

# Information Note<sup>1</sup>

<b>Event:</b>	<b>Regional Workshop on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism</b>
<b>Organizers:</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Terrorist Prevention Branch (TPB), in cooperation with the Government of Argentina (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
<b>Date and Venue:</b>	2-4 June 2009; Buenos Aires, Argentina
<b>Participants:</b>	<i>States:</i> Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. <i>International organizations:</i> Organization of American States Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (OAS/SSM/CICTE), IAEA, UNODC and UNSCR 2540 Expert.

## 1. Objectives

- promote resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of implementing the Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;
- discuss existing and pending national legislation against terrorism and its financing;
- emphasize the advantages of resolution 1540 (2004) and its full implementation;
- identify obstacles and challenges to national implementations of resolution 1540 (2004).

## 2. Background

The workshop contained three substantive segments: (1) legal frameworks on prevention/suppression of nuclear terrorism, including resolution 1540 (2004); (2) best practices in the context of participating States' experience; and (3) technical assistance on nuclear terrorism matters.

The combined goal of these segments was to enhance the capacities of the South American States in implementing instruments related to the prevention and suppression of acts of nuclear and maritime terrorism.

## 3. Highlights

Participants of invited Member States gave presentation on the status of ratification and national criminal legislation related to nuclear terrorism and nuclear security and explained their programmes of work, including on draft legislation.

Resolution 1540 (2004) was highlighted as one of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions that directly contribute to nuclear terrorism prevention. The 1540 Committee expert explained to participating Member States the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004) and methods used by the 1540 Committee to facilitate its implementation. The expert's presentation focused on the importance of adopting effective legislation that prohibits WMD-related activities by non-state actors and of introducing effective physical

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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.

protection and control measures for sensitive materials. The 1540 Committee expert also had the opportunity to conduct dialogues with participating States. Each delegation received the current matrix of its country, reviewed its contents with the expert, and was encouraged to submit new information to the 1540 Committee.

Representative of OEA/SSM/CICTE explained how the Secretariat of CICTE has been partnering with the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch to aid the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). He referred to plans for subregional activities to be organized with the UNODC with objectives to train prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement officials.

During the workshop, participating Members States were encouraged to continue working on necessary internal legislation related to nuclear terrorism and to comply with the requirements of the UNSC resolutions. They were encouraged to submit any relevant information such as voluntary actions plans, new legislation and requests for assistance.

#### 4. **Additional comments**

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