NATO MEASURES ON ISSUES RELATING TO THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Executive Summary

Proliferation of WMD and International Terrorism

1. NATO’s Policy Framework is stipulated in the Alliance’s Strategic Concept of 1999 and, more recently, in the Comprehensive Political Guidance of 2006. In the Comprehensive Political Guidance, NATO member states expressed their concern that terrorism and the spread of weapons of mass destruction are likely to be the principal threats to the Alliance over the next 10-15 years, most dangerously in the case of terrorists armed with weapons of mass destruction.

2. In response to these threats, the Alliance will enhance its political efforts to reduce dangers arising from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery. In the meeting of the North Atlantic Council at the Summit, the Heads of State and Government issued a Declaration on Alliance Security, reaffirming that NATO will continue to play its part in reinforcing arms control and promoting nuclear and conventional disarmament. NATO will therefore continue to support existing multilateral non-proliferation agreements. The principal goal of the Alliance and its member states remains to prevent proliferation from occurring or, should it occur, to reverse it through diplomatic means.

3. In April 2009, at the Strasbourg/Kehl Summit, NATO Heads of State and Government again condemned all acts of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable and reiterated their determination to fight this scourge, as long as necessary and in accordance with international law and principles of the UN Charter.

4. The Alliance will continue to follow the broad approach to security of the 1999 Strategic Concept and perform the fundamental security tasks it sets out, namely security, consultation, deterrence and defence, crisis management, and partnership.

5. In light of the new threats, NATO’s security is increasingly tied to that of other regions. The Alliance continues to provide an essential transatlantic dimension to the global response against terrorism. Allies remain committed to dialogue and co-operation with partners and other international organisations to fight terrorism and WMD proliferation, and reiterate their determination to protect Allies’ populations, territories, infrastructure and forces against the consequences of terrorist attacks and potential use of WMD, especially those including hazards created by the deliberate release of CBRN Toxic Industrial Materials.

Policies

6. At the Strasbourg/Kehl Summit NATO reiterated its commitment to strengthen its contribution to the international community’s fight against WMD proliferation and to prevent WMD from being acquired by terrorists.
For that aim, the Alliance endorsed NATO's comprehensive strategic-level policy for preventing the proliferation of WMD and defending against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats.

Reaffirming its support to existing multilateral non-proliferation agreements, NATO especially calls for universal compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and universal adherence to the Additional Protocol to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safeguard Agreement and full compliance with UNSCR 1540.

The Alliance strongly condemned tactics, such as suicide bombing and hostage taking, the recruitment, particularly of the young and disadvantaged, for these purposes, as well as terrorist abuse of freedoms inherent to democratic societies to spread hatred and incite violence. NATO remains deeply concerned about the Iranian nuclear and ballistic missile programmes and calls on Iran to comply with relevant UNSCRs. NATO is also deeply concerned by the programmes and proliferation activities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and call on it to fully comply with relevant UNSCRs. Therefore, the North Atlantic Council (NAC) condemned the launch, using ballistic missile technology, by the DPRK on 5 April 2009. The launch is regarded as yet another step in the development of a North Korean long-range intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) and as a violation of UNSCRs 1695 (2006) and 1718 (2006). These actions by Pyongyang are considered to pose a serious threat to the region and the international community at large.

One of NATO's key strengths is to provide a permanent forum for consultations in security-related matters. The Alliance has established regular dialogue on terrorism and terrorism-related issues among its members, as well as with non-member countries and other international organisations. It has developed an extensive network of co-operative relationships with many partners, which share the same desire to face up to the threat of terrorism. These consultations help develop and promulgate common views on challenges and responses. They also create strong Allied and partner unity against terrorism, which is an important political signal and a key element of NATO's response to terrorism.

NATO's Defence against Terrorism initiatives, including development of cutting-edge technologies, are useful tools to counter terrorist threats. Allies will continue to develop and fully implement their national capabilities in this important area, and strengthen the Alliance's ability to share information and intelligence on terrorism, especially in support of NATO operations.

Capabilities

Large scale conventional aggression against the Alliance will continue to be highly unlikely, however, future attacks may originate from outside the Euro-Atlantic area and involve unconventional forms of armed assault. Future potential aggressors might be non-state actors or terrorist groups. This will also entail an increased risk of the use of asymmetric means, and could involve the use of CBRN. In this context, the NATO Crisis Response System contains preventive options and crisis response measures dealing with Terrorism and WMD proliferation.

The establishment of the CBRN Defence Task Force (a multinational CBRN Defence Battalion and a CBRN Joint Assessment Team) has been a key development of the military response capacities. The CBRN Task Force forms an element of the NATO
Response Force (NRF). This high readiness operational force also serves as a catalyst for further transformation of our armed forces, not only for the benefit of NATO, but also for EU, UN or national purposes.

