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To: [CTAB-All](#)
Cc: [CT Staff](#)
Subject: 07.23.15 CTAB Agenda and Kenya CVE Summit Readout
Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 6:22:39 PM
Attachments: [Kenya CVE Summit Readout.pdf](#)

Good evening,

Please check your C-Lan account for this week's CTAB Agenda. In addition, Ms. Megan Mack committed to provide the Kenya CVE Summit readout last week at the CTAB meeting; please find her document attached in this email.

Reminder, the meeting is at 2:00 – 3:00 PM; Deputy Secretary Mayorkas is chairing and Principal Deputy CT Coordinator Gene Gray if facilitating. The location remains – NAC, Bldg. 19, Room 01-117.

Thank you,

R/Vicky

Vicky Bogosian,
CTAB Secretary, DHS HQ

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**Homeland
Security**

July 21, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Megan H. Mack
Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Tamara Kessler
Deputy Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

THROUGH: (b) (6)
Section Lead, Community Engagement Section

FROM: (b) (6)
Senior Policy Advisor, Community Engagement Section

SUBJECT: Kenya CVE Regional Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, June 25-28,
2015

Purpose

This memorandum serves as a trip report for CRCL's participation in the Kenya CVE Regional Summit on June 25 -28, 2015, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Background

The Kenya CVE Regional Summit was organized by the Government of Kenya (GOK) in Nairobi, Kenya, to bring together CVE subject matter experts, practitioners, religious leaders, civil society leaders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government officials from around Africa, international governmental organizations (e.g., United Nations, European Union, African Union, and IGAD), and donor countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Netherlands, Turkey, Indonesia, and Denmark. The Summit, a follow-up to the White House CVE Summit held in Washington, D.C. earlier this year, was designed to shed light on the challenges posed by violent extremist groups in East Africa and help regional authorities devise national CVE strategies. The U.S. Embassy in Kenya and the U.S. State Department provided significant financial and technical support. A 12-member delegation from the United States included (b) (6), CRCL Senior Policy Advisor, and Ron Clark, NPPD Deputy Undersecretary. The

U.S. delegation was led by Sarah Sewall, Department of State Undersecretary, who represented the United States at the summit.

Remarks by Delegates and Host Government Officials

Welcoming remarks were provided by GOK Principal Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior, Monica Juma, who referenced the White House CVE Summit as the impetus for the GOK pledging to host a regional summit in East Africa. Principal Secretary Juma framed the GOK’s assessment of the threat of terrorism in East Africa and concluded with an evaluation of the socioeconomic and geopolitical factors to consider in the development of GOK’s national strategy on CVE.

Following the Principal Secretary’s remarks, Undersecretary Sewall provided opening remarks on a wide range of challenges the global community faces, and among other things, underscored the vital role that civil society organizations play in the holistic approach necessary in the development and implementation of any meaningful national CVE strategy. Undersecretary Sewall expressed disappointment on behalf of the USG for the GOK’s failure to include more civil society actors in the Summit and specifically mentioned the absence of MUHURI (Muslims for Human Rights) and Haki Africa (a Mombasa based Human Rights NGO) as a missed opportunity to add diverse civil society organizations into the problem-solving equation. Undersecretary Sewall highlighted initiatives to maintain the momentum on CVE activities among the various subsets of the international community, namely the development and launching of regional and global enterprises: the Strong Cities Network, youth, civil society, and research networks.

The opening session ended with remarks from William Rutto, Deputy President of Kenya, who stated that violent extremism is the “most pressing threat facing Kenya today.” The Summit was closed by the President of the GOK, H.E. Kenyatta.

At the ministerial level meeting held on the last day of the Summit, the international community pledged support for CVE efforts in East Africa. Participants included: UN, EU, UK, USA, France, Egypt, Somalia, Eritrea, Netherlands, Turkey, Indonesia, Libya, Denmark, and Djibouti.

