

Information Note¹

Event:	Legal-Regulatory Seminar on International Trade and Global Security
Organizers:	Centre for International Trade & Security, University of Georgia (CITS); co-sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile with the support from the U.S. Department of State
Date & Venue:	23-25 September 2009; Santiago, Chile
Participants:	<i>States:</i> Chile, United States, Australian Defence Export Control Office <i>International organizations:</i> 1540 Committee expert <i>Other:</i> Fletcher International Export Consultancy

1. Objectives

- promote awareness of resolution 1540 (2004) and its requirements;
- highlight the advantages of adopting and enforcing effective laws and other measures to prevent non-state actors from engaging in illicit activities.

2. Background

The International Trade and Global Security Seminars organized by CITS aim to provide opportunities for national officials to discuss border and export control systems and regimes, share experiences and explore opportunities for technical cooperation and assistance.

3. Highlights

The seminar provided a forum for Chilean governmental entities and relevant industries to discuss international export control regimes and related concerns regarding trade security. A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile made a thorough presentation on the evolution and challenges of security, objectives of non-proliferation multilateral organizations, and how Chile encouraged new approaches taking into account new dimensions of illicit trafficking. Other speakers also highlighted risks of illicit trafficking and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by non-state actors. The 1540 Committee expert explained how resolution 1540 (2004) served as a barrier to the dangerous nexus between WMD and non-state actors. The presentation focused on the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), the role of the 1540 Committee, and the utility of the 1540 matrix.

Representatives of multilateral control regimes elaborated on the policy and regulatory aspects of multilateral arms export control regimes and their implementation at the national level. Some presenters outlined practical steps that blend technical and policy instruments to reduce nuclear, chemical and biological weapon threats and to enhance disaster preparedness and response capabilities. Industry representatives discussed the impact of export control systems on trade. Many exporters explained their internal in-company compliance programmes for export controls. They also referred to the need for industry incentives and protection of national industries in the international competition in view of possible delays in licensing export of goods.

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.

As a result of the workshop, a number of priority areas have been identified including adopting or revising necessary laws and regulations to ensure conformity with the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004); improving nuclear, chemical and biological weapon-related materials control, accountancy and physical protection systems; intensification of work on implementing measures to prevent nuclear and radioactive materials illicit traffic; enhancing expertise of government and customs officials and specialists involved in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004); building institutional capacity of various government agencies; controls, and improving public awareness and enhancing relations between government and industry.

4. **Additional comment**

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