

Summary

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There was considerable, albeit not unanimous, agreement on the following points which, taken together, could comprise a successful outcome of an L-20 meeting on terrorism.

A. Declaratory

- A clash of civilizations is not inevitable
- Terrorism is never justified
- Terrorism is not monolithic
- To be effective, terrorism must be disaggregated into groups and dealt with via tailor-made responses
- Defeating Al Qaeda, as a global manifestation of Islamist extremism, is both necessary but not sufficient to ensure international security
- Preventing nuclear terrorism is by far the greatest prospective danger and is an absolute priority
- Home-based, defensive efforts are advisable against the prospect that offensive efforts do not fully succeed.
- Economically developed countries should cooperate to ensure that less developed countries have adequate capacity to assure their own security.
- The protection of human rights is a strategic necessity in diminishing grievance and winning hearts and minds
- Addressing root causes, notably by implementing the Millennium Development Goals, is a necessity, longer term
- Promoting economic development and good governance serves security as well as economic goals

B. Action items

L-20 members agree to cooperate to:

1. establish a network of ministers to promote cooperation on counter-terrorism policies
2. to promote “dual benefit” initiatives, in particular to enhance the capacity of national and international medical and health systems to respond effectively to potential communicable diseases and bio-terrorism.
3. similarly to cooperate in enhancing national and international transportation security, both to enhance customs capability and to safeguard goods transport
4. appoint a distinguished senior figure as a personal representative to lead the national effort to prevent nuclear terrorism and to liaise with L20 counterparts to promote international cooperation
5. to establish a network of homeland security ministers to enhance effectiveness in safeguarding strategic national systems
6. to cooperate on intelligence matters, notably in exchanging assessments of common threats and emerging dangers
7. to support the reform of the UN system, particularly as regards the prevention of terrorism, including by safeguarding human rights and by counter-terrorism capacity-building