Federal and Northern Territory Government and emergency response officials responded to simulated terrorist activities today as part of their ongoing counter-terrorism training, Police Minister Paul Henderson announced today.

"Today, Deputy Chief Minister Syd Stirling and I participated in the training to ensure that Ministers, emergency response teams and other personnel are integrated in their response to a terrorist threat or incident," Mr Henderson said.

The Northern Territory participants have been drawn from NT Police and Emergency Services, representatives from the Department of the Chief Minister, the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment.

Also participating in the two-day training are Commonwealth agencies including Emergency Management Australia, Attorney General’s Department, the Protective Security Co-ordination Centre, Australian Federal Police and the Australian Defence Force.

The training is part of an ongoing nationally co-ordinated program to ensure that people at all levels of an emergency response are properly prepared. Future exercises will include Police operational commanders and front line police and emergency workers.

"It’s essential that all personnel who would respond to a terrorist incident have the training they need to do the job required," said Mr Henderson.

"While it is highly unlikely that an incident will happen in the Territory, we must be prepared."

Mr Henderson said a range of issues had been covered in the first day, including the nature of terrorism, the counter-terrorism arrangements of both the NT Police and the Australian Federal Police, and the role Defence Forces and Commonwealth agencies would play if a terrorist incident were to occur.

"It is imperative that the Northern Territory continues to improve its capacity to deal with any terrorist incident or threat," he said.

"While our Counter-Disaster responses have proven to be effective, we must ensure that we are capable of dealing with the extraordinary circumstances of a terrorist act."