

Information Note¹

Event: Workshop on “Science Collaboration and Security: Emerging CBRN Challenges and Threat Reduction Programs Beyond 2012”

Organizers: International Working Group - Landau Network Centro Volta with the contribution of the US National Nuclear Security Administration and in cooperation with the US Department of State - Bureau of International Security, and the Government of Italy

Date and Venue: 13-14 September 2012, Cernobbio-Como, Italy

Participants: *States:* Italy (MFA); United Kingdom (FCO); United States (DoE/NNSA; DoS)

European Union: Joint Research Centre, European Commission

International organizations: OPCW, UNIDIR (Emerging Security Threats Programme); Chairman of the 2012 Biological Weapons Convention Meeting of Experts, UN Office at Geneva (UNOG); 1540 Committee expert

Civil society, private sector, industry and academia: Associazione Italiana esperti in Infrastrutture Critiche (AIIC), Italy; Bio-Nucleonics, US; Brazilian Centre for International Relations, Brazil; Center for International Relations, Russian Federal Nuclear Center (VNIIEF), Sarov, Russia; China Arms Control and Disarmament Association, China; ENEA Research Center, Bologna, Italy; Galveston National Laboratory, University of Texas Medical Branch, US; Global Green USA, US; Institute of Industrial Organic Chemistry, Warsaw, Poland; International Center for Nuclear Education, National Research Nuclear University, Obninsk, Russia; King’s College, UK; Landau Network-Centro Volta; Middle East and North Africa Strategic Studies Center (MENASSC), Lebanon; National Academy of Sciences, US; Polytechnic of Turin, Italy; Program in Cybersecurity Policy, Graduate School of Management and Technology, University of Maryland, US; University of Bradford, UK; University of Notre Dame, NDNano, Center for Nano Science and Technology, US; University of Sussex, UK; University of Torino, Italy; Verification, Education, Research and Training Center (VERTIC); Washington University, US

1. **Objectives of a 1540 Committee expert participation**

- Brief participants on relevant aspects of resolution 1540 (2004) in light of resolution 1977 (2011), as well as on relevant activities of the 1540 Committee and its experts;
- Recall the role of the 1540 Committee on assistance and its clearinghouse function to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by States;
- Gather information on the evolution of CBRN risks and threats in light of the developments in the nanotechnology and cyber sectors.

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

2. **Background**

- The International Working Group (IWG), established with an Executive Secretariat at the Landau Network Centro Volta of Como, Italy, is an international think-tank gathering both officials and technical experts;
- Established in 2002, the IWG focuses on addressing the “human dimension” of proliferation, with a focus on science and technologies with potential non-peaceful applications, including sensitive knowledge on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons and emerging and converging science;
- The organizers indicated the workshop would enlighten the potential misuse for malicious purposes by non-state actors of bio, nuclear and nanotechnologies and their implications for Scientists Engagement (SE), the risks of cyber attacks against nuclear facilities, and the necessity to enhance worldwide the nuclear security culture.

3. **Highlights**

Professor Maurizio Martellini underscored growing CBRN challenges, in a context a globalization and easier access to relevant knowledge and know-how, which calls for coordinated and structured efforts. The representative of the Centro Volta Landau Network invited the participants to consider the developments in the cybernetic area as a new dimension of the CBRN risks and threats, which should encourage to consider a refinement of the nonproliferation policies. Referring to emerging global players, the Centro Volta Landau Network representative stated that efforts must be pursued at the global scale, with due involvement of all relevant partners.

Anne Harrington, Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation at the US Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration, shared lessons learned in scientist engagement over the past 30 years. The Department of Energy representative underscored that the scientific community shares common values and interests beyond the borders, and that there is a need, also, to involve the industry community.

The Head of the Disarmament, Arms Control and Nonproliferation Department in the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Massimo Drei, emphasized the need to address challenges attached to the human dimension of proliferation; not only should nonproliferation policies address materials and equipments, they should also address the matter of sensitive knowledge and know-how.

Four thematic sessions and three concurrent breakout sessions guided the discussions.

4. **Additional comments**

For information on the Centro Volta Landau network: www.centrovolta.it

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