2003 Evian Interim Compliance Report Terrorism: Counter-Terrorism Action Group

Commitment:

2003-150: "The G8 will create a Counter-Terrorism Action Group, to focus on building political will, co-ordinating capacity building assistance where necessary. Other states, mainly donors, will be invited to join the group. A representative of the CTC will be invited to CTAG meetings. Representatives from relevant UN bodies, IFIs and other regional and functional organizations will be invited to relevant meetings (first meeting to be held by July 15)."

Background:

This commitment represents an effort on behalf of the international community – and particularly the G8 – to coordinate international counter-terrorism activities as a means of eradicating the root causes of terrorism world-wide and ensuring that a repeat of September 11, 2001 does not occur in the free world.

Assessment:

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Score		0	+1
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Russia			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union*			+1*
Overall			+1

Individual Country Compliance Breakdown:

Canada: +1

Canada's commitment to combating terrorism was reaffirmed in statements following the Asia Pacific Economic Coordination (APEC) Summit in November, 2003. Canada pledged to help with capacity-building in Southeast Asia which included a pledge to "increase and better coordinate counter-terrorism activities, where appropriate, through effective collaboration, technical assistance and capacity building between APEC's Counter-Terrorism Task Force, the Counter-Terrorism Action Group of the G8, the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee and other relevant international, regional and functional organizations".²⁹⁸ Canada

²⁹⁸ Action Group Against Terrorism, Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson, November 18, 2003 www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612

was also present at the 17 November 2003 CTAG meeting in Paris.²⁹⁹ This was confirmed in a phone conversation on 9 January 2003, with Cathleen Bryden of the International Crime and Terrorism Division at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, who also stated that Canada was present at the first meeting in July 2003.

2. France: +1

France has made some significant contributions to fulfilling their commitment. On 17 November 2003, Paris hosted the second session of the Counter-Terrorism Action Group. They issued a statement declaring the group's cooperation with specific actors, like the UNCTC for which Ambassador Inocencio Arrias was the representative, as well as Australia and Switzerland, indicating efforts to create capacities in non-G8 states. In this statement they also mentioned the date of the first session, which was held again in Paris on 2 July 2003, one month after the Evian Summit. The statement declared presence by all G8 member states and the European Commission, UNCTC, Switzerland and Australia.³⁰⁰ This meeting outlined two priorities: the need in the Southeast Asian countries and the technical support required in fighting terrorist financing.³⁰¹ Thus France has shown significant evidence of complying with its G8 obligations.

3. Germany: +1

The Counter-Terrorism Action Group held its second session in Paris, on 17 November 2003. Germany participated in the CTAG sessions with the other G8 members as well as Australia and Switzerland.³⁰² Germany has remained committed to counter-terrorism internationally. The German Bundestag [the lower house of the German parliament] agreed on 5 November 2003, to extend Germany's military commitment to operation "Enduring Freedom" for another year;³⁰³ the agreement entails the supply of up to 3,100 soldiers for the operation. ³⁰⁴ On 29 September 2003, Germany handed over control of Task Force 150 to France. This force supports the war against international terrorism under the aegis of operation "Enduring Freedom".³⁰⁵

German Minister of Defence, Dr. Peter Struck, declared on 7 November 2003, that the "containment of international Terrorism is in the foreseeable future the central security challenge of all democracies". Struck noted further that facing this challenge will require more than just a military component.³⁰⁶ The minister added that political, financial, and social elements are a part

²⁹⁹ Ibid. This information was echoed in a phone conversation on January 9th, 2004 with Cathleen Bryden of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs International Crime and Terrorism Division.

³⁰⁰ Action Group Against Terrorism, Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson, November 18, 2003 www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612

 ³⁰¹ Action Group Against Terrorism, Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson, November 18, 2003 www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612
³⁰² Ministère des Affaires étrangères, 'Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson," November 18,

³⁰² Ministère des Affaires étrangères, 'Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson," November 18, 2003 www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612

³⁰³ German Federal Government and Chancellor (Bundesregierung), "Einsatz der Bundeswehr innerhalb von "Enduring Freedom," November 5, 2003, www.bundesregierung.de/Nachrichten-,417.65262/artikel/Einsatz-der-Bundeswehr-innerha.htm.

³⁰⁴ Ibid.

³⁰⁵ Ibid.

