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PRESS RELEASE**A Regular Session of the Russian-British Working Group on Terrorism**

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The sixth session of the Russian-British Working Group on Terrorism (set up by a decision of the leaders of the two countries in December 2001) was held in London on March 13.

Anatoly Safonov, Special Presidential Representative for International Cooperation in the Fight against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime, headed the Russian interagency delegation and Edward Oakden, Director of Defense, Strategic Threats and Counterterrorism, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, led the British.

Within the framework of the plenary meetings and three thematic subgroups, the sides discussed an extensive range of questions pertaining to international antiterrorist cooperation, including that in key multilateral formats, the UN, Council of Europe and OSCE, as well as via Russia's relationships with the European Union and NATO.

They gave special attention to promoting an antiterrorist agenda in the Group of Eight with regard for the objectives and initiatives of Russia's presidency of the G8. The British side reaffirmed its comprehensive support to the work of the Russian presidency.

The delegations exchanged detailed information on counterterrorism efforts undertaken at the national level, more specifically on the work to improve the antiterrorist legislation in Russia and the UK.

The Working Group paid special attention to the themes of the struggle against incitement to terrorism and generally the questions of countering terrorist ideology and propaganda and of promoting an intercivilizational and intercultural dialogue. A content-rich exchange of views on countering the radicalization of sentiments, primarily in Muslim communities, took place in this context.

Participants agreed to consider the possibility of holding in between Working Group sessions additional bilateral expert meetings, in particular on the problem of combating the financing of terrorism.

The next session of the bilateral Working Group on Terrorism will be held in Moscow in the

second half of 2006.

March 15, 2006