

Information Note¹

Event:	Workshop on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) and Maritime Terrorism for ASEAN countries
Organizer(s):	Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) with the financial support of the Government of Japan
Venue and Date:	Bangkok, Thailand, 6 - 7 December 2012
Participants:	States: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Organizations: UNODC and its Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC ISU), International Maritime Organization (IMO), and 1540 Committee expert

1. Objectives

The workshop on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) and Maritime Terrorism for ASEAN countries was aimed at providing legal and technical assistance to ASEAN countries to promote ratification, full implementation of the global legal instruments dealing with CBRN and maritime terrorism, including UNSC resolution 1540 (2004). It was also designed to facilitate ASEAN countries in incorporating the existing legal instruments dealing with CBRN and maritime terrorism, including resolution 1540 (2004), into their national legislation. The workshop benefited from the participation of the 1540 Committee expert, as expressed by a letter from Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of UNODC dated 13 December 2012, “participation of an expert of the Committee in the UNODC Workshop on CBRN and Maritime Terrorism for ASEAN countries... contributed to the success of the event”. National representatives shared experience of their ratification status and national criminal legislation relevant to CBRN and maritime terrorism, and solutions to the common challenges found in meeting international obligations in combating CBRN and maritime terrorism.

The 1540 Committee experts participated in this event to:

- Provide details and expert advice on the obligations of resolution 1540 (2004) and its subsequent resolutions and the role played by the 1540 Committee;
- Promote and raise the awareness of resolution 1540 (2004), and to facilitate full implementation;
- Engage actively with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to promote the sharing of experience, lessons learned and effective practices, in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004).

¹ 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.

2. **Background**

All ten members of ASEAN have submitted their national implementation reports, but none of them have provided national implementation action plans (NAPs). Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam have submitted assistance requests to the Committee. As with similar events and engagements in the region, the workshop was valuable in promoting and facilitating a better understanding of resolution 1540 (2004), as well as in the encouragement of full implementation.

3. **Highlights**

Awareness and understanding was raised of the existing global legal framework against terrorism including UN Security Council resolution 1267(1999), resolution 1373 (2001), resolution 1540 (2004) and their respective subsequent resolutions, and 18 multilateral treaties against terrorism (seven instruments related to civil aviation, five United Nations Conventions, four maritime navigation safety treaties and two IAEA conventions on the physical protection of nuclear material).

The speakers from the UN bodies and international organizations focused their presentation on promoting the universality of the international counter-terrorism legal instruments. They contributed to raising participants' awareness on the importance of fulfilling their obligations stemming from the respective legal instruments covering CBRN and maritime terrorism, as well as the respective assistance available from their organizations and committees. Moreover, the speakers provided details and professional advice on the ratification and full implementation of relevant legal instruments with explanations of the model law and the roles they could play in helping understanding of the specific requirements of the legal instruments and facilitating the process of incorporating them into national legislation. National representatives shared experiences learned and solutions developed during their ratification and implementation processes and challenges faced in meeting international counter-terrorism obligations.

4. **Additional comments**

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