OSCE Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

INDICATIVE AGENDA

Opening Session: Understanding the threat - why protecting "soft" targets is critical

Taking into account that States define what "soft" targets are based on their national context, the opening session will raise awareness about relevant risk and threats and present the existing international normative framework, in particular UN Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) and other relevant resolutions as well as international and regional initiatives in this regard.

Session I: Being prepared - lessons learned and good practices from across the OSCE area

UN Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) stresses the need for States to develop, review, or amend national risk and threat assessments to take into account "soft" targets, in order to develop appropriate contingency and emergency response plans for terrorist attacks. Speakers will be invited to present lessons learned and good practices on all aspects of preparedness, including prevention, protection, mitigation, recovery and response.

Session II: Challenges to protecting "soft" targets - places of worship and sport venues

Places of worship and sport venues are particularly vulnerable to terrorist attacks. This session will look at which measures need to be taken to manage the risk of terrorist attacks with case studies from within the OSCE area.

Session III: Involving local actors and the private sector

To effectively protect "soft" targets, it is crucial to strengthen partnerships with all stakeholders, including local actors and private sector owners and operators. This session will highlight the importance of leveraging the capabilities of these stakeholders and present co-operation mechanisms to share information, expertise and experience across the board, ensuring a human-rights compliant response.

Session IV: Public awareness and community engagement

This session will focus on the vital role that informed and alert communities can play in responding to the terrorist threat environment, including the role of civil society, communities and local leaders. Speakers will also present initiatives to expand public awareness and build societal resilience, taking into account human right considerations.