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**INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS TAKEN  
BY THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA  
TO COMBAT TERRORISM**

**MARCH 2004**

Following the horrific events of September 11, an international coalition composed of more than 100 nations was formed to combat terrorism. Saudi Arabia is an active partner in this coalition and has been working diligently with the United States and other nations to destroy terrorist organizations and eliminate the threat they pose to the international community.

Saudi Arabia, as the birthplace and cradle of Islam, has a very special role to play in the war on terrorism. Its opposition to Al-Qaeda's hateful ideology sends a clear message to the world that these extremists and their cult do not represent the peaceful Islamic religion. This stand has unfortunately made the Kingdom even more of a target, but the people of Saudi Arabia are determined not to let terrorism destroy their country or corrupt their faith.

The attached report is a compilation of the Kingdom's counter-terror efforts to date. The people of Saudi Arabia remain staunch allies of the international community in its campaign against terrorism.

In its efforts to confront terrorism, Saudi Arabia has:

- Questioned thousands of suspects
- Arrested more than 600 individuals
- Dismantled a number of Al-Qaeda cells
- Seized large quantities of arms caches
- Extradited suspects from other countries
- Established joint task forces with the United States

*I vow to my fellow citizens and to the friends who reside among us, that the State will be vigilant about their security and well-being. Our nation is capable, by the Grace of God Almighty and the unity of its citizens, to confront and destroy the threat posed by a deviant few and those who endorse or support them. With the help of God Almighty, we shall prevail.*

Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard, May 13, 2003

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## ARRESTS AND QUESTIONING OF SUSPECTS

Saudi intelligence and law enforcement authorities have been working closely with the United States and other countries as well as with Interpol to identify, question and when appropriate, arrest suspects. Since September 11, Saudi Arabia has questioned thousands of suspects and arrested more than 600 individuals with suspected ties to terrorism.

### **Specific Actions:**

- On February 22, 2004, the Ministry of Interior confirmed the death of A'amir Mohsin Moreef Al Zaidan Alshihri, who was on the December 6 list of wanted terrorist suspects. He died some time after being wounded during a clash with police in Riyadh on November 6, 2003. The body was recently recovered from where it was buried, just outside the city, and DNA tests proved that it was Alshihri.
- On January 30, 2004, Saudi Arabia honored six security men and one civilian who were killed during a counter-terrorism operation. Since May of last year, 16 members of Saudi security forces have been killed and 31 injured in counter-terrorism operations.
- On January 30, 2004, the Ministry of Interior announced that security forces had stormed a rest house in Al-Siliye district in the east of the city of Riyadh, arrested seven suspects and seized a number of items including a car rigged with explosives, five rocket-propelled grenade launchers, seven machine guns, 11 pistols, five hand grenades, 21 detonators, military uniforms, and ammunition.
- On January 12, 2004, the Ministry of Interior announced that, over the past six months, large quantities of ammunition and weapons have been seized. The total weight of confiscated explosives is 23,893 kilograms. In addition, 301 rocket-propelled grenades together with launchers, 431 homemade grenades, 304 explosive belts (ready for use by suicide bombers), 674 detonators, 1,020 small arms and 352,398 rounds of ammunition were confiscated. The Ministry of

Interior also called on everyone in Saudi Arabia to cooperate in fighting terrorism and extremism.

