United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Open briefing for Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations

30 October 2025 [3 min statement]

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, dear colleagues,

On behalf of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), I thank the Chair of the 1540 Committee for the opportunity to present our continued support to the implementation of the Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

UNOCT is mandated by the General Assembly to assist Member States in building and strengthening their capacities to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials. Since 2019, UNOCT has served as an official provider of assistance under the 1540 Mechanism, supporting national efforts on counter-terrorism and non-proliferation.

Since the last open briefing, UNOCT engaged in several national and regional activities to help Member States implement the resolution. This included providing capacity building to expand assistance under the mechanism through initiatives that help strengthen domestic controls, coordination, and measures against illicit trafficking of sensitive materials.

Moreover, in close cooperation with the Organization of American States and the 1540 Committee, UNOCT supported Panama and Costa Rica workshops on their respective National Implementation Action Plans. In addition, UNOCT partnered with OAS to deliver a training on radiological and nuclear threats and related countermeasures in Colombia.

Similarly, UNOCT partnered with the National Authority for the Prohibition of CBRN Weapons in Cambodia to deliver national training on radiological and nuclear threats.

UNOCT's collaboration with Iraq deepened through targeted trainings on protecting critical infrastructure and preventing and responding to chemical and biological attacks—strengthening national resilience to CBRN threats.

UNOCT also organized a regional workshop held in Cairo, to enhance the capacities of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia to design national WMD and CBRN response exercises.

With respect to the awareness raising activities, UNOCT co-organized, with the IAEA, the Kingdom of Morocco, and UNODC, a high-level side event marking the 20th anniversary of the ICSANT and the Amendment to the CPPNM, reaffirming their role as pillars of the global nuclear security framework.

In addition, together with UNODC and the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights while Countering Terrorism, UNOCT also convened a Human Rights Council side event, under the ICSANT project, on integrating human rights into nuclear security and counter-terrorism efforts.

Upcoming activities include a second assistance package for Tajikistan—to strengthen nuclear and radiological security along its border with Afghanistan, together with the EU-UN Terrorism Threats Facility, and new training and exercises on biological and radiological security for Central Asian and Nordic countries, in collaboration with Finland, Norway, and the United States.

UNOCT continues to work closely with UNODA and the 1540 Group of Experts to ensure coordination and complementarity across our collective efforts.

This work is made possible through the generous support of Canada, Finland, France, the European Union, Kazakhstan and the United States. Their continued partnership is vital to advancing assistance under the 1540 framework.

UNOCT remains committed to helping Member States strengthen their capacities to prevent and respond effectively to terrorist threats involving weapons of mass destruction—working toward our shared goal of a world free from terrorism and from chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons.

I thank you for your attention.