



## THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Office of the Permanent Observer to the United Nations  
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Excellency,

With reference to your note verbale S/AC.44/2013/OC.86 dated November 6, 2013, regarding your request for the relevant experience, lessons learned and effective practices, that the League of Arab States has developed in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004), I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy, in Arabic, of the efforts exerted by the League of Arab States in this regard, in addition to the measures, taken by the League, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Fathalla  
Ambassador and Permanent Observer  
of the League of Arab States to the U.N.



Mr. Oh Joon  
Chair of the Security Council Committee  
Established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

*Translated from Arabic*

**Efforts made by the League of Arab States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction**

The League of Arab States has worked fruitfully to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. It has taken a series of measures in connection with Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), and has recently built closer relations with the United Nations and a number of relevant international and regional organizations.

1. Preventing terrorists from obtaining weapons of mass destruction is a shared objective of the States members of the League, all of which are committed to implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and upholding the relevant resolutions and mechanisms of the League. The secretariat of the League has written to the Arab Ministries of Justice and the Interior requesting information regarding measures taken to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. Most Arab States (17 in total) have provided answers, which the secretariat of the League has transmitted to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA).

2. At successive sessions, the Council of the League and the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice have adopted resolutions addressing non-responding Arab States. Most recently, resolution No. 7679 adopted by the Council of the League on 1 September 2013 and resolution No. 965 adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice on 26 November 2013 have called on Arab States to exchange expertise, information and technical support to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction or their components.

3. The Doha Summit Declaration adopted at the twenty-fourth summit of the League on 12 March 2013 affirms the need to rid the Middle East of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

4. In several of its recommendations, which have been endorsed by the Council of the League, the Arab Group of Experts on Counter-Terrorism, which reports to the Council, has called on Arab States to continue updating their reports on measures taken to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction; to foster cooperation with the United Nations and its counter-terrorism entities, particularly the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) on counter-terrorism and resolution 1540 (2004) on preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction; and to continue Arab efforts to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

5. A set of Arab guidelines on national legislation and bilateral and multilateral counter-terrorism instruments is being drafted pursuant to a decision of the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior. The guidelines will be a boon to Arab States' efforts to develop and update their legislation and harmonize it with international instruments and resolutions, particularly those concerning measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

6. The League has organized or participated in numerous activities on preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. Several of those activities were organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other international and regional organizations. Some examples follow:

(a) An Arab regional counter-terrorism seminar was held in Cairo on 16 and 17 February 2005. It called for action to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction or their components.

(b) A workshop on measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction was held in Cairo on 20 and 21 October 2009. It called on Arab States to adopt national legislation and take effective measures to prevent non-State actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their components; establish a database of lists of components of weapons of mass destruction; and transmit that list to border protection authorities.

(c) A training session on monitoring and securing the movement of goods and persons was held in Riyadh from 16 to 18 February 2010. It emphasized the need to control and regulate the legitimate trade in weapons, ammunition and other dangerous materials and prevent their transfer to terrorists.

(d) The League organized a regional workshop on cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in promoting Security Council resolutions and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The workshop, which was held in cooperation with UNODC, took place in Cairo on 20 and 21 February 2012. It called on Arab States members of international regional and subregional organizations to exchange experiences, information and technical support with a view to monitoring the movement of goods and preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their components.

(e) A conference entitled “Towards an Arab Nuclear Security Strategy” was held in Riyadh from 3 to 5 June 2013. It called for the formulation of an Arab strategy on nuclear security and urged every Arab State to strengthen legislation and administrative measures on nuclear security in coordination with relevant regional and international organizations.

(f) The League of Arab States took part in a workshop organized by the Government of Jordan and ODA, held in Jordan on 4 and 5 September 2007, on preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their acquisition by terrorists.

(g) The League took part in a workshop held in Slovakia on 17 and 18 March 2008 on the role of regional and subregional organizations and civil society in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The workshop affirmed the need to make regional organizations better aware of the threat posed by terrorist acquisition of weapons of mass destruction.

(h) The League took part in a quasi-regional workshop organized by in Abu Dhabi from 28 to 30 June 2009 by the United Arab Emirates and UNODC concerning the preparation of reports and responses for the three Security Council counter-terrorism committees. The workshop called for dialogue and cooperation on non-proliferation and for cooperative measures to prevent the illicit trafficking of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

(i) The League took part in a workshop held in Doha from 8 to 11 March 2009 by ODA and Qatar on non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery.

(j) The League took part in the comprehensive review of resolution 1540 (2004) held in the Trusteeship Council at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 30 September 2009.

7. The Council of the League and the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice have adopted resolutions pressing for continued cooperation with all counter-terrorism entities in international and regional organizations, including the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

Lastly, the League of Arab States believes that resolution 1540 (2004) can be fully and effectively implemented by fostering cooperation, providing technical assistance and redoubling efforts towards the swift establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. The League is determined to continue fulfilling its fundamental role in promoting implementation of the resolution by providing full support to Arab States in cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations.

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