

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

- Event:** National Online Workshop on Implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for Bolivia
- Organizers:** Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)- Organization of American States (OAS)
- Date and Venue:** 27 October 2020, on a Zoom platform
- Participants:** Representatives from Government of Bolivia Ministries, including Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Government, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health, Vice Ministry of Institutional Transparency and Anti-Corruption, Ministry of Justice, State Prosecutor's Office, INTERPOL General Directory-Bolivian Police, Joint Command of the Armed Forces, Electricity and Nuclear Technology Audit Authority, Bolivian Agency of Nuclear Energy, National Customs, Financial Investigation Unit, 1540 Experts.

### **Background**

On 7 October 2020, Ms Alison Treppel, the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in a virtual national workshop for Bolivia on implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The objective of the workshop was to help Bolivia to better implement the resolution by means of raising awareness about its obligations among local ministries and agencies and discussing the existing gaps in Bolivia's matrix. The results would then be used to determine how best to deploy the Committee's assistance mechanism.

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

## **Highlights**

The meeting was opened by Ambassador Freddy Abastoflor Cordova, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia who said that Bolivia is a State that promotes peace and cooperation in a framework of a world free of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). He also noted that Bolivia supported the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004) and they are committed to its compliance. Before he formally opened the workshop, he expressed his gratitude for the support received from OAS and the 1540 Committee.

The Executive Secretary of CICTE, Ms Alison Treppel, noted that resolution 1540 constitutes a critical tool at this time to reduce the threat of WMDs being used by non-State actors. She also referred to the challenge that controlling dual use items represents to the States and recognized Bolivia's commitment in relation to resolution 1540 implementation.

The 1540 Experts described the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, means of delivery and related materials by non-State actors. The Experts also analysed the existing gaps in Bolivia's matrix and proposed that participants updated Bolivia's national report as well as design a National Implementation Action Plan, together with a request for assistance as appropriate. The Experts also briefed the audience on progress regarding the 1540 Comprehensive Review.

Representatives from CICTE-OAS described their different activities to assist Member States to better implement resolution 1540 (2004), including peer reviews, assistance on legislation and drafting of voluntary national actions plans. They also described a new project to improve implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in the region as well as the 1540 obligations regarding biological weapons related materials.

Ambassador Regina Hennings Lopez, Director General of Multilateral Affairs of Bolivia closed the workshop thanking the OAS and the 1540 Committee and highlighted the relevance of the subjects discussed during the workshop.

This workshop was a useful opportunity to discuss the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004) with Bolivia, and to help identify gaps in Bolivia's matrix.

**Additional Comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org)