

## INTERPOL STATEMENT

### Open Consultations on the third Comprehensive Review of the implementation of Resolution 1540 – 31 May-2 June 2022

Delivered by Suhail Alefari, Specialized Office

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good morning/Good afternoon,

Thank you for inviting INTERPOL to take the floor in this important review process to assess the implementation of resolution 1540.

**The use of CBRNE materials by criminals and terrorist groups** has become one of most significant challenges to today's public safety, international security, and economic and political stability on a global scale.

Within the INTERPOL **CBRNE and Vulnerable Targets Sub-Directorate**, we support national law enforcement to carry out their duties related to CBRNE threats – including deliberate and unintentional ones.

All our activities leverage a combination of the following **four policing capabilities**:

**First**, collecting and sharing sensitive police data on crimes and criminals; **second**, conducting analysis and generating intelligence; **third**, facilitating access to a global network of law enforcement and other partners; and **fourth**, providing specialized expertise and capacity building to mitigate CBRNE threats.

Within the bioterrorism domain, law enforcement often does not have access to public health or veterinary networks and tools used to monitor biological incidents, nor do those tools incorporate law enforcement information needs.

To address this gap, INTERPOL is launching **“Biotracker”**, a **global data repository and law enforcement-focused early warning system** for natural, accidental and deliberate biological incidents. Once in operation, we feel this will be a step forward for the biosecurity community.

The INTERPOL Bioterrorism Prevention Unit continues to deliver tailored **capacity building trainings** to our member countries. Within the past year, they conducted trainings on **biological incident preparedness** to Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, and Morocco; and on **countering bioterrorism activities on the Darknet** to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Moving on to the radiological and nuclear terrorism domain, INTERPOL has concluded the implementation of **Project STONE**, seeking to prevent the trafficking of radiological and nuclear materials in **Central America and the Caribbean**.

Moving forward, INTERPOL is implementing its 5-year **National Capacity Assessment and Training Programme**, which will include a series of structured and targeted activities aimed at enhancing law enforcement capabilities to prevent, respond, detect and investigate terrorist or criminal incidents involving the use of radiological and nuclear materials.

This long-term, country-specific engagement will be based on national assessments, with inputs from other sources including the **1540 National Matrices**. This is followed by the design and implementation of tailored assistance programmes, to include capacity building, investigation support, and intelligence sharing working groups - named **“GEIGER Working Groups”**.

In terms of chemical and explosives terrorism, over the past year, INTERPOL has worked with Iraq, Jordan and several North African countries within the framework of its **Chemical Risk Identification and Mitigation Programme, or Project CRIMP**.

CRIMP works with beneficiary countries' law enforcement, government and chemical industry to develop a matrix of the most significant chemicals of concern, based on the local non-state actor threat. CRIMP then supports the creation of chemical countermeasures for national law enforcement.

Another space directly relating to resolution 1540 provisions is our **Global Congress on Chemical Security and Emerging Threats**. Mitigating chemical and explosive threats is bigger than law enforcement – we need the support of other agencies, academia and industry in order to share information and enhance our capacity to respond. Throughout the pandemic until now, the Congress engaged over 600 people from 75 countries through several virtual and now in-person events.

I also wish to note that INTERPOL serves as Chair of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on **Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection**. As part of this working group, we are mandated to cover 1540-related matters, explore further inter-agency cooperation and leverage the expertise of all members of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact.

In conclusion, INTERPOL hopes to continue our fruitful partnership with the 1540 Committee and the Group of Experts, and to continue providing support to our 195 member countries in preventing non-state actor acquisition of weapons of mass destruction.

Thank you very much for your attention.