14 At the Strasbourg/Kehl Summit the Alliance expressed appreciation for the role of Partnership for Peace Training and Education Centres and the NATO Centres of Excellence which include the Defence Against Terrorism Centre of Excellence in Turkey, the Joint CBRN Centre of Excellence in the Czech Republic, the Virtual Centre of Excellence for NBC Weapons Defence and the Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Estonia. These centres help significantly to enhance the expertise and capabilities of Allies and partners.

15 NATO has developed new measures to enhance the protection of its communication and information systems against attempts at disruption through attacks or illegal access. In January 2008, it approved a policy on cyber defence which aims to ensure that the Alliance can efficiently and effectively deal with cyber aggression. It provides direction to NATO’s civil and military bodies in order to ensure a common and coordinated approach and contains recommendations for individual countries on the protection of their national systems. In addition, NATO is undertaking incremental, practical cooperation on cyber defence with Partner countries.

16 NATO is developing capabilities and innovative technology that specifically address the issue of terrorism. The aim is to protect troops, civilians and critical infrastructure against attacks perpetrated by terrorists, such as suicide attacks with improvised explosive devices, rocket attacks against aircraft and helicopters, and the potential use of weapons of mass destruction. In this context, the Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT POW) was developed by the Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD) in May 2004 and later approved by NATO leaders at their 28-29 June 2004 Istanbul Summit. The DAT POW is focused on eleven critical areas where it is believed technology can help prevent or mitigate the effects of terrorist attacks:

- Large aircraft survivability against man-portable air defence systems;
- Protection of harbours and ports from surface and subsurface threats;
- Protection of helicopters from rocket-propelled grenades;
- Countering improvised explosive devices;
- Detection, protection and defeat of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons;
- New technologies for intelligence, reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition of terrorists;
- Explosive ordnance disposal and consequence management;
- Defence against mortar attacks;
- Critical infrastructure protection;
- Developing non-lethal capabilities

Operations
17 Operation Active Endeavour (OAE). NATO’s genuine anti-terrorist maritime operation in the Mediterranean, continues to make an important contribution to the fight against terrorism. Forces continue their surveillance and monitoring operations in the Mediterranean Sea. The support of partner countries has further enhanced its effectiveness. These states are equally concerned by the threat of terrorism and some of
them, such as Israel, Morocco, Russia, Ukraine and Georgia have already been co-operating with NATO in OAE. NATO is currently considering the deployment of CBRN/WMD detection capabilities onboard OAE vessels.

18 The UN-mandated, NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) continues to assist the Government of Afghanistan to build a stable, secure and democratic country. In doing so, NATO aims to contribute to the Allies’, and wider international security, by helping to prevent that Afghanistan will ever become a base for international terrorism again.

19 NATO peacekeeping forces in the Balkans continue helping to create the conditions necessary to prevent potential terrorist activities. This includes helping to stop the illegal movement of people, arms and drugs, which are often fundamental sources for terrorist financing. They also work with regional authorities on border security issues.

20 The NATO Training Mission in Iraq will contribute to raising the standard of Iraqi security forces. Capable indigenous forces are needed to face security threats, including terrorism.

21 Through Operation Allied Protector, the Alliance contributes to the broader international efforts to combat piracy and armed robbery off the Horn of Africa, and thereby helps secure commercial maritime routes and international navigation, particularly in the Gulf of Aden along the Internationally Recognised Transit Corridor.

**Intelligence Sharing**

22 Intelligence sharing on terrorism remains a clear priority for the Alliance. At the Strasbourg/Kehl Summit the Alliance repeated its commitment to strengthen information and intelligence sharing on terrorism, particularly in support of NATO missions and operations. The Special Committee and the Military Committee produce agreed intelligence assessments on terrorism and the Terrorist Threat Intelligence Unit (TTIU) provides non-agreed assessments (drawing on inputs from nations’ intelligence services (domestic and external, civilian and military). Both contribute to informed decision-making within NATO Headquarters.

23 Information and intelligence sharing on terrorism is of fundamental importance to defence against terrorism. Intelligence sharing with partners is growing steadily. Information exchange among experts continues on economic and financial aspects of defence against terrorism, where the resourcing of terrorism needs to be further considered, with improved co-operation among counter-terrorist financial intelligence agencies.

