

Information Note¹

- Event:** Sub regional Forum of Stakeholders on the National Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and on Latin-American Cooperation
- Organizer:** Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Government of Argentina
- Date and Venue:** 17-19 September 2019, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Participants:** National representatives; international and regional organisations; industry

Background

- Resolution 1540 (2004) requires States to refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. All States are obliged to adopt and enforce appropriate and effective laws prohibiting such activities by non-State actors on their territories. States must adopt and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls on these weapons, their means of delivery and related material.
- Furthermore, Resolution 1540 (2004) decides in its operative paragraph 3 a) that all States shall take and enforce effective measures to account for and secure nuclear, chemical and biological weapons related materials in production, use, storage or transport.
- On 1 July 2019, the Acting Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the Committee to take part in a Sub regional Forum of Stakeholders on the National Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and on Latin-American Cooperation.

Highlights

After opening remarks by H.E. Pablo Beltramino, Subsecretary of Foreign Policies of the Argentinean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, and a tour de table of participants, the audience heard a number of presentations during different panels which covered topics such as promotion of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) through an effective coordination among key stakeholders, strengthening the CWC verification regime, the international legal framework on chemical security and national response capacities to chemical emergencies.

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

States represented described how CWC is implemented along with the role of their NAs as well as they described their efforts undertaken to enhance their capacities to respond to chemical threats and emergencies as well as they their needs which enable them to adequately respond to a chemical threat or emergency.

Interactive activities based in guided questionnaires allowed the participants to find gaps in their national procedures and or legal frameworks regarding subjects such as relation between chemical industry and governments, chemical security, OPCW verification regime and assistance and protection against chemical threats.

Additional Comments

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