

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

- Event:** National Workshop to engage industry and the private sector of the Dominican Republic on strategic trade and internal compliance programs in the framework of UNSCR 1540 (2004).
- Organizers:** Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Government of the Dominican Republic.
- Date and Venue:** 26, 28 and 30 April 2021, on a Zoom platform.
- Participants:** Representatives from the Government of the Dominican Republic Agencies, including Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Energy and Mines, National Energy Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Directorate of Customs, Ministry of Environment, Dominican Republic Institute for Quality, representatives from the industrial sector, Stimson Center and a 1540 Expert.

### **Background**

On 18 March 2021, Ms Alison Treppel, the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in a virtual national workshop to engage industry and the private sector of the Dominican Republic on strategic trade and internal compliance programs in the framework of UNSCR 1540 (2004).

The objectives of the workshop were to raise awareness of resolution 1540 (2004) among relevant national stakeholders through an introduction of the obligations and key elements of the resolution, to make a presentation on how resolution 1540 (2004) addresses domestic and export controls over related materials, and to show the status of implementation of control measures in the region, based on the updated Committee matrix data, drawing attention to OP 3(c)-(d).

### **Highlights**

Ambassador Ramón Quiñones Rodríguez, Head of the Directorate of Security and Defense from the Dominican Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ms. Alison Treppel, Executive Secretary of CICTE, delivered the introductory remarks.

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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.

After those statements, the 1540 Expert described the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, means of delivery and related materials by non-State actors. The Expert also showed the level of implementation of resolution 1540 in the GRULAC region, and in the Dominican Republic. She also made a short reference to the ongoing Comprehensive Review process

The next speaker was the representative from CICTE who described the characteristics of an effective strategic export control, giving examples of modalities for its implementation. He also referred to the challenges in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and the implications for the national strategic trade.

Following that, the Dominican Republic representatives described their legal framework to comply with resolution 1540 (2004) obligations and described the scope of their Operative List to control strategic goods. They also referred to the bill on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which includes strategic trade controls.

The industrial sector was represented by Barrick Pueblo Viejo and the speaker depicted the security and physical protection measures they have in place to securely store explosives and chemical substances used for gold extraction, which due to their dual use nature, can be used to produce chemical weapons.

Brazil and Chile described their efforts to comply with the resolutions 1540 (2004) obligations in terms of strategic trade controls as well as reaching out key stakeholders to aware them about those obligations.

Finally, a representative from a Stimson Center delivered a presentation on the importance of the implementation of internal compliance programs and guided a scenario-based exercise on licensing procedures.

### **Additional Comments**

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