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Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to join today's briefing and I thank USG Voronkov for inviting me.

As we continue to face complex and unprecedented challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the vulnerabilities exposed and intensified by the crisis have

Last year, while COVID

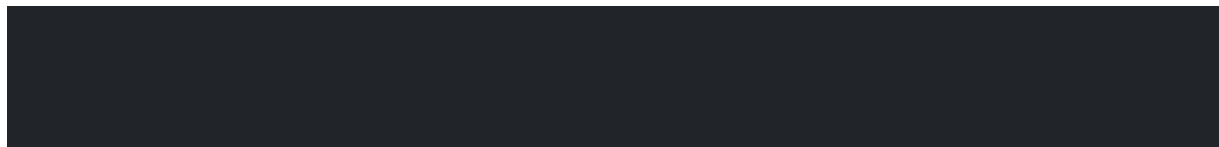
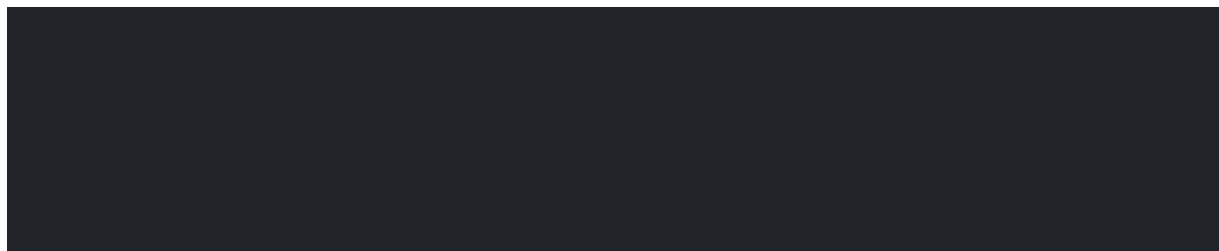
The strategy will be supported by a new Strategic Vision for Africa, which highlights the need to protect all Africans, and in particular vulnerable people, from terrorism and violent extremism, as a key area for international investment.

Allow me to highlight some of the advances that have been made in the region with UNODC support. In the Sahel, we have reinforced capacities of criminal justice actors, notably in Niger and in Mali, to collect and share information from the battlefield, to be used as evidence in courts. We are soon to launch a similar project for Burkina Faso.

In Mali, we have also been supporting the drafting of a revised Criminal Procedure Code, together with MINUSMA and other UN agencies.

In Mozambique, UNODC agreed on a roadmap with and for the country, which includes a component on terrorism prevention, and supported criminal justice capacities, including in the vulnerable region of Cabo Delgado.

Alongside these efforts, UNODC is also developing a strategic vision for Latin America and the Caribbean , and we have a new partnership framework that will



-terrorism; that can meet tomorrow's

