



**INTERNATIONAL HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE  
ON  
COUNTERING TERRORISM THROUGH INNOVATIVE APPROACHES  
AND THE USE OF NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES**

3-4 September 2019  
Minsk, Belarus

**Information for Delegates**

**1. Introduction**

This note addresses administrative and logistics matters related to the International High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism to be convened by the Republic of Belarus and the United Nations in Minsk, Belarus, on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 September 2019.

The Conference will convene participating States and partners of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as well as China, India, Pakistan and Qatar, regional organizations, civil society organizations, and UN entities.

The main thematic areas of the Conference are:

- i. The Nature of Threat: Misuse of New Technologies and Artificial Intelligence by Terrorists
- ii. Innovative Use of New Technologies to Strengthen Detection Capacity (API/PNR)
- iii. Development of National, Regional and International Approaches and Strategies to Address the Misuse of New Technologies and Artificial Intelligence by Terrorists

**2. Delegations**

Member States are invited to send a Head of Delegation plus three additional representatives. It is expected that Heads of Delegation will be at the level of ministers or deputy ministers. Counter-terrorism national coordinators and senior experts and practitioners are to be included in the delegation.

International and regional organizations are invited to send a Head of Delegation plus one additional representative.

Private sector and civil society organizations are invited to send one representative.

### **3. Venue of the Regional Conference**

The Conference will be held at National Exhibition Centre BelExpo (TBC) and President Hotel (TBC) in Minsk, Belarus.

The addresses of the venues are:

- National Exhibition Centre BelExpo, Pobediteley ave., 14, Minsk
- President Hotel, Kirova str., 18, Minsk

### **4. Conference Registration and Accreditation**

To participate in the High-level Conference and obtain the necessary personalized badges, each delegation must be registered through the online registration system by 15 July 2019, available here: <https://reg.unog.ch/event/30176/>.

Member States, international and regional organizations are requested to centralize through a focal point the online registration of their respective Delegation.

An accreditation letter for the entire Delegation needs to be uploaded for each registration. The accreditation letter should include the name, title and position of all the delegates, as well as the nomination of the Head of Delegation.

For each delegate, a standard passport-size colour photo must be uploaded. The first and last name of the delegate must be provided exactly as it appears on their valid government-issued identification.

An electronic registration confirmation and a confirmation code will be issued for the registration of each delegate. The code will be used to facilitate the collection of conference badges.

The badges should be obtained at the accreditation counter located in the lobby of the President Hotel from 13.00 to 19.00 on September 2 and from 7.30 to 8.45 on September 3 upon presentation of a valid ID.

For questions, please contact [minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by](mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by)

### **5. Costs, Travel, Visa and Hotel Arrangements**

Member States, international and regional organisations, United Nations entities and civil society organisations are requested to arrange and cover the costs of travel and accommodation for their delegations.

All participants are encouraged to arrive in Belarus no later than midday Monday, 2 September 2019.

#### *Visa requirements*

To enter Belarus, participants are required to have a passport valid for at least three months from the expected date of departure, medical insurance for the full duration of the intended stay and a valid visa.

Visa-free travel is available for holders of ordinary passports only for the period of stay under 30 days through visa waiver programme for air passengers who travel via the National airport “Minsk” by international flights. More details on the programme as well as information on the mutual visa-free travel regimes operating in Belarus can be found at <http://mfa.gov.by/en/visa/visafreetravel>.

Participants, if required by Belarusian law, are requested to make their own visa arrangements to enter Belarus. Visa application forms, as well as information on visa procedures can be obtained from the website of a particular embassy or consulate. The list of Belarusian foreign missions is available at: <http://belarusfacts.by/en/catalog>.

Participants from countries with no Belarusian Embassies or Consulates may contact Mr. Petr Vinokurov, + 375 17 222 26 61, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, and Mr. Viktor Savchuk, +375 17 279 28 72, Airport Consular Section, to ascertain the possibility of obtaining visas upon arrival at the National airport “Minsk”.

Please note that visas will be granted to duly registered participants only. Registered participants are exempted from the visa consular fee.

#### *Local transportation*

The Minsk Airport is connected with Minsk City Centre by public transportation (direction “Central Bus Station”). Buses leave from the airport approximately every 40 minutes. The journey depending on traffic takes approximately one hour and the costs 4 rubles (€2). Tickets can be purchased on the bus or vending machines at the airport.

Taxi counters are located on the ground floor of the Arrivals terminal, Sectors 5 and 6 or booking can be made by phone +375 33 9017119, +375172791748, e-mail: [bronirovanie@airport.by](mailto:bronirovanie@airport.by).

