



**Statement by Permanent Representative of Nepal to
the United Nations H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa at the
Open Consultation of the 1540 Committee, UN Security
Council**

ECOSOC Chamber, UN

Thursday, 9-10 October 2024

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(Time limit: 3 minutes)

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation for organizing this open consultation.

As we mark the 20th anniversary of the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), we reiterate that the resolution remains a vital tool to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and

biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials to non-State actors.

We acknowledge the crucial role of the 1540 Committee in fostering international cooperation and strengthening global non-proliferation mechanisms to prevent WMD terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

The existence of WMDs continues to be a significant global threat.

The risk of these weapons falling into the hands of non-state actors for malicious purposes is quite frightening.

The evolving security landscape, with the advancement in technology and the proliferation of information, makes it increasingly challenging to prevent such scenarios.

New technologies such as ICTs, AI, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and 3D printing have made it easier for non-state actors to access materials and techniques for WMDs.

Mr. Chair,

As a party to the NPT, BWC, CWC, and signatory to CTBT and TPNW, Nepal is a steadfast supporter of general and

complete disarmament of all weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

Nepal is fully committed to implementing the provisions of the 1540 resolution.

Nepal has implemented strict measures against money laundering, financing of terrorism, and transnational organized crimes, while actively supporting regional efforts to suppress terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

To ensure strong compliance with resolution 1540, mitigate risks, and ensure a safer world, we must strengthen international cooperation, enhance intelligence sharing, enhance verification mechanisms, and support capacity building of countries in need.

It is crucial to identify the country-specific vulnerabilities and devise proper tools to implement the resolution effectively.

We must accelerate our efforts for non-proliferation and disarmament.

We need enhanced regional and international cooperation to effectively regulate the cross-border

movement of prohibited and dual-use items as well as to develop the capacities of developing countries.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair,

Only strong cooperation and coordination among member states would ensure effective implementation of the 1540 resolution as an instrument of weapons of mass destruction non-proliferation architecture.

Also, as agreed on the **Pact for the Future**, we emphasize the importance of bridging the technological divide, fostering inclusive global governance, and enhancing international cooperation to build capacities in developing countries.

I thank you.