

Information Note¹

- Event:** Workshop for the Implementation of Legislation on Transport Security of Related Materials in the Republic of Chile
- Organizer(s):** Government of Chile with the support of the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs
- Date and Venue:** 15-17 April 2019, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Background

- Resolution 1540 (2004) requires States to refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. All States are obliged to adopt and enforce appropriate and effective laws prohibiting such activities by non-State actors on their territories. States must adopt and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls on these weapons, their means of delivery and related material.
- Furthermore, Resolution 1540 (2004) decides in its operative paragraph 3 a) that all States shall take and enforce effective measures to account for and secure nuclear, chemical and biological weapons related materials in production, use, storage or transport.
- On 6 and 15 February 2019, the Chilean Government sent an invitation to H.E. Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, Chair of 1540 Committee, requesting technical and financial assistance to hold a workshop for national stakeholders responsible for the implementation of a national legal framework regarding secure transport of nuclear, chemical and biological related materials. The workshop brought together relevant Departments and Ministries from Chile to discuss on the transport measures that they have already in place.

Highlights

The Workshop was opened by the Ambassador Armin Andereya, Head of International and Human Security Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the 1540 Committee Expert. In their opening statements, both parties referred to the fact that even South America is free of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), the acquisition, development, transfer or use of nuclear, chemical, biological weapons and their means of delivery by non-State actors could pose a threat

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

to international peace and security. Furthermore, the importance of full implementation of UNSCR Resolution 1540 (2004) was emphasized.

After the opening remarks, and during the first day of the workshop, presentations delivered by experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Sandia National Laboratories from US were focused on secure transport of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons related materials respectively.

National presentations followed, made by representatives of the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications, General Direction for National Mobilization, Nuclear Energy Chilean Commission and Ministry of Health who described the legislation in place for radiological materials and chemical and biological weapons related ones.

Interactive activities based in a guided questionnaire and case study exercises allowed the participants to find gaps in their legal framework as well as envisage possible solutions through the request of assistance.

Finally, it is important to recognize the commitment and active engagement of the Government of Chile not only in strengthening implementation of resolution 1540 nationally, but also in the region, including through the organization of a training course for Points of Contact that took place in 2016 and the peer review process carried out jointly with the Government of Colombia during 2017.

Additional Comments

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