A shuttle bus for the participants will also be organised from the airport to President Hotel on September 2, 2019.

The public transportation system consists of metro, buses, trolley buses and trams, operating from early morning (around 5am) until around midnight. Tickets for buses, trolley buses and trams (0,60 ruble) may be purchased prior to boarding the vehicle at the ticket or newspaper kiosks available at most of the stops or from a driver while boarding (0,65 ruble). Upon boarding the vehicle, you need to validate your ticket in a special machine which you will find within in each bus, trolley bus and tram. A jetton for metro (0,65 ruble) may be at the counters box at any metro station. It is also possible to use a credit card while entering putting it against an entrance machine’s screen.

To reach your destination in Minsk you can use a taxi service. You may book a taxi in advance using a phone, a mobile application or by going to the taxi rank.

#### *Hotel accommodation*

For logistical purposes, participants may wish to select hotels close to the venue. Please find a list of suggested hotels below.

President Hotel 5\*\*\*\*\* (venue place)

<https://www.president-hotel.by/en>

Crowne Plaza 5\*\*\*\*\*  
<http://www.cpminsk.com/en/>

Hotel Europe 5\*\*\*\*\*  
<https://www.hoteleurope.by/en/>

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel 5\*\*\*\*\*  
<https://www.hilton.com/en>

Peking Hotel 4\*\*\*\*  
<http://beijinghotelminsk.com/en/>

Victoria Hotel \*\*\*\*  
<http://hotel-victoria.by/en/>

Minsk Hotel 4\*\*\*\*\*  
<https://www.hotelminsk.by/en/>

## **6. Security**

The Government of Belarus will undertake all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of the Delegations during their stay in the Republic of Belarus. Belarusian Law Enforcement Agencies and venue security services will secure both conference venues.

Information about Close Protection and vehicular access for VIPs may be obtained at the State Protocol Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus at [sgp@mfa.gov.by](mailto:sgp@mfa.gov.by)

Delegates must display their Conference Badge at all times to access the venue.

## **7. Interpretation**

Interpretation in English and Russian will be provided for all official sessions of the High-level Conference. We kindly ask that all interventions be made in one of these two languages.

Delegations are requested to organise their own interpreters, if required, for side events, bilateral meetings or additional languages, and to register them as part of their delegation.

## **8. Event Format and Statements**

The Regional Conference in Belarus will seek to build upon the discussions of the 2018 High-Level Conference, with three plenary thematic sessions, each providing an opportunity for participating Member States to consider the practical implementation of relevant aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions.

Each session will be introduced by a short presentation by the keynote speaker, followed by remarks by the panellists. Heads of Delegation will then be invited to provide remarks of a maximum duration of three (3) minutes during of the thematic sessions of the Conference. This

time limit will be strictly observed. We kindly ask that all interventions be made in either English or Russian.

Delegations are kindly requested to register their speaker by 5 August 2019 with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism ([pilgrims@un.org](mailto:pilgrims@un.org); [savareses@un.org](mailto:savareses@un.org)), indicating in which session they would like to make a statement.

An opportunity to speak for a second time during the High-level Conference will be provided if all the first-time speaking requests are exhausted.

For record keeping and interpretation purposes, delegations also are kindly requested to share an electronic copy of the planned statements with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism ([pilgrims@un.org](mailto:pilgrims@un.org); [savareses@un.org](mailto:savareses@un.org)), by 23 August 2019.

Please indicate if the statement may be posted on the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism website and made publicly available.

## **9. Bilateral Meetings**

Bilateral meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism: focal points from the Permanent Missions seeking to arrange bilateral meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism are requested to contact the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism ([ibanezi@un.org](mailto:ibanezi@un.org)) by no later than 15 August 2019.

Bilateral meetings with the Secretary-General: focal points from Permanent Missions are kindly asked to formally submit requests for bilateral meetings with the United Nations Secretary-General to his Executive Office: [SGCentral@un.org](mailto:SGCentral@un.org).

Bilateral meetings among participants: Member States and other entities are required to make arrangements for bilateral meetings directly with one another. Delegations requiring a room to conduct bilateral meetings during the Conference should contact [minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by](mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by)

## **10. Side-Events**

There will be an opportunity for side-events on the margins of the Conference. Delegations wishing to organize side-events during the Conference should contact [minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by](mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by)

An evening panel discussion “When the Past Meets the Future: Cooperative security in new geopolitical and technological realities” followed by a glass of wine and light refreshments will be organised on 2 September 2019 from 18.30 to 21.00 (time and venue TBC).

