

*Translated from Spanish*

**National action plan for the implementation of Security Council  
resolution 1540 (2004) for the period 2019–2022**

**Republic of Paraguay**

The Republic of Paraguay is committed to full and comprehensive disarmament. To that end, article 8 of the national Constitution establishes a ban on the manufacture, assembly, import, sale, possession or use of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, as well as the entry of toxic waste into the country. Paraguay further believes that international cooperation and the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) at the national, regional and subregional levels are essential elements to ensure global peace and security amid the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Accession by the Republic of Paraguay to the international treaties, conventions and initiatives on disarmament and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the national implementation measures adopted under those agreements, together with the restrictions on and control of imports and exports, combined with the existence of a suitable legal and institutional framework, and the effective operation of control mechanisms, reflect the political will and specific capacity of Paraguay to join the efforts of the international community to combat this scourge.

Fifteen years on from the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), the Republic of Paraguay has been improving its national legal architecture to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and to prevent their misuse by non-State actors. The adoption of legislation prohibiting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and strengthening the implementation of systems to control the transfer of dual-use goods, combined with confidence-building foreign trade measures and verification mechanisms, provide an essential foundation for sustaining an international security context and, consequently, provide a strategic opportunity for the furthering of efforts aimed at achieving secure progress based on technological development in areas that require the peaceful use of nuclear energy, including advances in chemical industry and advances in biotechnology.

For Paraguay, implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), involves, in addition to a mandatory regime within the framework established by Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, a window of opportunity to strengthen the efforts to ensure non-

proliferation and complementarity in relation to other actions on security in its broadest sense, including foreign trade.

Security Council resolution 1977 (2011) invites States to adopt, on a voluntary basis, national action plans for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The Republic of Paraguay, in line with its commitment to the international community, hereby submits its national action plan, which is the result of a genuine inter-agency effort, coordinated by the General Directorate for Special Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the national point of contact for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), which has benefited from the assistance provided by the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States.

**Institutional framework**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action areas</b>	<b>Implementation time frame</b>
<p>Set up an inter-agency working group, through an executive decree, comprising the competent representatives of the various ministries of the executive branch, as well as other State actors that are deemed relevant to strengthen measures to prevent and combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction through inter-agency coordination</p>	<p>(a) Interministerial coordination in prevention, response and recovery from threats and incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.</p>	<p>Short-term</p>
<p>Establish mechanisms for inter-agency cooperation among the national authorities responsible for combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction</p>	<p>(a) Establishment of mechanisms for cooperation between the authorities responsible for issuing licenses and those responsible for border controls, to ensure timely and systematic assessment of the risks associated with the export, re-export, transit and trans-shipment of items and to provide monitoring of trade.</p> <p>(b) Establishment of mechanisms for cooperation among the national authorities responsible for issuing licenses and those responsible for examining or reviewing licenses.</p>	<p>1–2 years</p>

### Legislative framework

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action areas</b>	<b>Implementation time frame</b>
<p>Promote legislative harmonization as part of the national strategy to prevent and combat terrorism and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Identification of existing normative gaps in national legislation on the prevention and suppression of the proliferation of nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical weapons and their means of delivery.</li> <li>(b) Establishment of an administrative system of penalties for the control of imports, exports, transport, transit and trans-shipment of dual-use goods.</li> <li>(c) Classification of criminal conduct related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the Penal Code and special laws on that subject.</li> <li>(d) Adoption of a control list of dual-use material and possible development of legislation on strategic trade</li> <li>(e) Amendments to national legislation for the physical protection of dual-use materials.</li> <li>(f) Adoption of internal compliance programmes.</li> <li>(g) Revision of the national matrix prepared under Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).</li> </ul>	<p>2–3 years</p>

	<p>(h) Updated national report on Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).</p> <p>(i) Awareness-raising among the members of the National Congress on legislative initiatives and bills related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and strategic trade in dual-use material.</p>	
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### Operational framework

