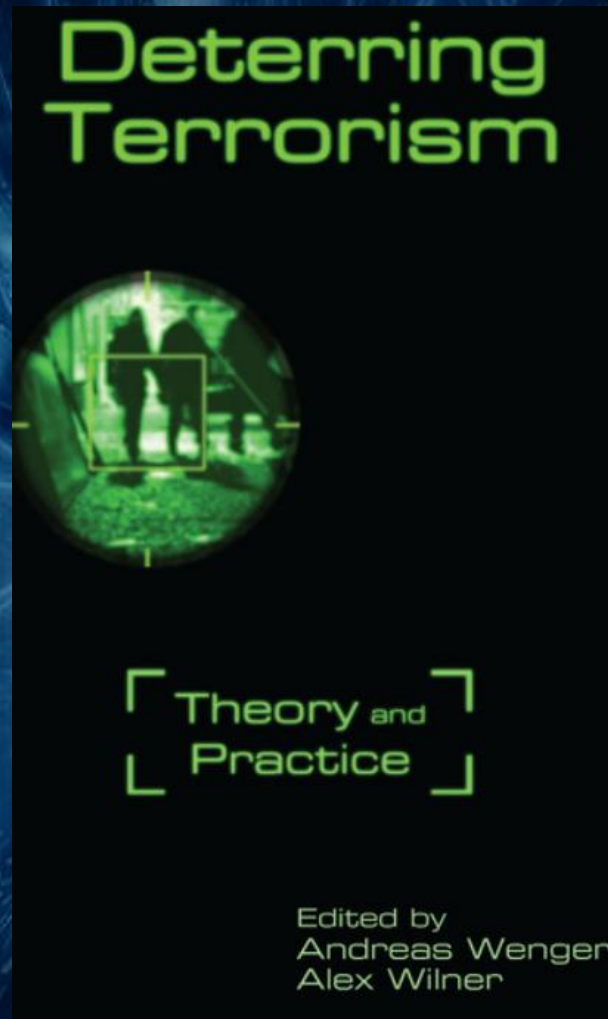
By U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa / U.S. Sixth Fleet Public Affairs



# 2. GLOBAL COOPERATION AND INTELLIGENCE SHARING



# 3. DETERRENCE AND DISINCENTIVE FOR TERRORISTS



# 4. LEGAL TOOLS FOR PROSECUTION



# 5. PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND FACILITIES



# 6. INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION AND NORM ADHERENCE

## NTI Nuclear Security Index



### Building a framework for assurance, accountability, and action



#### Challenge

Global leaders had no baseline for assessing the security of weapons-usable nuclear materials or nuclear facilities.



#### Action

With Economist Impact, NTI created the NTI Nuclear Security Index, a first-of-its-kind public benchmarking of nuclear security conditions around the world.



#### Results

After helping shape the agenda at the Nuclear Security Summits through 2016, the NTI Index continues to spur countries to enhance nuclear security and reduce highly enriched uranium (HEU) stocks.

# SUMMARY

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- ❑ AFRICISIS is a regional think tank and its work complement and fill gaps of effort by UN-Specialized Agencies, international partners and other governments
- ❑ Universalization of and effective implementation of ICSANT in Seychelles has security and development benefits
- ❑ ICSANT accession and effective implementation is important and relevant to all African countries including Seychelles irrespective of their nuclear science or technological development status
- ❑ The risk of terrorist attack or malicious acts involving nuclear materials or science and technology remains high
- ❑ This risk presents a serious threat to international peace and security and could reverse decades of development and democracy achieved in some countries
- ❑ Legislators are a key stakeholder in the ICSANT adherence and implementation process.

**For questions, contact HUBERT FOY at [hfoy@africis.org](mailto:hfoy@africis.org)  
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Additional Information is available at <https://africis.org>**