

**Statement by the Republic of Latvia at the Open briefing of the UN
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540
(2004)**

New York, 29 October 2025

Mr Chair,

Let me begin by thanking the Committee for convening this briefing and commending the rigorous leadership of Ambassador Alfaro de Alba at the helm of this critically important body of the Security Council.

Mr Chair,

The work of the 1540 Committee is of crucial value to maintain international peace and security, through the safeguarding of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery. It constitutes an important part of the global non-proliferation architecture, itself a cornerstone of the international rules-based order. Latvia fully supports the Committee, as well as other regional and international mechanisms enforcing non-proliferation norms, such as the NPT, the IAEA, the PSI, the Australia Group and the NSG, among others. Nationally, we are maintaining strict export controls and rigorous procedures on dual-use goods.

Mr Chair,

The Committee fulfils an important mission in protecting our societies from the terrifying prospect of WMDs falling into the wrong hands, be it terrorists or criminals. In an era of rapid technological advancement, WMD proliferation risks have become increasingly diffuse. Dual-use technologies, synthetic biology, and cyber sabotage have lowered the threshold for access and weaponization. Thus, the work of this Committee is more crucial than ever. Any efforts to delay, disrupt or otherwise hinder the work of the Committee, especially for political reasons, are worrisome, as they weaken the global non-proliferation system and undermine trust in the work of the UN. Such attempts are unacceptable and we call on all parties to contribute constructively to the work of the Committee.

Mr Chair,

Finally, allow me to touch upon the most direct and impactful support provided by the Committee, which takes the form of outreach and technical assistance. We applaud the active approach of the Committee in enhancing Member State capacity, enabling broader regional coordination, as well as its positive outreach activities. The good and fruitful work on the ground by the Group of Experts is especially laudable in this regard. Such direct engagement is key in order to bring global norms and values to life and ensure their sustained impact worldwide.

Mr Chair,

To conclude, rest assured that Latvia will continue its steadfast support to and robust defence of both the international rules-based order, as well as the global non-proliferation regime, with the 1540 Committee right at the very heart of it.

Thank you!