Objectives	Action areas	Implementation time frame
Develop procedural manuals and protocols for action in the area of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	<p>(a) Border and transport security for the detection and prevention of illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and dual-use goods.</p> <p>(b) Prevention and detection of illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and dual-use goods in customs.</p> <p>(c) Protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks involving weapons of mass destruction and establishment of special groups to respond to incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.</p> <p>(d) Joint investigative teams involving the police, prosecution service, the judiciary and the Financial Analysis Unit, criminal investigation and</p>	2–3 years

	<p>prosecution of offences related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing.</p> <p>(e) Development and maintenance of appropriate effective measures to maintain and guarantee the security, protection and storage of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, with a focus on nuclear and radioactive material.</p> <p>(f) Adoption of a risk management system related to the control of dual-use materials.</p> <p>(g) Establishment of control procedures for end users of items that do not require any type of license but can contribute significantly to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p>(h) Establishment of control procedures for delivery systems, based on suspicions about the end users or the planned end use of the goods, services or technologies.</p>	
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**Mechanisms for intervention and response in the event of incidents and/or threats involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action areas</b>	<b>Implementation time frame</b>
Design measures for intervention and response in the event of incidents or threats involving the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Risk analysis techniques, investigation and prevention of incidents and threats involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.</li> <li>(b) Protocols for action relating to the chain of custody.</li> </ul>	1–2 years
Establish resources, material means and specialist personnel for responding to incidents and threats involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Portable and stationary equipment for detection, sampling, analysis and identification of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances.</li> <li>(b) Equipment for the decontamination of personnel and equipment.</li> <li>(c) Emergency medical teams with specialized staff and facilities.</li> <li>(d) Survey and rescue teams.</li> <li>(e) Establishment of a national reference centre for risk assessment and consultation on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials,</li> </ul>	2–3 years

	<p>with an up-to-date database of protocols for action and good practices, and another for experts in the identification of specific risks related to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials.</p> <p>(f) Contingency plans and evacuation plans for units involved, as well as their assessment through simulation exercises.</p> <p>(g) Mechanisms for coordinated action at the interministerial level with decision-making levels, integrated response and public communication channels.</p>	
<p>Establish control mechanisms to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, including the control of delivery systems and dual-use materials</p>	<p>(a) Appropriate effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials in production, use, storage or transport.</p> <p>(b) Appropriate effective physical protection measures for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials.</p> <p>(c) Appropriate effective border controls, customs and police to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials by non-State actors, particularly for terrorist purposes.</p> <p>(d) Appropriate effective controls over the export and import of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and dual-use goods, including appropriate laws and regulations to control the import, export, transit, trans-shipment and re-export, and controls on providing funds</p>	<p>3 years</p>

	and services related to such imports and exports, as well as their means of financing, establishing criminal and administrative sanctions proportionate to the offences committed.	
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**Framework for border security and policing**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action areas</b>	<b>Implementation time frame</b>
Amendments to the National Defence and Internal Security Act	(a) Amendments to existing legislation to harmonize the legal framework to prevent and combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.	2 years
Training of the necessary human resources	(a) Profiling of human resources in line with the requirements for action at different levels in the context of preventing and combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	2 years
Establish special units in the competent security and border control agencies at the national level on the movements of persons with a view to the identification of illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials and dual-use goods	<p>(a) Training for the competent security agencies and especially for the Secretariat for the Prevention and Investigation of Terrorism in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their use by non-State actors for terrorist purposes.</p> <p>(b) Continue strengthening the progress made in the area of immigration posts infrastructure to implement specific controls over the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p>	1 year

