Terrorism

Commitment

“We have carried forward initiatives to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction to terrorists and other criminals, reinforce international political will to combat terrorism, secure radioactive sources and - as announced at Sea Island - ensure secure and facilitated travel. Today we commit ourselves to new joint efforts. We will work to improve the sharing of information on the movement of terrorists across international borders.”

- G8 Statement on Counter-Terrorism

Background

At the 2003 G8 Summit, in Evian, the member states of the G8 committed to create a Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG) to focus on building political will and capacity to fight global terrorism. At the 2004 G8 Summit, on Sea Island, the G8 continued to work to jointly combat terrorism, pledging to crack down on terrorist financing and take an active role in several non-proliferation initiatives. The commitment made by the G8 at the 2005 Gleneagles summit, to work together to share intelligence on the trans-national movements of terrorists, represents a further continuation of the trend toward multi-lateral efforts aimed at countering global terrorism.

Team Leader: Christopher Collins

Assessment

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<th>Score</th>
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<th>Full Compliance +1</th>
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Individual Country Compliance Breakdown

1. Canada: +1

The Canadian government has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

Canada is an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year. As a member of CTAG, Canada works to share information with other CTAG member states.742

The Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS) is also publicly committed to sharing information about the movements of known or suspected terrorists. CSIS has officially stated that it believes sharing “intelligence and cooperation, both at the national and international levels, is essential to effectively gauge current and future threats to the security of Canada and to analyze terrorist trends”. Further noting that “CSIS works in close collaboration with Canada’s traditional allies and shares pertinent intelligence to counter the global threat of terrorism”743

In its 2005 - 2006 Report on Plans and Priorities, written for the Treasury Board of Canada and detailing plans for the upcoming year, Foreign Affairs Canada committed to “continue to work through other appropriate forums to further advance international efforts to combat terrorism, including in the G8 process, in the Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), in the APEC Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF), and through the OAS Inter-American Counter-Terrorism Committee (CICTE).”744 The Department also committed to develop a security partnership within North America.745

The Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs plans to spend CAD$738 million on Global And Security Policy (which includes anti-terrorism intelligence sharing initiatives) in 2005-06, CAD$695.6 million in 2006-07, and CAD$704 million in 2007-08.746

Analyst: Christopher Collins

2. France: +1

The French government has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

The French legislative agenda has includes several items that directly address the commitments made at Gleneagles. The French National Assembly passed “The Law Pertaining to Transportation Security and Development” on 22 December 2005. This legislation created the office of Minister of Aviation Security, and charged the minister’s office with implementing many of the SAFTI (Secure and Facilitated Travel Initiatives) plan first agreed upon at Sea Island.747 The National Assembly also passed “The Anti-Terrorism Law” on 22 December 2005. This law gives law enforcement and intelligence services in

http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/est-pre/20052006/FAC-AEC/FAC-AECr5602_e.asp.
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France greater surveillance powers over suspected terrorists, airports, and on a twenty-kilometre perimeter of French territory.  

On 17 November 2005, the French government held "France in the Face of Terrorism," a one day event that brought together intelligence services, politicians, journalists, and civil society representatives for consultation on the government’s counter-terrorist initiatives. At this event, French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin outlined many facets of the government’s counter terrorism initiatives, including constant "contact with the international intelligence community in order to exchange information." On 14 September 2005, the French government signed the Agreement on the International Suppression of Nuclear Terrorism.

France is also an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Jeff Claydon

3. Germany: +1

Germany demonstrated a satisfactory level of compliance with respect to its counter-terrorism commitments. The German Federal Government has supported United Nations initiatives to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction to terrorists, secure radioactive sources, and reaffirmed its intention to exchange information regarding the movement of terrorists across international borders.

On 15 September 2005, Federal Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer signed the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. As a signatory to the United Nations Convention, the German government pledged its cooperation in preventing acts of terrorism that involve nuclear or radioactive material and to prosecute or extradite alleged offenders. The Federal Foreign Office continues to bolster United Nations counter-terrorism efforts by actively promoting the conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel reiterated her government’s commitment to improve the sharing of information on terrorist movements during her first speech to the German Bundestag on 30 November 2005. She stated that the German government “will use new technology and ensure improved exchange of information by creating anti-terrorism databases.” Chancellor Merkel further indicated that the Federal Criminal Police Office “will be given preventive powers to counter terrorist threats.” In addition, Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier maintained that the exchange of information with Britain, France, Italy, Spain and the United States is an essential component in the efforts of federal security authorities observing the national and international movements of terrorist networks.
Finally, the Federal Government enhanced its collaborative partnerships on counter-terrorism. At the summit meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership or Barcelona Process on 27 and 28 November 2005, the European Union and its southern Mediterranean partners designed measures to counter-terrorism, develop a common migration strategy and to improve cooperation in the fields of justice and security. Germany endorsed the summit’s adoption of a comprehensive five year work programme and code of conduct for practical cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.\textsuperscript{756}

Germany is also an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Ashley Barnes

4. Italy: +1

Italy has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

In July 2005 the upper house of the Italian Parliament passed a new series of anti-terrorism laws, including measures to compile lists of mobile phone users to help police investigating suspected terrorist crimes and generally strengthening of measures to prevent terrorists from financing their operations.\textsuperscript{757}

According to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy believes that when it comes to international cooperation against terrorism, “the trend toward reinforcing intelligence capabilities must be underlined, both at the national level and at that of international organisations.”\textsuperscript{758}

