

BALANCING HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTIONS AND SECURITY CONCERNS: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

1. There have not been any terrorist attacks in Mongolia against Mongolia, its citizens or foreigners and there is no information that terrorist organizations operate in Mongolia.
2. Mongolia consistently condemns all terrorist acts perpetrated either within the confines of one country or internationally. It shares the determination of the international community to jointly fight against international terrorism and is prepared to take an active part in it by fully implementing all the international treaties to which Mongolia is a party.
3. Mongolia is already party to 9 of 12 international conventions against terrorism. Recently the Parliament of Mongolia ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, which it signed on 10 November 2001.
4. There are no specific domestic laws regulating terrorism related issues. However there is an article relating to terrorism (Act of terrorism) in the Criminal law and it is considered as crime against national security.
5. There is a particular need for revising and improving the legislative framework relating to prevention of and fighting against terrorism. For example, defining what terrorism is and provide necessary legal framework for officials, specifically dealing with prevention and fighting against terrorism, by taking measures as such confirming national legislations with international treaties ratified.
6. Currently the Ministry of Justice and Domestic Affairs is preparing two draft laws:
 - Law on Fighting against terrorism (working group has been set up and is working on the concept of the legislation, the draft law scheduled to be presented to the Parliament during its Spring session of 2004)
 - Law against money laundering and other acts to finance terrorist actions (the draft law is to be presented to the Meeting of the Government Cabinet)
7. The Commission will review the two draft laws and assess their conformity with international human rights standards. If necessary it will take measures to conform national legislation and practices to international human rights standards. In fact, the Commission is planning to conduct a workshop or training, based on the experience and information gained from the present Annual Meeting of the APF, for members of working group responsible for drafting laws relating to terrorism.
8. In addition the Commission will conduct series of trainings for other public officials, whose work are directly or indirectly involved or related to terrorism, on the issue of human rights and how to balance the two issues.
9. In order to take such measures there is a need for the Commission to study the legislation and practices relating to terrorism in other nations.