

Information Note¹

- Event:** National Round Table to Improve the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) in Ecuador
- Organizers:** Government of Ecuador, the 1540 Committee with the support of UNODA
- Date and Venue:** 25 and 26 May 2022, on a Zoom platform
- Participants:** National government representatives: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of National Defence; Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecologic Transition; Ministry of Economy and Finances; Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fishing; Ministry of Public Health; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; National Police; Financial and Economic Analysis Unit; National Customs Service, and Strategic Intelligence Centre.
International and regional organizations the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (CICTE/OAS) and 1540 Experts.

Background

On 4 January 2022, the Permanent Mission of the State of Ecuador to the United Nations, through a Note Verbale, requested assistance from the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to enhance implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004), with the aim of identifying the first steps to draft Ecuador's National Implementation Action Plan (NAP). The Permanent Mission of Ecuador confirmed the dates of the event as 25-26 May 2022 in a Note Verbale dated 6 May 2022.

This meeting was of direct relevance to the 1540 Committee with regard to the following operative paragraphs of resolution 2325 (2016):

- 5. Encourages also States to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans, with the assistance of the 1540 Committee as appropriate, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit these plans to the Committee;

¹ 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.

- 10. Calls upon all States to intensify their efforts to achieve full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), focusing, when and where appropriate, on areas where measures should be taken and strengthened;
- 14. Recalls its decision that all States shall 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 control over related materials, and calls upon States that have not done so to start developing effective national control lists at the earliest opportunity for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- 16. Encourages the 1540 Committee to continue to engage actively in dialogue with States, including in the context of ongoing updating of the implementation data it holds, and through visits to States, at their invitation, by the Committee;
- 18. Encourages States that have requests for assistance to provide the 1540 Committee, as appropriate, with specific details of the assistance needed, directs the Committee, when possible, to provide States, upon their request, with assistance in the formulation of such requests, and further directs the Committee to revise its assistance template.

Highlights and Discussions

The Undersecretary of Multilateral Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador opened the workshop and stated that Ecuador stands up for the non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction in every international forum. He also remarked that Ecuador is aware about the need to strengthen resolution 1540 (2004) implementation, and that is why they value the importance of drafting a voluntary National Action Plan (NAP). The representative also referred to the importance for Ecuador joining the Security Council and thanked the 1540 Committee for the activity.

The activity contributed to raising awareness among participants about the obligations expressed in resolution 1540 (2004) and provided them with an introduction to a voluntary National Implementation Action Plan drafting process. Participants also had the opportunity to discuss the actions that Ecuador needs to carry out in order to improve the level of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and had the opportunity to listen to the relevant assistance provided by the 1540 Committee, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (CICTE/OAS).

Additional Comments

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