**Cooperation with Partners**

24 The fight against terrorism has become an important element of NATO’s co-operation activities.

25 The Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism, adopted at the Prague NATO Summit in 2002, provides the overall framework for co-operation with NATO’s Euro-Atlantic Partners. It defines Partnership roles, as well as instruments to fight terrorism and
manage its consequences. For instance, NATO and Partner countries work together to improve the safety of air space, including through the exchange of data and co-ordination procedures related to the handling of possible terrorist threats. Partners have been integrated into various areas of the fight against terrorism, such as intelligence sharing, information exchange and scientific co-operation. The NATO Weapons of Mass Destruction Centre supports this process by contributing to the threat assessment and strengthening common understanding of WMD issues.

26 NATO's broader partnership programmes provide effective frameworks for dialogue, consultation and the co-ordination of practical activities in relation to WMD. Forums of co-operation include the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC), the NATO-Russia Council, the NATO-Ukraine Commission and the Mediterranean Dialogue. NATO also consults with countries in the broader Middle East region, which take part in the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, as well as with partners across the globe (such as Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Republic of Korea), which have less formal relationships with the Alliance, but share NATO's values and contribute to NATO-led operations. Furthermore, more than 60 countries participate regularly in the seminars of the NATO Senior Politico-Military Group on Proliferation, the most recent one being held in Berlin, Germany, in November 2008, and the next one taking place in Warsaw, Poland in December 2009.

27 High-level experts from EAPC Partners, Mediterranean Dialogue members, Istanbul Cooperation Initiative and countries and partners around the globe have participated in the International Partners' Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Defence Outreach Event in Jambes, Belgium on 29 April 2009.

28 NATO, through its network of education and training centres, trained about 1,000 partner officers and NCOs in 2007 in Defence against terrorism related courses. In 2008, the NATO Defence Against Terrorism Centre of Excellence also trained 967 persons from 62 different countries in 20 different courses and other activities.

29 NATO is also working to deepen its relations with the United Nations, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and to strengthen efforts in fighting terrorism. The Alliance also participates in relevant conferences organised by other international organisations, including the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Interpol and others. NATO's anti-terrorism efforts include improving civil-military co-ordination of air traffic control by working with EUROCONTROL, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Air Transport Association so that information is shared and action taken more effectively.

The NATO Security through Science Programme

27 Defence Against Terrorism is the first of two key priority areas under the Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme since its redirection to security in 2004. Contributing to NATO's Strategic Objective "Partnership", under this Programme, a wide number of activities have been initiated between scientists from NATO and partner countries in a range of terrorism-related areas, such as: Physical protection, rapid detection, decontamination, and destruction of Chemical, Biological, Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) agents and weapons, rapid diagnosis of their effects on people and medical
countermeasures; explosives detection, eco-terrorism countermeasures, and human and social aspects of terrorist activities

NATO's SPS Programme focuses on the civilian side of nuclear, chemical and biological technologies. The Programme has been successful in bringing together NATO and partner experts and engineers to co-operate in a range of activities, including practical projects with concrete deliverables. The Programme contributed to better understanding of the terrorist threat, development of detection and response measures, and fostering effective networks of experts in key fields. This work will continue to be a core priority of the SPS Programme.

**Protection of Civil Population / Consequence Management**

30 The Civil Emergency Planning (CEP) Action Plan remains a key contribution to the Alliance's fight against terrorism, including in co-operation with its Partners. The CEP Action Plan, which remains central to the efforts to improve civil preparedness against possible attacks against civilian populations with CBRN agents or Toxic Industrial Materials (TIM) is being implemented vigorously. The Civil Protection Committee has developed a Risk and Vulnerabilities Assessment Tool that can be used by nations, as well as by the National Military Authorities in their efforts to deal with CBRN terrorism. There has also been progress with respect to psychological support for the victims of terrorism, with the revision of the psychological assistance protocols initially developed by the Science Working Group of the NATO-Russia Council. A package of Non-Binding Guidelines and Minimum Standards for first responders has been developed, and its implementation by the nations on a voluntary basis, through training and exercises is now being explored. In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding on the Facilitation of Vital Civil Cross Border Transport has been noted by EAPC Ambassadors and has been already signed by several nations. It aims to improve the speed and efficiency of humanitarian assistance in case of terrorist attacks and natural and technical catastrophes.

31 The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Co-ordination Centre (EADRCC) continues the development of the Inventory of National Capabilities for CBRN response. Operational use of the CEP inventory was available to Greece during the Athens Olympics in 2004 and for the Riga Summit in support of the Latvian authorities. For these occasions, CBRN detection, sampling, CBRN warning & reporting and decontamination assets, psychological support teams and other recovery and transport capabilities were identified and made available to the Host Nation. Every year the EADRCC also organises a large-scale exercise on the management of consequences of terrorist attacks and natural disasters, with the participation of several Allied and Partner nations.