

Welcoming a holistic, integrated approach to tackling terrorism and protecting those at risk

Thank you President, and thank you for convening us today, consistent with your personal leadership on security, including the creation of the Accra Initiative, and with ECOWAS' robust defence of democratic values in the region.

Moreover Excellency, you've joined us this morning from COP27, a reminder that climate is a threat multiplier, and another challenge to peace and security in Africa and around the world. I join others in thanking the Deputy Secretary-General, and our briefers today, and I'd like to make three points to contribute to today's discussion.

First, we welcome and endorse calls we've heard today for a holistic response to terrorism; an integrated approach to tackling the conditions that give rise to terrorism, while protecting those at most risk. We welcome the Accra Initiative's work to address the security situation and to strengthen regional security and intelligence cooperation.

As the UK, we are working with the Ghanaian government to consider how best to support the Accra Initiative.

We're also working with journalists to promote moderate voices as well as limit the spread of violence, including terrorism. We're also supporting communities to manage land more effectively and withstand the challenges of climate shocks in regions threatened by violent extremist groups.

And President, we cannot ignore the destabilising role the Wagner Group is playing in the region. They are a driver of conflict and exploit natural resources where they operate.

Whatever the question, Wagner is not the answer.

Second, in the fight against terrorism, it is counter-productive to violate human rights and international law.

This Council has consistently stressed that the fight against terrorism needs to conform with international human rights and humanitarian law.

In our experience, placing respect for human rights at the centre of counter-terrorism campaigns, and in close cooperation with civil society, will bolster their effectiveness, counter-radicalization, and build resilient communities. And this fight will be successful only with the meaningful participation of women who are in many cases disproportionately affected by terrorism.

Third, terrorism and violent extremism are transnational problems that

require a coordinated international response.

We've heard a lot this morning about the important role of the Accra Initiative, ECOWAS, the AU, and many other regional organisations. I join others in emphasising too the importance of the UN system. Not just the Office of Counter-Terrorism, but also implementing the mandates that are agreed by this Council, including the provisions on UN human rights monitoring.

President, like others we look forward to the new agenda for peace as an important contribution to addressing the triple challenge terrorism poses to peace, security and development. And I thank you.

[PM meeting with Taoiseach Micheál Martin: 10 November 2022](#)

Press release

The Prime Minister spoke to the Taoiseach Micheál Martin today at the British Irish Council.



The Prime Minister welcomed the Taoiseach Micheál Martin to Blackpool as the host venue for the partners of the 38th British-Irish Council.

He expressed his commitment to working closely on matters of shared interest, and to deepen UK-Irish ties, particularly in the face of Russian aggression in Ukraine and the associated energy crisis.

The Prime Minister set out the UK government's decision to introduce legislation to provide a short extension to the period for Executive formation and reiterated his firm commitment to upholding the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement in all its dimensions.

On the Northern Ireland protocol, the Prime Minister stressed that the UK's

strong preference is for a negotiated solution with the EU. He reiterated that any deal must solve the full range of issues caused by the protocol but hoped for flexibility and pragmatism.

Published 10 November 2022

[UK aid funding open to Oxfam](#)

Oxfam can once again bid for UK aid funding to carry out lifesaving work around the world, Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell announced today (Thursday 10 November).

A pause was put on the charity bidding for funding in 2021 while an external investigation was carried out into safeguarding allegations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Since then, the charity has made significant improvements to its safeguarding systems in DRC – this includes the appointment of a national safeguarding advisor, a new network of safeguarding experts who work across their offices and respond to concerns, and training for staff on how to report a concern.

These measures are all in addition to other actions taken by Oxfam since 2018 to improve their overall safeguarding approach.

UK Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell said:

Oxfam has made significant improvements to how it deals with safeguarding, including introducing more effective preventative measures.

However, we are not complacent. We want to encourage reporting and a robust but sensitive response in every case, ensuring more reporting and better responses to cases. All providers of aid must have practices in place to make sure that safeguarding is always put first and foremost in planning and operations.

