International Relations · GS - II

'Terrorism has become a significant threat to global peace and security.' Evaluate the effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council's Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) and its associated bodies in addressing and mitigating this threat at the international level.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2024	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

UNSC, Counter-Terrorism Committee, Resolution 1373, CTED, terrorist financing, foreign terrorist fighters, sanctions, capacity building, international cooperation, human rights

Model Answer

Introduction

The United Nations Security Council established the **Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)** through Resolution 1373 (2001) following the 9/11 attacks. It monitors implementation of counter-terrorism obligations by UN Member States and is supported by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

Effectiveness

1. Common legal framework: Resolution 1373 created binding obligations concerning terrorist financing, recruitment, safe havens and international cooperation.

2. Implementation assessment: CTED conducts expert assessments and country visits to identify gaps in national counter-terrorism capabilities.

3. Technical assistance: CTED facilitates assistance relating to legislation, border management, policing, terrorist financing and law enforcement.

4. Foreign terrorist fighters: Resolution 2178 strengthened international cooperation against cross-border terrorist mobilisation.

5. Sanctions and information-sharing: Cooperation with the **1267/1989/2253 ISIL-Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee** and other bodies supports efforts against terrorist networks and financing.

Limitations

- Implementation remains dependent on national political will and institutional capacity.
- Terrorist threats continuously evolve through technology, online radicalisation and decentralised networks.
- Geopolitical divisions can constrain consensus on terrorism-related designations.
- Human-rights safeguards must be maintained alongside security measures.

Conclusion

The CTC and associated bodies have established an important **global counter-terrorism architecture**, particularly in standard-setting, assessment and capacity building. Their effectiveness can be enhanced through stronger international cooperation, consistent implementation, financial intelligence and human-rights-compliant counter-terrorism measures.