- On December 30, 2003, Mansoor Mohammad Ahmad Faqeesh, whose name had been published in a December 6 list of 26 wanted terrorist suspects, surrendered to security authorities.
- On December 8, 2003, the Ministry of Interior announced that Ibrahim Mohammad Abdullah Alrayis, whose name was on the December 6 list, had been killed by security forces. The Ministry statement praised citizens' cooperation with the security forces, who are pursuing those wanted and those who are trying to undermine the country's security and safety.
- On December 6, 2003, the Ministry of Interior published the names and photos of 26 suspects wanted by security forces in connection with the terrorist incidents that have taken place in the Kingdom in the past few months, urging them to surrender to the authorities. The Ministry called on all citizens and residents to report information they may have about any of the wanted suspects. Immediate financial rewards of up to \$1.9 million are being offered for information leading to the arrest of any wanted suspect, or any other terrorist elements and cells.
- On November 26, 2003, a suspected terrorist was arrested. The suspect's hiding place was linked to the terrorist cell involved in the November 9 car bombing at the Al-Muhaya residential complex in Riyadh. Search of the hiding place revealed large quantities of arms and documents. Items discovered by security forces include one SAM-7 surface to air missile, five rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 384 kilogram of the powerful explosive RDX, 89 detonators, 20 hand grenades, eight AK-47 assault rifles, 41 AK-47 magazines, and 16,800 rounds of ammunition. Also recovered were four wireless communication devices, three computers, computer disks and CDs, and SR 94,395 in cash, as well as numerous identity cards and leaflets calling for the perpetration of acts of terror.
- On November 25, 2003, a car bomb plot was foiled in Riyadh. The encounter with security forces led to the deaths of two wanted terrorist suspects:

Abdulmohsin Abdulaziz Alshabanat, who was killed in the exchange of fire, and Mosaed Mohammad Dheedan Alsobaiee, who committed suicide by detonating the hand grenade he was carrying. The vehicle that was seized was loaded with explosives and camouflaged as a military vehicle.

- On November 20, 2003, Abdullah bin Atiyyah bin Hudeid Al-Salami surrendered to security authorities. He was wanted for suspected terrorist activities.
- On November 6, 2003, security forces investigating a suspected terrorist cell in the Al-Suwaidi district of the city of Riyadh came under fire from the suspects, who attempted to flee while attacking security forces with machine guns and bombs. In the exchange of fire, one terrorist was killed and eight of the security officers suffered minor injuries. On the same day, in the Al-Shara'ei district of the city of Makkah, two terrorist suspects, who were surrounded by security forces, used home-made bombs to blow themselves up. Their suicide followed a firefight during which they refused to surrender when requested by the security officers.
- On November 3, 2003, Saudi police arrested six suspected Al-Qaeda militants after a shootout in the holy city of Makkah in Saudi Arabia. The raid on an apartment triggered a shootout that left two suspected terrorists dead, and one security officer wounded.
- On October 20, 2003, security forces raided several terrorist cells in various parts of the country, including the city of Riyadh, the Al-Majma'a District in Riyadh Province, Makkah Province, the Jeddah District of Makkah Province, and Qasim Province. Security forces confiscated items including C4 plastic explosives, home-made bombs, gas masks, and large quantities of assault rifles and ammunition.
- On October 8, 2003, security forces raided a farm in the northern Muleda area of Qasim Province and were able to arrest a suspect. Three other suspects fled the scene. Two security officers suffered injuries.
- On October 5, 2003, security forces arrested three suspects during a raid in the desert to the east of Riyadh.