³⁰⁶ German Federal Ministry of Defence (Bundesverteidigungsministerium), "Verlängerung von Enduring Freedum -Rede des Bundesminister für Verteidigung, Dr. Peter Struck, am 07.11.2003 im Reichstag (Bundestagsdebatte)," Novermber 7, 2003, www.bmvg.de/archiv/reden/minister/031107_ef.php

of confronting international terrorism. The German role in Afghanistan is a key component of Germany's commitment to the task of international cooperation against terrorism. German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer noted in an 20 November 2003 address at Princeton University, that the United Nations continues to play a "key role" in the fight against international terrorism.³⁰⁷

Germany supports a concerted global effort to addressing the challenge of international terrorism. Dual support of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee [CTC], and the multilateral operation "Enduring Freedom" are convincing evidence of German compliance with the G8 commitment. However, the Federal government needs to increase its dissemination of public information pertaining to the role it plays in countering terrorism.

4. Italy: +1

The Counter-Terrorism Action Group held its second session in Paris, on 17 November 2003. Italy participated in the CTAG sessions with the other G8 members as well as Australia and Switzerland.³⁰⁸ Under the guidance of the Italian presidency of the European Union [EU], the EU Commission has put forward several proposals aimed at eliminating legal loopholes in the EU regarding terrorist offences.³⁰⁹ Furthermore, a declaration issued by the Italian EU Presidency on 11 September 2003 confirmed the EU's commitment to the fight against terrorism.³¹⁰

In recent months, Italy has received international media attention over a series of terrorist threats, attacks, and arrests of suspects. On 24 June 2003 authorities in Italy launched several police raids resulting in the arrests of six people suspected of ties to international terrorism.³¹¹ A terrorist attack on 18 November 2003 resulted in Italy suffering its single worst military loss since World War II. The attack killed 17 Italian soldiers in Iraq.³¹² Furthermore, prosecutors in Milan issued five arrest warrants against suspected militants on 29 November 2003.³¹³

Although the terrorist attack of 18 November 2003 was a catastrophic loss for a country whose government supported the war in Iraq, and whose people largely opposed it, Italy has remained committed to international efforts that fight terrorism.³¹⁴ The Italian government continues to support the U.S. led operation "Enduring Freedom" and remains active in the EU's regional

³⁰⁷ Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, "Fischer fordert neue strategische Allianz," November 20, 2003,

www.faz.net/s/Rub28FC768942F34C5B8297CC6E16FFC8B4/Doc~EC24D73F755CE4B2488E788BE342B83BD~ ATpl~Ecommon~Scontent.html

³⁰⁸ Ministère des Affaires étrangères, 'Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson," November 18, 2003,www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612

³⁰⁹ EurActiv – Security & Defence, "Fight against terrorism," November 6, 2003, www.euractiv.com/cgibin/cgipt.exe²204& OIDN=2000466& home=home

bin/cgint.exe?204&OIDN=2000466&-home=home

³¹⁰ The U.S. Mission to the E.U., "Declaration by the Italian EU Presidency on the Sept. 11 Anniversary, Sept. 11, 2003 www.usen.he/Terrorism/EUPactores/Sept1102EUDaclarationSept11 html" October 20, 2003

²⁰⁰³ www.useu.be/Terrorism/EUResponse/Sept1103EUDeclarationSept11.html" October 29, 2003

³¹¹ CNN World, "Six seized in Italy terror sweep," June 24, 2003,

www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/europe/06/24/italy.arrests/index.html

³¹² The Guardian, 25 killed in Iraq blast, November 12, 2003,

www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,1083284,00.html

³¹³ CNN World, "Italy terror suspects arrested," November 29, 2003,

www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/europe/11/29/italy.terror/

³¹⁴ Associated Press, "Italy Vows to Keep Up Terror Fight," November 12, 2003 www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,102884,00.html

counter-terrorism efforts. Italy has complied with its summit commitments pertaining to terrorism.

5. Japan: +1

Since the creation of the Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG) at the Evian Summit, Japan has participated in both meetings of the CTAG that have taken place so far.³¹⁵ Japan has also reaffirmed its commitment to the work and success of the CTAG through various declarations and statements.

