



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

COVID-19 AND FUTURE PANDEMICS: THE SPECTRE OF BIOTERRORISM

2 JULY 2020, 09.00 - 10.30 (NEW YORK) - 15.00 - 16.30 (GENEVA)

In April 2020, the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General warned about the threat Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) poses to international peace and security, noting that: "The weaknesses and lack of preparedness exposed by this pandemic provide a window onto how a bioterrorist attack might unfold – and may increase its risks. Non-state groups could gain access to virulent strains that could pose similar devastation to societies around the globe."

The webinar will discuss the threat of bioterrorism during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic (deliberate transmission) as well as bioterrorism as a potential source of origin for future pandemics (deliberate release). The webinar will also analyze how technology could help to identify the origin of disease outbreaks and to model and forecast the spread of infectious disease, actions that are essential to understanding whether there has been a deliberate release by terrorist groups and how the outbreak is likely to evolve.

This event will bring together representatives of Member States, International Organizations, the UN System, academia and the private sector.

Please confirm your participation at https://cutt.ly/tulgtqP For more information: francesco.marelli@un.org or mariaeugenia.rettori@un.org