

Information Note¹

Event: Chemical and Explosives Terrorism Prevention Course

Organiser: International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

Date and Venue: 4 to 7 November 2013, Tbilisi, Georgia

Participants: *States:*
Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, United States.
International Organisations:
Central Asian Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit
Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances and
their Precursors (CARICC), Organisation for Security and
Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Organisation for the
Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), 1540 Committee
Group of Experts.
Non-Governmental Organisations NGO): Chemical Business
Association (UK), International Centre for Chemical Safety
and Security (ICCSS) (Poland).

1. **Background**

a. The course was the first in a series being organised by INTERPOL of four region-based courses between November 2013 and September 2014 that will target up to eight countries per region with approximately four participants from each country at the Senior Police, Customs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and industry representatives. The aim of the courses is to provide a framework by which INTERPOL member countries can establish a chemical security and chemical terrorism countermeasures programme. Future courses in 2014 will be held in Thailand, Russia and Kenya

b. While the courses are focused on chemical issues INTERPOL wish to take the opportunity to introduce the participating senior officials to the full range of resolution 1540 obligations.

2. **Highlights**

The course involved senior policy officials from ministries of foreign and internal affairs, along with customs and police officers. At the start of the course the participants were introduced to the full range of obligations under resolution 1540 (2004). They were also given specialist training in chemical and explosive terrorism devices and on controls on relevant precursor chemicals by officials from Australia, and the United States. Briefings on regional perspectives and activities were given by representatives of the OSCE, the

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European Union's Regional Centre of Excellence in Tbilisi and ICCSS. The participants also had an opportunity to learn from the experience of the UK chemical industrial sector. Two site visits took place to the Georgian Ministry of the Interior's Training Academy and their Department for Emergency Management.

3. **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org.