In the context of the Second Japan-Russian Consultations on Counter-Terrorism, held in Moscow on 23 and 24 June 2003, Japan has emphasized "the need for the international community, under the leading role of the United Nations, to further consolidate its efforts for the prevention of international terrorism and in the fight against international terrorism".³¹⁶ This indicates Japan's understanding of the importance of close cooperation between the CTAG and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee (UNCTC) in the fight against terrorism. A further indication of this is the affirmation made by the Head of the Japanese Delegation, Ambassador in Charge of International Counter-Terrorism Takahiko Horimura of Japan's intention to work towards strengthening counter- terrorism measures at the bilateral level, but also within the framework of multilateral organizations and forums such as the United Nations, G8 (CTAG), APEC and ARF.³¹⁷ Horimura also affirmed the importance of improving counter-terrorism capabilities in developing countries.³¹⁸ This statement indicates the complementary nature of Japan's counter-terrorism policy with the CTAG's current work in the area of counter-terrorism capacity building in southeast Asia.

Japan's commitment to the work of the CTAG as it relates to the UNCTC was also expressed by His Excellency Mr. Koichi Haraguchi, Permanent Representative of Japan at the United Nations. In a speech at the 23 July 2003 Public Meeting of the Security Council on Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts, he reiterated the importance of a show of political will on the part of the international community "to take forceful counterterrorism measures, and to have the capacity to implement them".³¹⁹ Haraguchi also stated that "it is increasingly more important that assistance for capacity-building be extended to developing countries, and Japan greatly appreciates the clearing-house function performed by the [UN]CTC in this regard".³²⁰ Finally, Haraguchi also reported that, "Japan, as a member of the G8 and CTAG, continues to cooperate in the activities of the [UN]CTC".³²¹ These statements indicate

³¹⁵ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, "Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson," Paris, July 1, 2003. www.france.diplomatie.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?ART=35849; see also: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, "Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson," Paris, November 18, 2003. www.france.diplomatie.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?ART=38612

³¹⁶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, "Joint Press Statement by Japan and the Russian Federation of the Results of the Japan-Russian Consultations on Counter-Terrorism." www.mofa.go.jp/region/europe/russia/consult0306.html ³¹⁷ Ibid.

³¹⁸ Ibid.

³¹⁹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, "At the Public Meeting of the Security Council on Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts." Statement by H.E. Mr. Koichi Haraguchi, Permanent Representative of Japan at the United Nations. www.mofa.go.jp/announce/speech/un0307-3.html

³²⁰ Ibid.

³²¹ Ibid.

that Japanese foreign policy is congruent with the work of the CTAG. Japanese government statements in support of the work of the UNCTC and Japanese backing of G8-UNCTC cooperation mirror the mandate of the CTAG, which provides for cooperation with the UNCTC in the work of international counter-terrorism capacity building.

Also in accordance with the CTAG mandate, Japan has contributed to fostering multilateral cooperation between CTAG and regional organizations of which it is also a member, such as APEC. At the 20 August 2003 meeting of APEC's Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF) in Phuket, Thailand, Japan briefed the gathered diplomats on the outcomes of the first CTAG meeting in Paris, which took place on 2 July 2003.³²² Japan participated, along with other G8 CTAG representatives, in reaching an agreement of cooperation between the CTTF and CTAG.³²³ As this agreement includes an invitation for CTAG to attend future CTTF meetings,³²⁴ it is an important one for the work of CTAG, as it will permit the latter to better coordinate its work in capacity-building within APEC countries, specifically South East Asia. As a member of both APEC and the G8, Japan's contribution to CTAG in the context of such cooperation should prove significant.

6. Russia: +1

The Russian Federation has complied with its G8 commitment to build international political will and capacity to combat terrorism through the institution of the CTAG. Addressing the press immediately following the Evian Summit, Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin iterated Russia's support for the new counter-terrorism body, saying "the Evian meeting on the whole will help strengthen the international antiterrorist coalition, for we understand that the success of the struggle against terror hinges directly on our unity and on the effectiveness of our combined efforts. Set up by a decision of the summit, the G8 group on antiterrorist actions is designed to become a serious instrument; its activities will be closely linked with the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council, the main coordinator for the efforts of the world community in this field. I must say that Russia is disposed to actively participate in the work of the new body, and it is only logical that the main focus on our part will be on the CIS space and the zone of operation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization".³²⁵

In a statement released on 23 June 2003, the Russian Federation, along with Japan, "affirmed the importance of improving counter-terrorism capabilities in developing countries. In this connection, the two sides shared the view on the importance of cooperation through the Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), the establishment of which was decided at the G8 Evian

Russian American Nuclear Security Council. June 3 2003.

www.ransac.org/Official%20 Documents/Russian%20 Government/Russian%20 President/1162003103548 AM.html

³²² Taiwan Institute of Transportation. "Report on the Second Meeting of the Counter Terrorism Task Force, Phuket, Thailand, 20 August, 2003." www.google.ca/search?q=cache:-reIhEpJ8LYJ:www.iot.gov.tw/apec_tptwg/TPT/tptmain/Archives/tpt-wg22/Hod/CTTF-Report-SOM-III-draft2.doc+CTAG+G8&hl=en&ie=UTF-8 ³²³ Ibid.

