

Information Note¹

- Event:** Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean
- Organizers:** The Government of Mexico, in coordination with the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL)
- Date and Venue:** 8 July 2021, Virtual event
- Participants:** Experts in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation from the academic and governmental spheres, as well as from civil society

Background

On 16 June 2021, the Director General for the United Nations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean.

The objectives of the participation of the 1540 Expert were to make a presentation on the mandate of the resolution 1540, mechanisms for national implementation, including assistance, the comprehensive review and to contribute to discussions raised during the panel.

Highlights

The Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean was held virtually from 29 June to 9 July 2021. The 1540 Expert made a presentation during the panel “Nuclear Security and Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism” on 8 July 2021, which was moderated by Mr Jean du Preez, Senior Program Manager of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS).

The first presentation was delivered by Ms Irma Arguello, Founder and Chair of NPS Global Foundation and Associated Fellow of the Chatham House, who described different nuclear threats, the international nuclear security control framework and challenges and opportunities that the GRULAC region has in terms of nuclear security.

The second presentation was given by Ms. Elena Sokova, Executive Director of the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Nonproliferation. She described the international responses to different international security threats, such as the UNSC resolution 1540 (2004), the

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International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, and the IAEA Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radiological Sources. Afterward, she referred to the legal and institutional international framework for nuclear security.

The last presentation was delivered by the 1540 Expert, who described the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, their means of delivery by non-State actors. The Expert also showed the level of implementation of resolution 1540 in the GRULAC region and made a short reference to the ongoing Comprehensive Review process.

Additional Comments

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