- On September 23, 2003, security forces surrounded a group of suspected terrorists in an apartment in the city of Jizan. During a gun battle, one security officer was killed and four officers injured. Two suspects were arrested and one killed. The suspects were armed with machine guns and pistols and a large quantity of ammunition.
- On July 28, 2003, security forces killed six terrorist suspects and injured one in a gunfight at a farm in Qasim Province, 220 miles north of the capital, Riyadh. Two security officers were killed and eight suffered minor injuries. Four people who harbored the suspects were arrested.
- On July 25, 2003, three men were arrested at a checkpoint in Makkah for possessing printed material that included a “religious edict” in support of terrorist acts against Western targets.
- On July 21, 2003, the Minister of Interior announced that Saudi authorities had defused terrorist operations which were about to be carried out against vital installations and arrested 16 members of a number of terrorist cells after searching their hideouts in farms and houses in Riyadh Province, Qasim Province and the Eastern Province. In addition, underground storage facilities were found at these farms and homes containing bags, weighing over 20 tons, filled with chemicals used in the making of explosives.
- On July 3, 2003, Turki Nasser Mishaal Aldandany, a top Al-Qaeda operative and one of the masterminds of the May 12 bombings, was killed along with three other suspects in a gun battle with security forces that had them surrounded.
- On June 26, 2003, Ali Abdulrahman Said Alfaghi Al-Ghamdi, a.k.a. Abu Bakr Al-Azdi, surrendered to Saudi authorities. Al-Ghamdi, considered one of the top Al-Qaeda operatives in Saudi Arabia, is suspected of being one of the masterminds of the May 12 bombings in Riyadh.
- On June 14, 2003, security forces raided a terrorist cell in the Alattas building in the Khalidiya neighborhood of Makkah. Two Saudi police officers and five suspects were killed in a shootout. Twelve suspects were arrested, and a number

of booby-trapped Qur'ans and 72 home-made bombs, in addition to weapons, ammunition, and masks were confiscated.

- On May 31, 2003, Yousif Salih Fahad Al-Ayeeri, a.k.a. Swift Sword, a major Al-Qaeda operational planner and fundraiser, was killed while fleeing from a security patrol.
- On May 27-28, 2003, eleven suspects were taken into custody in the city of Madinah. Weapons, false identity cards and bomb-making materials were confiscated. In addition, Saudi national Abdulmonim Ali Mahfouz Al-Ghamdi was arrested, following a car chase. Three non-Saudi women without identity cards, who were in the car he was driving, were detained.
- In May 2003, three clerics, Ali Fahd Al-Khudair, Ahmed Hamoud Mufreh Al-Khaledi and Nasir Ahmed Al-Fuhaid, were arrested after calling for support of the terrorists who carried out the Riyadh attacks. In November 2003, Ali Fahd Al-Khudair recanted his religious opinions on Saudi TV. Shortly after, a second cleric, Nasir Ahmed Al-Fuhaid, recanted and withdrew his religious opinions describing them as a “grave mistake”. On December 16, 2003, Ahmed Hamoud Mufreh Al-Khaledi became the third cleric to recant on national television.
- Saudi Arabia has provided extensive intelligence and military cooperation in the assault on Al-Qaeda. Given the sensitivity of these operations, disclosure of specific actions or the nature of Saudi cooperation in these areas has intentionally been limited. However, public disclosures to date have revealed major Saudi contributions to the breakup of a number of Al-Qaeda cells, the arrests of key Al-Qaeda commanders, and the capture of numerous Al-Qaeda members.
- In June 2002, Saudi Arabia successfully negotiated with Iran for the extradition of 16 suspected Al-Qaeda members.
- In June 2002, Saudi Arabia asked Interpol to arrest 750 people, many of whom are suspected of money laundering, drug trafficking, and terror-related activities. This figure includes 214 Saudis whose names appear in Interpol's database in addition to expatriates who fled Saudi Arabia.

- In early 2002, Saudi intelligence and law enforcement agencies identified and arrested a cell composed of seven individuals linked to Al-Qaeda who were planning to carry out terrorist attacks against vital sites in the Kingdom. The cell leader was extradited from the Sudan. This cell was responsible for the attempt to shoot down American military planes at Prince Sultan Airbase using a shoulder-launched surface-to-air missile.

## **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Multilateral cooperation is essential in order to successfully defeat terrorism. Saudi Arabia has supported many international and regional efforts in the fight against terrorism through multilateral and bilateral agreements. The Kingdom is committed to working closely with the European, Asian and U.S. governments, and with the United Nations, to ensure that information is shared as quickly and effectively as possible.

