

Information Note¹

- Event:** Regional Workshop to Promote the Universalization of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM)
- Organizers:** International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) hosted by the Brazilian National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN)
- Date and Venue:** 15 – 18 October 2024, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Participants:** *Government representatives from regional States:*
Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
International representatives:
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Canadian Ministry of Justice, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and an Expert of the UN Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

Background

In an email dated 26 August 2024, the Director for the Division of Nuclear Security at the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security at the IAEA informed the Chair of the Committee about a regional workshop that was to be convened by the IAEA in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 15 to 18 October 2024. The IAEA stated that the purpose of the event was to promote adherence to the A/CPPNM and to support implementation through an exchange of views and experiences of States in the region. The email (see S/AC.44/2024/NOTE.145) invited the 1540 Committee to nominate an expert to participate in the workshop and deliver presentations on “Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and its complementarities with the A/CPPNM and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), as well as the 1540 Committee Assistance Mechanism, and also to contribute to a panel discussion on the importance and benefits of joining and fully implementing the A/CPPNM and other legal instruments in the area of nuclear security.”

The workshop was of relevance to resolution 1540 (2004) as follows:

- In its preamble, resolution 1540 (2004) recognizes that most States have undertaken binding legal obligations under treaties to which they are parties, or have made other commitments aimed at preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, and have

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taken effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect sensitive materials, such as those required by the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM).

- The CPPNM, its 2005 Amendment, as well as ICSANT, obligate states parties to implement measures complementary to important elements of operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 1540 (2004) related to nuclear weapons and related materials.
- Operative paragraph 12 of resolution 2663 (2023) reiterates the Security Council's decision that the 1540 Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) ... and addresses all aspects of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of that resolution, particularly noting the need for more attention on: enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and transshipment controls.

Highlights

The workshop, which was attended by 28 representatives from fourteen Latin American and Caribbean countries and international experts, was opened by the head of the Radiation Protection Directorate in the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN), Mr Alessandro Facure.

The workshop provided an opportunity for in-depth discussions with and among regional States on their accession to, and implementation of, the CPPNM and its Amendment, as well as ICSANT. It also presented a valuable opportunity to enhance awareness of States' obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), as well as the Committee's assistance mechanism and other tools to support national implementation. Participants were briefed about the differences in scope, objectives and application of the different international instruments, but also the complementary nature of resolution 1540 (2004) and overlaps with provisions under other international instruments. National participants also had the opportunity to exchange information on some of the challenges experienced in the process of accession and the implementation of nuclear security instruments, lessons learnt, as well as the benefits of the full and effective implementation of the respective instruments. Additionally, the participants were provided a demonstration on navigating the 1540 Committee website in order to find all pertinent information related to their state's status and general information about implementation of resolution 1540.

Additional Comments

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