	<p>(c) Strengthen the capacities of the specialized units of the security agencies and competent control bodies to address vulnerabilities and risks in the tri-border region.</p>	
<p>Cooperation agreements with the special units of the security agencies and other competent bodies of neighbouring countries on combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, organized crime and related offences</p>	<p>(a) Identify vulnerable points along the vast border with neighbouring countries and establish specific agreements for cooperation in border control.</p> <p>(b) Promote the exchange of information on an ongoing basis and in real time among existing cooperation teams.</p> <p>(c) Enhance the competencies and scope of the working group established in the context of the technical meetings of ministers of the interior of MERCOSUR and associated States of the specialized technical group on illicit trafficking of nuclear and/or radioactive material.</p>	
<p>Establish specialized units in public security bodies, control bodies and other bodies with specific competencies in accordance with their nature and legal powers for the production of intelligence on terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction</p>	<p>(a) Incorporation of modern investigation techniques into existing legislation (interception of communications, undercover agents and controlled deliveries), for use in the prosecution of terrorist acts and acts relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p>(b) Provision of material and human resources to strengthen the implementation of the Marandu centralized police information system for recording complaints online and in real time through a validation process that is in line with international standards in order to establish comprehensive public security policies for the investigation and prosecution of terrorist acts and acts relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p>	

	<p>(c) Enhance the functions of the Observatory on citizen security and coexistence of the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>(d) Strengthen the structure, resources and operational capacities of the Secretariat for the Prevention and Investigation of Terrorism, the Directorate against Economic and Financial Offences and the Directorate of Intelligence to enhance their competencies in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing.</p> <p>(e) Strengthen the structure, resources and operational capacities of the fire department of the national police so that it has the capacity to respond to nationwide incidents and threats involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials</p>	
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### **Capacity-building**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action areas</b>	<b>Implementation time frame</b>
<p>Develop training programmes on the national implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)</p>	<p>(a) Training on the identification and handling of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances for personnel in the State security forces, civil protection, customs, migration and health.</p>	

	<p>(b) Training in effective border security, port and airport measures, including tactical exercises for comprehensive risk management and inter-agency coordination.</p> <p>(c) Training in techniques for investigation and criminal prosecution of crimes relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction linked to terrorist acts.</p> <p>(d) Training in risk analysis techniques for the control of exports of dual-use goods and the methods used to circumvent import and export controls over chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and dual-use goods.</p> <p>(e) Conduct peer review exercises on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) with third States members of MERCOSUR, as well as with other countries of the hemisphere, or with States with which there are special partnerships on this matter.</p>	
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### Mechanisms for subregional, regional and international cooperation

Objectives	Action areas	Implementation time frame
Intelligence	(a) Promote the signing of memorandums of understanding with counterpart entities with the aim of establishing a bilateral cooperation programme in the area of intelligence to improve methods and effectiveness in the exchange of information, in order to obtain timely data that enables personnel to initiate or deepen intelligence analysis.	1 year
Police, military and the judiciary	<p>(a) Promote the signing and implementation of memorandums of understanding among the various security institutions and international agencies, for the purpose of encouraging and increasing the timely exchange of information relating to efforts to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p>(b) Enhance links with States with which Paraguay has signed inter-agency, bilateral and/or multilateral agreements on judicial matters, so that information, evidence or proceedings relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is provided and implemented, as appropriate, in a timely and effective manner.</p>	2 years

Trade and customs	<p>(a) Facilitate communication channels with trade regulators, with a particular focus on countries that produce and export dual-use material.</p> <p>(b) Strengthen the implementation of inter-agency agreements with customs entities to improve methods and effectiveness in the exchange of information, in order to obtain data in a timely manner that can build risk analysis in the area of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.</p>	2–3 years
Academia, the private sector and industry	<p>(a) Establish strategic partnerships between State institutions, civil society, the private sector, industry and academia for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).</p> <p>(b) Organize seminars and conferences on Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) with the private sector, industry and academia.</p>	

### **Strategic partners**

International and regional organizations	<p>(a) Inter-American Committee against Terrorism created by the Organization of American States</p> <p>(b) Expert Group of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)</p> <p>(c) United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs</p>
Donor countries	<p>(a) Canada – Global Partnership Program</p>