Italy was present at the summit meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on the 27 and 28 November 2005, where the European Union and its southern Mediterranean partners confirmed the Euro-Mediterranean code of conduct on Countering Terrorism. As part of this code of conduct, Italy and the other states declared they would “exchange information on a voluntary basis about terrorists and their support networks… and work bilaterally and […] to disrupt [those] networks.”\textsuperscript{759}

Italy is also an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Christopher Collins

5. Japan: +1

Japan has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

Japan is active at the regional and international levels in combating the spread of global terrorism.\textsuperscript{760} Following the attacks of 11 September 2001, Japan passed the ‘anti-terrorism special measures law’ committing Japan to “dealing with terrorism in unity with the countries in the world, giving firm support to


the U.S. as an ally.”761 In October of 2005 the Government of Japan decided to extend the duration of this law.762

Japan is also an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Christopher Collins

6. Russia: +1

Russia has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

Russia is an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year. The Russian Interior Ministry is also an active participant in the Roma Group of G8 experts on international crime and terrorism.763

Additionally, the Russian government, engaged in its own struggles in the Caucasus, is of the position that divisions among world powers in the fight against terrorism only benefits the terrorists.764 Russia is, therefore, committed to an integrated and multinational anti-terrorism strategy.

Analyst: Christopher Collins

7. United Kingdom: 0

The British government has registered only a partial level of compliance to the commitments made at Gleneagles with regards to terrorism.

In July 2005, the British government launched the “Preventing Extremism Together” initiative, aimed at drawing on consultations with civil society to foster greater cross-cultural understanding, and discourage extremism, and terrorism across Great Britain.765 The British government also continued its commitment to the Counter Terrorism Programme of the Global Opportunities Fund initiative originally established by the Foreign Secretary in May 2003. This programme was implemented to help build international security capacity. In 2003, the British government committed twenty million pounds over the next three years, and fulfilled the final instalment of that commitment in 2005.766 Further, the British government was among the first signatories of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, signed at the United Nations on September 14 2005.767 Finally, British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced several changes to the grounds for expulsion and extradition with regards to terrorist activity, in an effort to restrict the mobility of both domestic and international terrorists through Britain.768

However, the British government has been unable to pass new counter-terrorism legislation through British parliament. The proposed legislation, introduced in October of 2005, gives greater provisions to law enforcement and intelligence agencies within the United Kingdom, by expanding search capabilities and extending the scope of terrorist laws beyond the borders of the United Kingdom. While the passing of this legislation would significantly raise the British government’s level of compliance with the commitments made at Gleneagles, the government was defeated in its attempt to pass this legislation, and as of January 2006 the status of the Terrorism Bill remains unclear. No new major initiatives have been announced to improve transportation safety (as per the SAFTI Agreement), in the interim period.

The United Kingdom is an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Jeff Claydon

8. United States: +1

The United States has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.

The United States is an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

According to the October 2005 edition of the National Security Strategy of the United States of America, published by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, one of ten so-called “Enterprise Objectives” for the American intelligence community is to “Establish new and strengthen existing foreign intelligence relationships to help us meet global security challenges.”

Also in October 2005, the United States established the National Clandestine Service (NCS) within the Central Intelligence Agency. According to an official press release, The NCS will serve as the national authority for the integration, coordination, deconfliction, and evaluation of human intelligence operations across the entire Intelligence Community.

The United States has additionally undertaken a series of bilateral initiatives to work with partner-states to develop counter-terrorist capacity and crack down on terrorist financing.

Analyst: Christopher Collins

9. European Union: +1

The European Union has thus far complied with its Gleneagles summit commitment to improve the sharing of information on the movements of terrorists crossing international borders.


A key priority of the EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy is “to pursue and investigate terrorists across our borders and globally” while continuing to “support the efforts of Member States to disrupt terrorists by encouraging the exchange of information and intelligence between them.” \(^{774}\) Member states are encouraged “to move from ad hoc to systematic” cooperation among police and judicial authorities through Europol, Eurojust, and establish Joint Investigation Teams for cross-border terrorist investigations. \(^{775}\) In addition, the EU Strategy stresses the importance of enhancing border security to make it more difficult for terrorists to operate in the EU. It proposes to use improvements in technology for the capture and exchange of passenger data and risk assessments from the European Borders Agency (Frontex) to strengthen its external borders. \(^{776}\)

The EU has also improved the sharing of information regarding the movement of terrorists across international borders in conjunction with its Action Plan to Combat Terrorism. The EU’s report on the Action Plan of 29 November 2005 indicates that cross-border cooperation has improved but recognizes the need to further increase the flow of information to Europol and Eurojust. National arrangements in the fight against terrorism have also been evaluated to identify best practices and enhance domestic efforts. \(^{777}\)

Finally, the EU has actively promoted international counter-terrorism efforts. In September 2005, all member states signed the UN Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. \(^{778}\) Member states assumed obligations to cooperate in preventing acts of terrorism that involve nuclear or radioactive material.

The EU continues to work towards the adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on international terrorism. \(^{779}\) A political dialogue on counter-terrorism has been maintained with the United States to address issues of transport security, law enforcement cooperation and terrorist financing. This dialogue has also been expanded to partners such as Australia, Canada, Russia, Israel and Japan. \(^{780}\)

The European Union was also present at the summit meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on 27 and 28 November 2005, where the EU and its southern Mediterranean partners confirmed the Euro-Mediterranean code of conduct on Countering Terrorism. As a part of this code of conduct, the EU and the states present declared they would “exchange information on a voluntary basis about terrorists and their support networks” and will “work bilaterally […] to disrupt [those] networks.” \(^{781}\)

The European Union is also an active member of the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), a working group made up of the G8 member states and several other countries that meets three times per year.

Analyst: Ashley Barnes

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