Key Findings

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Notable Sessions

Session on “Understanding the Architecture and Dynamics of Radicalization and Recruitment.” Moderator: Principal Secretary Juma; Panelists: Dr. Karima Bennoune, Professor of Law at the University of California Davis, and Ambassador Samuel Assefa of Ethiopia. Dr. Bennoune’s book, “Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here,” contains nearly 300 interviews of CVE workers and depicts their experiences standing up to terrorism. Speaking as the daughter of a prominent Algerian intellectual who viewed that “radical Islam” was brought by outside influencers demonstrating a radical break with Islam, Dr. Bennoune provided three key lessons learned:

1. Practical solidarity is critical in the aftermath of attacks and when facing increasing radicalization and recruitment;
2. “Jihadist” ideology is the perpetrator of the greatest amount of violence and murder across the world. There is a need to combat this source of violence at the same time as suppressing prejudice and discrimination against Muslims writ large; and
3. The importance of protecting human rights in the fight against terrorism. Nothing undermines governments more than suppression of human rights in the name of efforts to preserve security.

Dr. Bennoune stressed that Muslims are the majority of the victims of terrorist organizations and women's empowerment is necessary to CVE efforts. Her discussion describing terrorist organizations heavily relied on terminology that was rejected by many participants, including "jihadist," "islamic violence," "islamist," "islamic fundamentalist," and "fundamentalism." One participant from Kenya referenced and applauded the USG's careful use of non-inflammatory terminology to ensure that mainstream Muslim communities are not alienated and not lumped together with terrorist organizations.

Ambassador Assefa discussed how local context matters in violent extremist recruitment and stressed that global narratives can inspire (but not replace) local context such as lack of services, of democracy, and of rights, or the existence of poverty, corruption, marginalization, repression of minority rights, etc. He divided terrorist groups messaging into two models:

1. Model One: Reactionary, appeals to the converted and the local messaging; and
2. Model Two: Terrorists as marginalized from society. Motivations are not reactive, but loathing of "modernity" and the vulnerable individual who does not want to be part of an order that is void of spiritual values. This mostly is rooted in a deep seated grievance narrative and rejection of "the West," which oftentimes translates into rejection of democratic values and institutions, progress, enlightenment, and universalist values. Examples cited included Israel bombing Gaza, and the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ambassador Assefa concluded that violent extremist messages succeed because governments use the concept of protection of national security to destroy what is deemed to be the most valuable democratic values and freedoms. To succeed in national security efforts, civil liberties should be upheld.

Session on the "Local Architecture and Dynamics of Radicalization and Recruitment." Moderator: Ambassador Dr. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Ambassador to United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), and United Nations Habitat. Ambassador Kimani discussed pathways to radicalization to violence stating that the pathway is highly individualized; however, the local architecture primarily comes from the family. Breakdown of family values likely leads to radicalization to violence. The Ambassador's discussion was grouped into three points:

1. Local recruitment networks use the following process: a) Identify vulnerable people (economic conditions, grievances, injustices); b) Identify individual incentives (money, religious purposes); c) Utilize transnational linkages (Boko Haram and Al-Shabaab).

2. Motivation for the individual comes in three forms: a) To express solidarity with the global Islamic causes; b) Jobs (mean age in Africa is 19 and they need hope); c) Romanticizing of violent extremist groups.
3. What is necessary for meaningful CVE in Africa: a) Good institutions and community involvement; b) Identifying those susceptible to radicalization to violence; and c) An end to conflicts in African countries—the majority of the most unstable countries are in Africa; 4) Mobilization of local populations.

Noteworthy, Ambassador Kimani mentioned positively the DHS community engagement program and the three-city pilot program, which he referred to as the DHS “strong cities program.”

Rohan Gunaratna, Singapore (Professor at the Rajaratnam School of International Studies). Mr. Gunaratna shared his experience living in Africa and recognized that problems of radicalization to violence in Africa started in the 1980s; he asserted that Africa is an international epicenter for terrorism.

He proposed three steps to counter radicalization to violence:

1. Use of community engagement that parallels military and law enforcement operations;
2. Rehabilitation programs, particularly those in detention centers; and
3. Building coalitions to dismantle violent extremist organizations.

He also suggested that rehabilitation programs should have seven modes: 1) Spiritual and/or religious; 2) Education; 3) Vocation and skills; 4) Social and family; 5) Arts, sports, and recreation; 6) Social and mental health; and 7) Financial support.