## **11. Media**

Any media requiring access to the event will need accreditation. Members of the media can apply for accreditation through the following procedures:

- A written request on the official letterhead of the mass media organisation signed by its head. The request must contain the following information: first and family names, date

of birth, citizenship, passport number, issue and expiration dates, desired duration of accreditation, diplomatic mission where a journalist intends to receive an entry visa, purposes of the visit;

- Standard application form completed personally by a journalist to be accredited;
- Two photos of the journalist to be accredited (3x4 cm);
- Documents should be submitted to the Foreign Ministry of Belarus no later than August 20, 2019. Journalists seeking accreditation may send scanned copies of the above documents in electronic format (.pdf files) or as a digital photo (.jpg files) by e-mail: [press@mfa.gov.by](mailto:press@mfa.gov.by)

For further information, please contact the Department of Information and Digital Diplomacy of the Foreign Ministry of Belarus. Its contact details are: +375 17 327 51 54, email: [press@mfa.gov.by](mailto:press@mfa.gov.by)

## **12. Coffee and Lunch Breaks during the Conference**

Coffee/tea breaks and lunch will be provided for the participants at the venue on September 3 and a coffee/tea break will be provided at the venue on September 4.

## **13. Evening Reception Hosted by Belarus on 3 September**

A reception will be held in the evening of 3 September 2019 for all participants at President Hotel (Kirova Street, 18, Minsk). For questions, please contact [minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by](mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by)

## **14. Liability**

The Government of Belarus and the United Nations assume that all participants are in good health and fit to travel. Participants are responsible for obtaining the related medical clearances and insurance.

## **15. About Minsk and Belarus**

You can find more information on Belarus at the following website: <https://www.belarus.by/en>. Average temperatures in Minsk for the beginning of September are between 15 and 20°C.

Time: UTC +2

Currency: Belarusian Ruble (BYR) (1 EUR = approx.: 2,3 BYR)

Power voltage: 220V

Tourist office in Minsk: <https://minsktourism.by/en/>

## **16. Points of Contact**

|  | <b>United Nations</b>   | <b>Government of Belarus</b>   |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Event Coordination</b>  | Mr. Muhammad Rafiuddin Shah<br>Tel: +1 917 367 2856<br>Email: <a href="mailto:shah4@un.org">shah4@un.org</a>    | Mr Mikalai Kernazhytski<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 48<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>  |
|  | Ms. Sophie Pilgrim<br>Tel: +1 212 963 4507<br>Email: <a href="mailto:pilgrims@un.org">pilgrims@un.org</a>       | Mr Vasily Pavlov<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 09<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>         |
| <b>Registration</b>  | Ms. Sophie Pilgrim<br>Tel: +1 212 963 4507<br>Email <a href="mailto:pilgrims@un.org">pilgrims@un.org</a>        | Mr Mikalai Kernazhytski<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 48<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>  |
|  | Ms. Samantha Savarese<br>Tel : +1 212 963 8035<br>Email: <a href="mailto:savareses@un.org">savareses@un.org</a> | Mr Vasily Pavlov<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 09<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>         |
| <b>Speakers list</b>   | Ms. Sophie Pilgrim<br>Tel: +1 212 963 4507<br>Email <a href="mailto:pilgrims@un.org">pilgrims@un.org</a>        | Mr Mikalai Kernazhytski<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 48<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>  |
|  | Ms. Samantha Savarese<br>Tel : +1 212 963 8035<br>Email: <a href="mailto:savareses@un.org">savareses@un.org</a> | Mr Vasily Pavlov<br>Tel: +375 17 327 76 09<br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>         |
| <b>Security</b>  |   | <a href="mailto:sgp@mfa.gov.by">sgp@mfa.gov.by</a><br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a> |
| <b>Bilateral meetings with the Secretary-General</b>                             | Executive Office of the Secretary-General<br>E-mail:<br><a href="mailto:SGCentral@un.org">SGCentral@un.org</a>  | <a href="mailto:sgp@mfa.gov.by">sgp@mfa.gov.by</a><br><a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a> |
| <b>Bilateral meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism</b> | Ignacio Ibanez<br>Tel: + 1 212 963 3600<br>Email: <a href="mailto:ibanezi@un.org">ibanezi@un.org</a>            | <a href="mailto:minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by">minskconf2019@mfa.gov.by</a>   |
| <b>Media and Public Information</b>  |   | <a href="mailto:press@mfa.gov.by">press@mfa.gov.by</a><br>+375 17 327 51 54  |