### **Specific Actions:**

- U.S. Secretary of Treasury John W. Snow said on January 22, 2004: “The United States, Saudi Arabia, and our other partners around the globe have spoken out loud and clear - terrorism has no place in a civilized world. We will continue to work with Saudi Arabia and all our allies in the war against terror to seek out those who bankroll terrorist organizations and shut them down.”
- President George W. Bush said on November 22, 2003: “Crown Prince Abdullah is an honest man...And he has told me that we are joined in fighting off the terrorist organizations which threatened the Kingdom and they threaten the United States, and he's delivering.”
- SAMA has also created a committee to carry out self-assessment for compliance with the FATF recommendations and these self-assessment questionnaires have been submitted. The FATF conducted a mutual evaluation on September 21 – 25, 2003.

- Attorney General John Ashcroft commended Saudi Arabia's efforts in the war on terrorism and stated, on August 29, 2003: "I believe that progress is being made and I think not only that it (cooperation) is good but it continues to improve."
- Saudi Arabia and the United States established a second joint task force in August 2003, this one aimed at combating the financing of terror. The task force, which was initiated by Crown Prince Abdullah, is further indication of the Kingdom's commitment to the war on terrorism and its close cooperation with the United States in eradicating terrorists and their supporters.
- In May 2003, a Saudi-U.S. task force was organized from across law enforcement and intelligence agencies to work side by side to share "real time" intelligence and conduct joint operations in the fight against terrorism. The U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Robert Jordan, described the cooperation of Saudi investigators with the U.S. law enforcement representatives as "superb".
- On April 30, 2003, Ambassador Cofer Black, Coordinator for Counterterrorism, released the Annual Patterns of Global Terrorism 2002 report and stated that "The Saudi Government has made significant strides, certainly in the last year. They are a strong partner in the war on terrorism. In the past several months, we have made significant strides in our counterterrorism cooperation. The Saudi Government continues to work with us in identifying and working to counter al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups...In recent months, I've made two separate trips to Saudi Arabia to work with senior officials. This is, in part, what we believe to be a long-term pattern of close coordination on terrorism issues."
- Saudi Arabia redeployed Special Forces to enhance security and counter-terrorism efforts.
- Saudi Arabia maintains close relationships with the intelligence and law enforcement agencies of many other nations intensifying counter-terrorism cooperation.
- Saudi government departments and banks are required to participate in international seminars, conferences and symposia on combating terrorist financing activities. Saudi Arabia has also hosted many seminars, conferences and symposia on combating

terrorism; and is a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) established by the G-7 in 1988.

- In 2002, Saudi Arabia completed and submitted two FATF self-assessment questionnaires: one regarding the 40 FATF recommendations on the prevention of money laundering and the other regarding its eight special recommendations on terrorist financing.
- SAMA exchanges information on activities related to money laundering and terrorist financing with other banking supervisory authorities and with law enforcement agencies.
- Saudi Arabia has appointed Price Waterhouse Coopers as advisors for the FATF Mutual Evaluation and the IMF-sponsored FSAP examination. In addition, the Kingdom has appointed an executive task force representing SAMA and other government agencies for a successful outcome of these evaluations.

## **ACTIONS TAKEN WITH REGARD TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS**

Charitable giving is an important part of Islam and there are thousands of legitimate charities throughout the Middle East. Since September 11, Saudi Arabia has conducted a thorough review of its charitable organizations and has made a number of specific changes.

### **Specific Actions:**

- On February 27, 2004, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd bin Abdulaziz issued a royal order approving the creation of the Saudi National Commission for Relief and Charity Work Abroad, which, in order to eliminate any misdeed that might undermine Saudi charitable operations, is charged exclusively with responsibility for all donations and contributions outside the Kingdom.
- On January 29, 2004, one week after Saudi Arabia and the United States requested the designation of four branch offices of the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation, the United Nations Security Council announced that Al-Haramain's offices in Indonesia, Pakistan,

Kenya and Tanzania had been added to its consolidated list of terrorists tied to Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban. Now that these offices are under UN sanctions, member states are obligated to take legal action against them.

