

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

- Event:** Weapons of Mass Destruction, Non-state Actors and Export Control - Resolution 1540 (2004) of the Security Council and its National Regional and Global Impact
- Organizers:** Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (CICTE-OAS) and the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires
- Date and Venue:** 20 – 21 September 2022, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Participants:** Representatives from CICTE-OAS, the Faculty of Law, Argentina’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and Ministry of Defence, postgraduate students, US Department of State (Export Control and Related Border Security -EXBS-), NPS Global Foundation, Pontica Group, and 1540 Expert

### **Background**

On 24 August 2022, the Executive Secretary of CICTE-OAS sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting him to nominate a member of the Group of Experts to deliver a presentation titled “UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), its characteristics and status of implementation in the region” in a seminar hosted by CICTE at the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires on 20 and 21 September 2022, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The seminar’s objective was to provide academic representatives and other key national stakeholders the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge of resolution 1540 (2004), its implementation, and its obligations.

### **Highlights**

The Deputy Dean from the Faculty of Law and the Regional Advisor from the EXBS delivered the introductory remarks.

After those statements, a representative from CICTE presented the challenges posed by disarmament and non-proliferation in the framework of international law. He described the international regulatory framework related to weapons of mass destruction, including some UN Security Council resolutions.

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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.

The 1540 Expert followed by describing the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, and their means of delivery, by non-State actors, including controls over related materials. The Expert also showed the level of implementation of resolution 1540 in the Latin American and Caribbean region and Argentina. She also made a brief reference to the ongoing Comprehensive Review process.

The 1540 Coordinator of CICTE-OAS delivered the next presentation. She described CICTE's ongoing project on biosafety and biosecurity in eight States from the region, based on four pillars: legislative and technical assistance; capacity building; outreach, awareness and education, and regional cooperation.

The Director of International Security and Nuclear and Space Affairs from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship delivered the next presentation. She described Argentina's efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004) but being aware of the existing gaps in the implementation.

During the second half of the first day, a legal advisor from CICTE described how they are assisting eight States from the region under the framework of their EU project on biosafety and biosecurity, and two representatives from the NPS Global Foundation described the export control of nuclear, chemical and biological related materials in Argentina.

The following presentation was delivered by a representative of The Pontica Group. He showed the potential challenges that States face when implementing resolution 1540 (2004).

The second day of the seminar started with a presentation delivered by the EXBS representative, who provided an overview of the ongoing projects in the Western hemisphere. The rest of the morning was devoted to discussions. Participants provided their inputs on different regional and national problems, such as poor coordination among agencies, low awareness among implementers on the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), and scarce resources.

### **Additional Comments**

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