

## **Continuous efforts urged to combat terrorism despite economic downturn**

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Despite the global economic downturn, all like-minded nations should continue to take counter- terrorism efforts seriously and channel adequate resources to risk management, a senior Singapore official said here on Monday.

As governments tackle the economic challenges, bilateral and multilateral security cooperation must continue to be enhanced as the threat of terrorism remains a transnational one, according to S Jayakumar, Singapore's Senior Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Coordinating Minister for National Security, local radio 938live reported.

National security agencies should stay ahead and recognize the threat of ever-evolving terrorism, Jayakumar said at the launch of the third **Asia-Pacific Program for Senior National Security Officers**.

He also emphasized the importance of preparedness by ground officers and a strategy for media management to mitigate terrorist risk.

According to the radio, it is estimated that there were close to 300 terrorist attacks worldwide in 2008, with about 3,000 deaths and 8,000 injured.