³²⁴ Ibid.

³²⁵ Russian President Vladimir Putin Remarks at Press Conference Following Group of Eight Heads of State and Government Meeting, Evian, France, June 3, 2003 (excerpted)

Summit".³²⁶ CTAG was again welcomed by the Russian Federation at the 15 th APEC Ministerial meeting in late October 2003. At the APEC meeting, the Ministers "welcomed the cooperative efforts of economies and APEC for to develop targeted capacity building programs, responding to the specific needs contained in the Counter Terrorism Action Plans, to help developing economies implement Leaders' counter-terrorism commitments. In this context, Ministers welcomed the possibility of technical cooperation, where appropriate, with IFIs and relevant international, regional and functional organizations, including the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee the G8 Counter-Terrorism Action Group, ASEAN and the OECD Financial Action Task Force".³²⁷ The Russian Federation, and all other APEC members then agreed to "increase and better coordinate our counter-terrorism activities, where appropriate, through effective collaboration, technical assistance and capacity building, and cooperation between APEC's Counter Terrorism Task Force, the Counter Terrorism Action Group (CTAG) of the G8, the United Nations Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee and other relevant international, regional and functional organizations".³²⁸ Representatives from the Russian Federation were also present at CTAG's second session on 17 November 2003.³²⁹ Through these commitments, Russia has reaffirmed its support for G8 counter terrorism efforts.

7. United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has committed to the G8 action plan to build international political will and capacity to combat terrorism and to the establishment of a G8 Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG) to help build this will and capacity. Counter-terrorism (CT) is the first of six thematic programmes funded by the U.K. Foreign and Commonwealth Office's (FCO) Global Opportunities Fund (GOF). Making the "the world safer from global terrorism and weapons of mass destruction" is the first of the FCO's designated "highest strategic international priorities for the U.K" ³³⁰ and the GOF Counter terrorism programme aims to uphold this strategic pillar, having a stated programme objective "[t]o support the FCO's Strategic Objective No.1: To increase international capacity to Counter Terrorism (CT) and other threats in support of UK bilateral and multilateral security objectives".³³¹

The GOF CT programme will, *inter alia*, "seek to support sustainable CT relationships with key countries to develop their long-term counter-terrorism capacity" by providing them with bilateral operational CT assistance.³³² Also, the GOF CT programme will provide "UNSCR 1373 CT

³²⁶ Joint Press Statement by Japan and the Russian Federation on the Results of the Japan-Russian Consultations on Counter-Terrorism. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. June 2003.

www.mofa.go.jp/region/europe/russia/consult0306.html

³²⁷ 2003 15th APEC Ministerial Meeting: Joint Statement Summary of Key Issues. APEC. October 2003. www.apecsec.org.sg/apec/ministerial_statements/annual_ministerial/2003_15th_apec_ministerial.html

 ³²⁸ Bangkok Declaration on Partnership for the Future. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.
October 21 2003. www.ln.mid.ru/Ns-dipecon.nsf/arh/97A48FB7BF2B4FD343256DD5002A3794?OpenDocument
³²⁹ Action Group Against Terrorism: Statements by the [French] Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson. French

Ministry of Foreign Affairs. November 18, 2003. www.france.diplomatie.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?ART=38612 ³³⁰ A Strategy for the FCO: Highlights. Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom.

www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1067967903739 ³³¹ Global Opportunities Fund: Counter Terrorism Programme. Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom. Last Modified Dec 12 2003.

www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1070989563678 ³³² Ibid.

Assistance: In support of the work of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, assistance programmes are delivered to raise global standards of CT capacity in the areas of CT legislation, combating the financing of terrorism, charity regulation, border control and counter-proliferation".³³³ The United Kingdom has committed to the programme £3.2 million for fiscal year 2003/2004 and £6.2 million for fiscal year 2004/2005.³³⁴

At the second session, on 17 November 2003, of the newly formed G8 Counter-Terrorism Action Group (CTAG), the two main issues on the agenda were: "the need in the South East Asian countries [for CT aide] and two, technical assistance in the fight against terrorism financing".³³⁵ The United Kingdom was present and participated in both these talks, and both South East Asian countries and "combating the financing of terrorism" are key target areas/themes for the UK's GOF CT programme.³³⁶

By supporting and working with the United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee and seeking to build CT capacity abroad, the United Kingdom is meeting its Evian commitments to help build up international political will and capacity to combat terrorism. These commitments are similar to many of the goals of the newly formed CTAG group.