- On January 22, 2004, Crown Prince Abdullah's Foreign Affairs Advisor Adel Al-Jubeir and Secretary of the Treasury John Snow held a joint press conference in Washington, DC to announce that Saudi Arabia and the United States had asked the UN Sanctions Committee to designate four branch offices of the Al-Haramain Foundation as financial supporters of terrorism. The branches are located in Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan and Indonesia and subject to the laws and regulations of those countries.
- On December 22, 2003, Saudi Arabia and the United States took steps to designate two organizations as financiers of terrorism under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1267 (1999). These organizations are the Bosnia-based Vazir and the Liechtenstein-based Hochburg AG. Mr. Safet Durguti, a representative of the Vazir organization, has also been designated under the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions as a terrorist financier. This was the third joint action taken against terrorist financing by the United States Treasury Department and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- In May 2003, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) distributed an update entitled "Rules Governing Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Terrorist Financing" to all banks and financial institutions in Saudi Arabia requiring the full and immediate implementation of nine new policies and procedures. The new regulations include:
  - All bank accounts of charitable or welfare societies must be consolidated into a single account for each such society. SAMA may give permission for a subsidiary account if necessary, but such an account can only be used to receive, not to withdraw or transfer, funds.
  - Deposits in these accounts will be accepted only after the depositor provides the bank with identification and all other required information for verification.
  - No ATM cards or credit cards can be issued for these accounts. No cash withdrawals are permitted from the charitable institution's account, and all checks

and drafts are to be in favor of legitimate beneficiaries and for deposits in a bank account only.

- No charitable or welfare society can open or operate these bank accounts without first presenting a valid copy of the required license.
- No overseas fund transfers are allowed from these bank accounts.
- SAMA's approval is required to open a bank account.
- Only two individuals duly authorized by the Board of a charitable institution shall be allowed to operate the main account.
- In May 2003, Saudi Arabia asked the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation and all Saudi charities to suspend activities outside Saudi Arabia until mechanisms are in place to adequately monitor and control funds so they cannot be misdirected for illegal purposes.
- Also in May 2003, SAMA instructed all banks and financial institutions in the Kingdom to stop all financial transfers by Saudi charities to any accounts outside the Kingdom.
- On April 30, 2003, Ambassador Cofer Black, Coordinator for Counterterrorism stated: "We are pleased with the steps the Saudis are taking to ensure that all charitable donations by Saudis reach their intended good works and that no funds from Saudi Arabia are diverted by those who would use them for evil purposes."
- In December 2002, a special Financial Intelligence Unit was established to track charitable giving to ensure that no funds reach evildoers.
- In the summer of 2002, in another successful joint anti-terrorism action, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States took steps to freeze the assets of a close bin Laden aide, Wa'el Hamza Julaidan, who is believed to have funneled money to al-Qaeda. Julaidan served as the director of the Rabita Trust and other organizations.
- In March 2002, the U.S. Treasury Department and Saudi Arabia blocked the accounts of the Somalia and Bosnia branches of the Saudi Arabia-based Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation. While the Saudi headquarters for this private charity is dedicated to helping those in need, the United States and Saudi Arabia determined that the Somalia and Bosnia branches supported terrorist activities and terrorist organizations such as Al-

Qaeda and AIAI (al-Itihad al-Islamiya). In May 2003, Saudi Arabia asked the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation and all Saudi charities to suspend activities outside Saudi Arabia until mechanisms are in place to adequately monitor and control funds so they cannot be misdirected for illegal purposes.

- Saudi Arabia has established a High Commission for oversight of all charities, contributions and donations. In addition, it has established operational procedures to manage and audit contributions and donations to and from the charities, including their work abroad.

