

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

**Event:** Workshop on Promoting the Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism for the Pacific Region

**Organizer:** Organized by UNODC, funded by the European Union

**Date and Venue:** 8-10 May 2023, Nadi, Fiji, pre-recorded presentation

**Participants:** Representatives from authorities of Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Political, Trade and Information Section Delegation of the European Union (EU) to the Pacific, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), INTERPOL, James Martin Center for Non-proliferation Studies (CNS-MIIS), Nuclear Threat Initiative, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and Pacific, Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNRCPD)

### **Background**

This Workshop is of relevance to resolution 1540 (2004) as follows:

- 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 taken effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect sensitive materials.
- Operative paragraph 12 of resolution 2663 (2022) 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) ... noting the need for more attention on: enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and transshipment controls.
- Furthermore, operative paragraph 25 of resolution 2663 (2022) requests the 1540 Committee to continue to organize and participate in outreach events on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) at the international, regional, subregional

level ... and promote the refinement of these outreach efforts to focus on specific thematic and regional issues related to implementation.

The letter noted that the Workshop aims to raise awareness of the importance of adhering to and effectively implementing the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as well as to provide participants with an opportunity to discuss the benefits and challenges of adhering to the Convention and incorporating its provisions into national legislation.

### **Highlights**

The workshop raised awareness of the main provisions of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), the importance of joining and effectively implementing it; explored overlaps between ICSANT and other relevant international legal instruments in the field of nuclear security, including the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its Amendment, and UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), among others; discussed the role of UNODC, other international organisations and civil society in promoting ICSANT and nuclear security in general; provided participants with a forum to discuss the benefits and challenges of adhering to ICSANT and incorporating its provisions into national legislation.

Participants were given a pre-recorded presentation of the 1540 Committee Expert on the obligations under UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) with specific reference to nuclear weapons and measures to account for, secure and physically protect “related materials”, the status of implementation based on the latest matrix data, the 1540 Committee’s assistance mechanism as well as overlaps between resolution 1540 and ICSANT.

Meeting participants showed interest in the topics discussed and expressed readiness to explore further opportunities of engagement with UNODC and other organisations in connection with joining and implementing ICSANT and other legal instruments discussed during the event. Follow-up with representatives of each participating country will be conducted by UNODC in the coming months.

### **Additional Comments**

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