

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

- Event:** Workshop for selected CARICOM Countries on the Universalization of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its 2005 Amendment (CPPNM/A)
- Organizer:** Government of Barbados and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC – Terrorism Prevention Branch), with the financial support of the Government of Canada
- Date and Venue:** 25-27 February 2020, Bridgetown, Barbados
- Participants:** Government representatives: Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Dominica; Grenada; Guyana; Jamaica; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Suriname; Trinidad and Tobago; and Canada
- International organisations: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC); 1540 Committee Expert

### **Background**

Operative paragraph 1 of 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. Under operative paragraph 2, States are obliged to adopt and enforce appropriate and effective laws prohibiting such activities by non-State actors on their territories.

Operative paragraph 3 requires States to take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials. This includes measures to account for and secure such items in production, use, storage or transport; effective physical protection measures; effective border controls and law enforcement efforts; national export and trans-shipment controls over such items, including appropriate laws and regulations to control export, transit, trans-shipment and re-export and controls on providing funds and services related to such export and trans-shipment such as financing, and transporting that would contribute to proliferation, as well as end-user controls; and criminal or civil penalties for violations of such export control laws and regulations.

The 1987 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), its 2005 Amendment, and the International Convention of the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) implement important elements of these operative paragraphs.

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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.

Operative paragraph 12 of resolution 2325 (2016) decides that the 1540 Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and particularly notes the need for more attention, among others, on accounting for and securing related materials. Furthermore, operative paragraph 29 of resolution 2325 (2016) “requests the 1540 Committee to continue to organize and participate in outreach events on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) at the international, regional, sub-regional, and, as appropriate, national level ...”

On 2 January 2020, the Officer-in-Charge of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC extended an invitation to the Committee to participate in a workshop in Barbados aimed at raising awareness on the importance of becoming party to and fully implementing the ICSANT, CPPNM and its 2005 Amendment. The letter asked for an expert to be nominated to deliver a presentation on resolution 1540 (2004) and synergies with ICSANT, the CPPNM and its 2005 Amendment (CPPNM/A), and to participate in a panel discussion on available legislative and technical assistance, and to contribute to discussions during the workshop. The organiser indicated that the workshop will provide participants with a forum to discuss the benefits and challenges of adhering to these international legal instruments and incorporating their provisions into national legislation, including through an interactive session with an exercise scenario.

### **Highlights**

This Workshop, which was attended by most CARICOM States, received high-level support through the participation of Dr Jerome Walcott, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados. Beyond providing a platform for in-depth discussions with CARICOM States on their ratification of ICSANT, the CPPNM and its Amendment, the Workshop also presented a valuable opportunity to enhance awareness of the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004). It illustrated the complementary nature of the resolution and synergies with other relevant treaties and organisations, as well as the need for close co-ordination in delivering effective assistance to requesting States.

The Experts will maintain contact with CARICOM States to follow-up on the possible submission of additional information on progress made in national implementation, as well as any assistance that may be required.

### **Additional Comments**

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