## **FREEZING SUSPECTED TERRORIST ASSETS, COMBATING MONEY LAUNDERING**

In the wake of the events of September 11, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia took prompt action on September 26, 2001 and required Saudi banks to identify and freeze all assets relating to terrorist suspects and entities per the list issued by the United States government on September 23, 2001. Saudi banks have complied with the freeze requirements and have initiated investigations of transactions that suspects linked to Al-Qaeda may have undertaken in the past.

### **Specific Actions:**

- In August 2003, the Council of Ministers approved new legislation that puts in place harsh penalties for the crime of money laundering and terror financing. This legislation stipulates jail sentences of up to 15 years and fines up to \$1.8 million for offenders.
- The new law:
  - Bans financial transactions with unidentified parties.
  - Requires banks to maintain records of transactions for up to 10 years.
  - Establishes intelligence units to investigate suspicious transactions.
  - Sets up international cooperation on money-laundering issues with countries with which formal agreements have been signed.

- In February 2003, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) began to implement a major technical program to train judges and investigators on legal matters involving terrorism financing and money-laundering methods, international requirements for financial secrecy, and methods followed by criminals to exchange information.
- Saudi Arabia was one of the first countries to take action against terrorist financing, freezing the assets of Osama bin Laden in 1994.
- Saudi Arabia has investigated many bank accounts suspected of having links to terrorism and has frozen more than 40 accounts.
- Saudi Arabia, as a member of the G-20, approved an aggressive plan of action directed at the rooting out and freezing of terrorist assets worldwide. Saudi Arabia is proud to have been a leader in the development of this plan and its implementation, and of key objectives for U.S. and international policies for dealing with terrorism now and in the future.
- SAMA instructed Saudi banks to promptly establish a supervisory committee to closely monitor the threat posed by terrorism and to coordinate all efforts to freeze the assets of the identified individuals and entities. The committee is composed of senior bank officers who are in charge of risk control, auditing, money-laundering units, legal affairs, and operations. The committee meets regularly in the presence of SAMA officials.
- Saudi banks have put in place, at the level of their Chief Executive Officers, as well as at the level of a supervisory committee, mechanisms to respond to all relevant inquiries, both domestic and international. To ensure proper coordination and effective response, all Saudi banks route their responses and relevant information via SAMA.
- A Special Committee was established drawing from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Intelligence Agency and SAMA to handle requests from international bodies and countries with regard to combating terrorist financing.
- Even before September 11, Saudi Arabia had taken steps to ensure that its financial system is not used for illegal activities. In 1988 the Kingdom signed and joined the United Nations Convention against Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics and Psychotropic

Substances. In 1995, Saudi Arabia established units countering money laundering at the Ministry of Interior, in SAMA and in the commercial banks.

## **LEGAL AND REGULATORY ACTIONS TO COMBAT TERRORISM**

The Kingdom has a strong legislative, regulatory and supervisory framework for banking and financial services. This infrastructure ensures that each bank or other financial service provider remains vigilant and also has strong internal controls, processes and procedures to not only know the identity of its customers but also have awareness of their activities and transactions. Money-laundering and other suspicious activities are targeted and all those found violating laws and regulations are subject to severe financial penalties and imprisonment. Money-laundering crimes are high-profile crimes and all cases are referred to a senior court.

### **Specific Actions:**

- SAMA and the Ministry of Commerce issued instructions and guidelines to the Kingdom's financial and commercial sectors for combating money-laundering activities. To further strengthen and implement the current regulations, the Ministry of Commerce issued Regulation #1312 aimed at preventing and combating money laundering in the non-financial sector. These regulations are aimed at manufacturing and trading sectors and also cover professional services such as accounting, legal affairs, and consultancy.
- The Saudi Government has taken concrete steps to create an institutional framework for combating money laundering. This includes the establishment of units to counter money laundering, with trained and dedicated specialist staff. These units work with SAMA and law enforcement agencies. The government has also encouraged banks to bring money-laundering-related experiences to the notice of various bank committees (such as Fraud Committees, and those of Chief Operations Officers and Managing Directors) for exchange of information and joint action.
- Saudi banks and SAMA have implemented an online reporting system to identify trends in money-laundering activities to assist in policy-making and other initiatives.