In February 2018, the Charity Commission announced a statutory inquiry into Oxfam, following safeguarding allegations in Haiti. Oxfam voluntarily withdrew from bidding for new UK aid and the pause remained in place since, apart from a short period in 2021. Oxfam has since invested in and expanded its safeguarding function and increased oversight by appointing their first Ethics and Integrity Director to uphold standards across the organisation. It has also introduced mandatory safeguarding training for staff working around the world.

Since 2018 the UK has made huge progress in tackling abuse in the sector and used its convening power and funding to improve safeguarding standards, identify perpetrators and support survivors and victims.

This includes backing a tougher screening system, which allows charities to share data about staff misconduct and stop perpetrators moving from job-to-job, working with Interpol and the UK's ACRO Criminal Record Office on Project Soteria to improve criminal records checks and promote information sharing between aid and law enforcement agencies. It has also launched a £10 million [Resource and Support Hub](#) to support aid organisations operating on the ground to improve their safeguarding standards.

[Manor of Northstead: Kate Green](#)

News story

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has this day appointed Katherine Anne Green to be Steward and Bailiff of the Manor of Northstead.



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[Unlicensed security operatives caught and sentenced following enforcement](#)

checks

Press release

On Friday 4 November 2022, a security operative pleaded guilty at Dudley Magistrates' Court to working illegally.



Security Industry Authority

Finlay Caw of Bridgnorth was fined £300 and required to pay £500 prosecution costs plus a £34 victim surcharge to be paid within 14 days.

Friday's sentencing is the latest in a series of prosecutions brought by the SIA (Security Industry Authority) as a result of an inspection and enforcement operation with West Mercia Police last year. During the operation the SIA carried out checks in venues across Telford, Shrewsbury, and Wolverhampton.

SIA investigators found Caw working at Wolverhampton Racecourse on 27 November 2021. Caw worked unlicensed on seven occasions. He falsely claimed to SIA investigators that he was working under a licence dispensation notice as his employer was an approved contractor.

Caw failed to engage with the SIA throughout the resulting investigation.

The SIA prosecuted another security operative in Dudley earlier this year after he was found working without a valid licence during the same enforcement operation.

Stephen Dion of Wolverhampton entered an immediate guilty plea for working without a licence. He was sentenced to a 12-month conditional discharge, fined £135 as court costs and ordered to pay £22 victim surcharge on 15 June 2022.

On 22 October 2021, SIA investigators at The Buttermarket nightclub in Shrewsbury found Dion working without a licence. During the investigation they discovered that he had worked without a licence on 14 occasions over a three-month period.

Dion was interviewed by the SIA under caution and denied any wrongdoing. Dion later pleaded guilty in court.

Jenny Hart, one of the SIA's criminal investigations managers said:

The sentencing of these two operatives is yet another reminder of the damage working without a valid licence can cause individuals and their companies. Moreover, by working without a valid SIA licence, Caw and Dion knowingly put the safety of the public at risk. They exploited the trust that the public has in trained SIA licence holders and have now incurred fines and criminal records.

Notes to editors:

- By law, security operatives working under contract must hold and display a valid SIA licence
- [Read about SIA enforcement and penalties](#)
- The offences that are mentioned above are as follows:
 - Finlay Caw: Private Security Industry Act 2001, section 3 – unlicensed security operative; Private Security Industry Act 2001, section 22 – false information
 - Stephen Dion: Private Security Industry Act 2001, section 3 – unlicensed security operative

Further information:

- The Security Industry Authority is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry in the United Kingdom, reporting to the Home Secretary under the terms of the [Private Security Industry Act 2001](#). The SIA's main duties are the compulsory licensing of individuals undertaking designated activities and managing the voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme.
- For further information about the Security Industry Authority or to sign up for email updates visit: www.gov.uk/sia. The SIA is also on [LinkedIn](#) [Facebook \(Security Industry Authority\)](#) and [Twitter \(@SIAuk\)](#).

Published 10 November 2022