8. United States: +1

The United States has made significant strides to fulfil their goals addressing terrorism. In a joint statement with the EU following the Evian Summit, the US committed to enhancing the coordination of intelligence with their allies, as well as speeding up the extradition of suspects and improving their capacities to share information on suspected terrorists' bank accounts.³³⁷ The US has also pushed for capacity building in South East Asia and committed US\$5.4 million towards combating money laundering and terrorist financing.³³⁸ APEC's members also endorsed a US proposal to have APEC's Counter-Terrorism Task Force collaborate with the G8 Counter-Terrorism Action Group³³⁹, the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee and other relevant international, regional and functional organizations.³⁴⁰ Through these actions, the US has consistently confirmed its support for the global struggle to combat terrorism.

9. European Union: +1*

In a joint statement made by the European Commission and the United States, the EU outlined its commitments to combating terrorist financing as well as coordinating efforts to best address

³³³ Ibid.

³³⁴ Ibid.

³³⁵ Action Group Against Terrorism: Statements by the [French] Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson. French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. November 18 3003. www.france.diplomatie.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?ART=38612

³³⁶ Global Opportunities Fund: Counter Terrorism Programme. Last Modified Dec 12 2003.

www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1070989563678 ³³⁷ President Bush, European Leaders act to fight Global Terror

www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/06/20030625-12.html, The Fight Against Terrorism, ue.eu.int/dynadoc/news_search

³³⁸ Fact Sheet: New APEC Initiatives on Counterterrorism, usembassy.state.gov/Islamabad/wwwh03102202.html ³³⁹ Ibid.

³⁴⁰ app1.chinadaily.com.cn/star/2003/1023/cn9-1.html; Canada - APEC www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-apec/apec_declaration-en.asp

the problem.³⁴¹ The European Commission was also present at the 17 November 2003 CTAG meeting in Paris.³⁴² In a Justice and Home Affairs Council Meeting in Brussels on 2–3 October 2003 the EU stated its commitment to establishing Multinational Ad Hoc Teams for Exchanging Information on Terrorists, which would identify "best practices" for identifying, isolating, and monitoring potential terrorist activity to prevent attack, while respecting the national laws of EU Member States.³⁴³ The EU has also continued to complete regional terrorist threat analyses, and claims the process is ongoing.³⁴⁴ The EU has also "acted swiftly by establishing a strategy for providing additional and focused projects on technical assistance to a number of third countries facilitating the implementation of UNSCR 1373 and other relevant international obligations".³⁴⁵ The EU continues to examine the possibilities of contributing to the "programmes in the field of the fight against terrorism of regional organizations such as OSCE and ASEAN"³⁴⁶, once again addressing the goal of increased coordination and specifically targeting Southeast Asia's need. The Commission continues work on "the freezing of funds and economic resources with a view to preventing the financing of terrorism".³⁴⁷ In a fact sheet published by the EU following the EU-US Summit in Washington on 25 June 2003, the EU declared a New Strategy on "technical assistance to third countries, including the mainstreaming of counter-terrorism assistance within longer-term assistance programmes as well as targeted help to a small number of pilot countries" (Philippines, Pakistan, Indonesia).³⁴⁸ Through these clear initiatives, as well as the above actions undertaken by the individual G8 EU member states, the EU has shown its adherence to the commitments outlined at the Evian summit.

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³⁴¹ The Fight Against Terrorism, ue.eu.int/dynadoc/news_search

³⁴² Action Group Against Terrorism, Statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson, November 18th, 2003 www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/article.gb.asp?art=38612

³⁴³ Background- Justice and Home Affairs Council Meeting Brussels, 2–3 October, 2003 ue.eu.int/newsroom

³⁴⁴ Presidency Conclusions – Thessaloniki, 19–20 June 2003 ue.eu.int/newsroom

³⁴⁵ Ibid.

³⁴⁶ Ibid.

³⁴⁷ Ibid.

³⁴⁸ The Fight Against Terrorism, ue.eu.int/dynadoc/news_search