UNODC’s input to the Secretary-General’s Report on UN Resolution 67/44 entitled “Measures to prevent terrorist from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”

During the reporting period the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) has continued to assist Member States with the ratification and implementation of the international legal instruments dealing with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) terrorism, in accordance with the mandate provided by the United Nations General Assembly.

On 28 September, the Executive Director of UNODC co-chaired the plenary session of the United Nations’ High-Level Meeting on Countering Nuclear Terrorism with a Specific Focus on Strengthening the Legal Framework, held at the United Nations Headquarters. The meeting, which UNODC contributed to organise, was attended by 130 Member States, including 33 ministers, and representatives of several international organizations.

In December, in Bangkok, Thailand, UNODC/TPB conducted a workshop for members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on CBRN and maritime terrorism.

UNODC/TPB has continued strengthening its cooperation on CBRN issues with numerous relevant organizations. For example, it carried out, jointly with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, a national workshop to promote the ratification of the international legal instruments against CBRN and maritime terrorism in April, in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

UNODC/TPB continued its close cooperation with the Committee established pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) (UNSCR 1540) and its Group of Experts, and participated in several activities such as: a round table discussion on UNSCR 1540 on Co-ordination Needs and Practices, held in Vienna, in February; a seminar for the Andean region States on UNSCR 1540, held in Bogota, Colombia, in March; an implementation workshop on UNSCR 1540 held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in April; a workshop on Implementation of UNSCR 1540: Innovative Approaches to Capacity Building and Assistance, held in Warsaw, Poland, in July, and a workshop on Implementation of UNSCR 1540 for African States held in Pretoria, South Africa, in November.

UNODC/TPB participated in two Conferences on the European Union CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative, in Brussels, Belgium, in May, and in New York, USA, in June.

UNODC/TPB participated in, and contributed to, several initiatives and meetings of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), including: a meeting on the establishment of self-sustainable nuclear security support centres, held in Vienna in January; several nuclear security information exchange meetings held in Vienna and programme committee meetings on the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security 2013 (of
which UNODC is a sponsoring organization) held in Vienna. UNODC also participated in the IAEA Annual Meeting of the International Nuclear Security Educational Network, held in Vienna in July, and observed the discussions on nuclear security held at the IAEA Board of Governors in Vienna in September.

As an official observer to the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, UNODC participated in its Implementation and Assessment Group’s meeting in Marrakech, Morocco, in February and in an event on nuclear threat detection, entitled “Guardian 2012”, organized by the Russian Federation in Moscow in September.

UNODC/TPB also participated in three meetings of the Global Partnership Against the Proliferation of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and briefed members of the Partnership and participating international organizations on its work in preventing CBRN terrorism.

Finally UNODC/TPB participated in a national legislative drafting workshop against nuclear smuggling organized by the US Department of State, which took place in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, in January.