

*Translated from French*

## **Permanent Mission of Madagascar to the United Nations**

No. 2023-062/UNODA/Comité1540/Madagascar-PANV/2<sup>ème</sup> trimestre2023

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Madagascar to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and has the honour to request the technical and financial assistance of the Committee in order to support the activities deriving from the 2023–2025 national action plan, annexed hereto, which the Government of Madagascar intends to undertake.

The most urgent activities include:

- Assessment of the national legislative and regulatory framework on nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and their means of delivery
- Drawing up the national monitoring list
- Capacity-building for national actors in relation to the monitoring mechanism for nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and their means of delivery

In view of the complex nature and large number of these activities, the Government of the Republic of Madagascar is counting on the support of the 1540 Committee to assist it in carrying them out, including in the second quarter of 2023.

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

New York

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Madagascar to the United Nations is grateful to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and takes this opportunity to convey to the Committee the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 28 March 2023

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## **Voluntary national action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) in Madagascar (2023–2025)**

### **I. Background and explanatory information**

Madagascar is a party to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 on the non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery.

A first report was issued on 7 February 2008 outlining the achievements of Madagascar in the nuclear field. Two additional reports were prepared and shared on 13 June 2013 and 21 October 2019. An action plan for implementation of the resolution was developed at a national workshop in June 2019. It covers the period 2019–2022 and was approved on 9 December 2020 by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

This action plan comprises three strategic pillars:

- A legislative/regulatory pillar in order to align domestic regulatory texts with the international treaties and conventions ratified by Madagascar by incorporating elements not previously taken into account by Malagasy legislation.
- An operational/coordination pillar for the purpose of developing a national implementation strategy for resolution 1540 (2004) whose outcome will be the establishment of a structure to coordinate operations related to the implementation of actions in the different areas stipulated in the resolution, manage information, education and communication activities, and coordinate strategic partnerships to facilitate and support the efforts of Madagascar to achieve significant results.
- A technical/monitoring pillar aimed at developing an exhaustive list of products that pose a risk and a system to facilitate monitoring of the entry and movement of products and weapons, with a strong component of enhancing the technical and material capacities of organizations working in the nuclear, chemical and biological fields.

Having reached the 2022 deadline, the “national 1540 committee” set up in Madagascar has reviewed the achievements of this action plan, whose implementation was severely disrupted by the various events that occurred during the period, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which slowed the committee’s actions significantly.

A national workshop was organized from 22 to 25 November 2022 in order to review the current status of achievements under the different strategic pillars, update the implementation background and define a new action plan for the period 2023–2025.

### **II. Overall orientation of the 2023–2025 action plan**

Madagascar plans to maintain the momentum that was gained during the previous period and will focus on implementing the key actions required to achieve the following strategic objectives:

## **1. Alignment of the country's regulatory texts with international treaties and conventions ratified by Madagascar**

In order to fulfil the obligations that every country has undertaken for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), Madagascar must have appropriate legislation and regulations. While there are existing laws that relate to certain elements of the resolution, in order to establish a coherent and accessible legal framework in this area it is essential to conduct an evaluation prior to the actual drafting and adoption of texts. It will then be a matter of recording in Malagasy positive law the regulations and mechanisms for implementing resolution 1540 (2004) within the jurisdiction of Madagascar.

To that end, the main activity will be to evaluate existing texts in order to recommend the appropriate action of either updating those existing texts or drafting new legal regulations.

## **2. Establishment and operationalization of a coordination unit for operations**

The main activity will be the establishment of a small coordination group, through an interministerial framework, that will be responsible for developing the terms of reference of a national committee for resolution 1540 (2004) and the mobilization of the various stakeholders and partners involved, leading to the official establishment of the national committee and its operationalization. This step is essential in order for the national committee to carry out its main mission of coordinating the activities planned during the current period.

## **3. Capacity-building for relevant stakeholders and partners on weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery**

One of the most urgent needs in this area is to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to develop as exhaustive a monitoring list as possible.

Subsequently, it would make sense for stakeholders to gain the expertise to monitor the flow of delivery systems and products that may be related to weapons of mass destruction.

## **III. Strategy**

The Ministry of Defence will take the lead in the initial actions that will result in the official establishment and operationalization of the national 1540 committee. In collaboration with experts and specialists in the different areas (legislative and technical), the national committee will prepare the implementation plan for resolution 1540 (2004). The new national committee, once in place, will draw up the terms of reference of the different priority actions with respect to the regulatory/legal and technical/monitoring aspects so that it can conduct the different activities planned.

Depending on the context and taking into account the technical nature of the actions and the scope of the activities, it is envisaged that external expertise may be required, such as support from members of the 1540 Committee at United Nations Headquarters or expert consultants.

**IV. Expected results**

- A national committee for resolution 1540 (2004) is established and operational.
- An implementation plan for resolution 1540 (2004) is developed and validated for each area (nuclear, biological, chemical, means of delivery). To achieve this, the responsible parties and implementing partners for the action plan must be identified.
- The risks related to implementation of the action plan are listed and mitigation measures are proposed.





Item	Deliverables	Responsible party		Year														
		Lead	Support	2023			2024			2025								
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Development of action plan on regulations		National 1540 committee	Min. Justice / UN				X											
Development of plan for education and training on resolution 1540 (2004)	Action plans for each sector	National 1540 committee	UN / CSO				X											
Development of monitoring plan		National 1540 committee	UN				X											
Development of communication plan for resolution 1540 (2004)		National 1540 committee	UNICEF / CSO				X											
Implementation of information, education and communication plans		National 1540 committee	UNICEF / CSO							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Development of international partnerships for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)</b>		<b>RCRP*</b>																

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\* Translator's note: Acronym not found.









**Risk management**

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Partners not effectively involved in the implementation of activities	Medium	Appointment of focal points for each sector to work with partners
Delay in validation of deliverables	High	Establishment of a unit in charge of lobbying of the national committee
Health situation in Madagascar: possible health measures taken at the national and regional levels could have an impact on the conduct of activities	Medium	All necessary provisions are taken to ensure the safety and health of teams and partners: vaccination of team members, compliance with health measures, telecommuting