- In May 2003, SAMA issued instructions to all Saudi financial institutions to strictly implement 40 recommendations of the FATF regarding money laundering and the eight recommendations regarding terror financing. Furthermore, SAMA issued instructions to all Saudi financial institutions prohibiting the transfer of any funds by charitable organizations outside the Kingdom.
- Another major institutional initiative is the creation of a specialized Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) in the Security and Drug Control Department of the Ministry of Interior. This unit is specially tasked with handling money-laundering cases. A communication channel between the Ministry of Interior and SAMA on matters involving terrorist-financing activities has also been established.
- In May 2002, SAMA issued rules “Governing the Opening of Bank Accounts” and “General Operational Guidelines” in order to protect banks against money-laundering activities. For instance, Saudi banks are not permitted to open bank accounts for non-resident individuals without specific approval from SAMA. Banks are required to apply strict “Know your Customer” rules and any non-customer business has to be fully documented.
- Saudi Arabia carries out regular inspections of banks to ensure compliance with laws and regulations. Any violation or non-compliance is cause for serious action and is referred to a bank’s senior management and the Board. Furthermore, the Government has created a permanent committee of banks’ compliance officers to review regulations and guidelines and recommend improvements, and to ensure that all implementation issues are resolved.
- Saudi authorities have made significant efforts to train staff in financial institutions and others involved in compliance and law as well as those in the Security and Investigation departments of the Ministry of Interior.
- Special training programs have been developed for bankers, prosecutors, judges, customs officers and other officials from government departments and agencies. Furthermore, training programs are offered by the Prince Nayef Security Academy, King Fahd Security Faculty, Public Security Training City and SAMA.

- The Saudi government has established a permanent committee of representatives of seven ministries and government agencies to manage all legal and other issues related to money-laundering activities.
- In 1995, SAMA issued “Guidelines for Prevention and Control of Money-Laundering Activities” to Saudi Banks to implement “Know your Customer” rules, maintain records of suspicious transactions, and report them to law enforcement officials and SAMA.
- The first conference for FATF outside the G-7 countries was held in Riyadh at the SAMA Institute of Banking in 1994.

## **OTHER INITIATIVES RELATED TO FIGHTING TERRORISM**

Saudi Arabia has publicly supported and extended cooperation to various international efforts to combat terrorism.

These include:

- In January 2004, while in Tunis for the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Arab Interior Ministers’ Council, Minister of Interior Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz called for better coordination of counterterrorism efforts throughout the Arab world, declaring: “It is painful to have some of our sons as tools of terrorism, but with the joint efforts by our scholars, intellectuals and mass media, we can confront this matter and purify our Islamic and Arab thought from all blemishes.”
- Saudi Arabia has signed a multilateral agreement under the auspices of the Arab League to fight terrorism.
- Saudi Arabia participates regularly and effectively in G-20 meetings and the Kingdom has signed various bilateral agreements with non-Arab countries.
- Every 90 days, Saudi Arabia prepares and submits to the UN Security Council Committees upon their request, a report on the initiatives and actions taken by the Kingdom with respect to the fight against terrorism.

- The Kingdom has supported the following requirements of various UN resolutions related to combating terrorism:
  - Freezing funds and other financial assets of the Taliban regime based on UN Security Council Resolution 1267.
  - Freezing funds of listed individuals based on UN Security Council Resolution 1333.
  - Signing the International Convention for Suppression and Financing of Terrorism based on UN Security Council Resolution 1373.
  - Reporting to the UN Security Council the implementation of Resolution 1390.
- Saudi Arabia has given support to and implemented Resolution No. 1368 dated September 12, 2001 related to the financing of terrorist activities.



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