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### A High level delegation of UN officials visits ACSRT



On 6 April 2014 a high-level delegation of United Nations officials led by Ms. Cristina Amaral, Director, Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative, visited the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT). Their discussion with Ambassador Francisco Madeira Special Representative of the AU Chairperson for Counter Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the ACSRT focused on the African Union Counter Terrorism Strategy and the current Counter Terrorism (CT) state in different African Regions.

Ambassador Madeira used the opportunity to inform the delegation about the role of the African Union in the Continent and around the world including the AU's vision for the future of Africa. He also highlighted the efforts undertaken by the ACSRT to address the Counter Terrorism issue. He clarified that the ACSRT is a counter terrorism structure for centralizing

information, studies and analyses on terrorism and terrorist groups and for developing Counter-Terrorism capacity building programmes. The ACSRT also provides a forum for interaction and cooperation among Member States and Regional Mechanisms. The Centre plays an important role in guiding the AU's CT efforts and works in collaboration with a number of regional and international partners to ensure coherent and coordinated CT efforts on the continent.

The delegation stated that terrorism poses a real and serious threat to the peace and security not only on the African Continent but also cuts across national and regional boundaries. It is a global threat that knows no boarder nationally or region – a challenge that the international community must tackle together.

The delegation also agreed to promote the strategic priorities of the AUC in the areas of democracy, good governance, promotion and protection human rights, transparency and administrative justice, elections observation and peace and security.

Ambassador Madeira was delighted to welcome the delegation to ACSRT and expressed his willingness to work with the different UN agencies in various areas.