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SMS-CICTE-540/23
October 27, 2023

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His Excellency
Hernán Pérez Loose
1540 Committee Chair and
Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations
New York

Excellency,

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS), I wish to convey our strong commitment to preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery throughout the Western Hemisphere, in line with UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

As the world's first regional body created to prevent and counter terrorism in all its manifestations, CICTE has been supporting OAS Member States in their counter-terrorism efforts since 1999, in accordance with the principles of the OAS Charter, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, and with full respect for the rule of law and international law.

In particular, CICTE has been leading regional efforts since 2010 to implement the provisions of UNSCR 1540 and prevent the misuse of nuclear, chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology by non-State actors and terrorists. Our efforts include the drafting of national action plans, the organization of national and regional capacity-building events, the implementation of awareness-raising initiatives with both public and private sector actors, and the convening of hemispheric meetings to promote greater cooperation and coordination around this critical topic. I would, accordingly, like to offer OAS/CICTE's resources and expertise to support Latin America and Caribbean Member State's requests of assistance when pertinent to implementation of UNSCR1540 and/or counter-terrorism matters.



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Furthermore, OAS/CICTE reiterates its willingness to continue in its role as 1540 Hemispheric Coordinator for the Americas, a responsibility it has maintained since 2017. CICTE will continue to collaborate directly with disarmament and non-proliferation experts from across the region and will maintain close cooperative contact with its counterparts of the United Nations, including the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts.

OAS/CICTE congratulates the Government of Ecuador on its election and looks forward to continued partnership and engagement with the 1540 Committee under your Chairmanship. We reiterate our support for the work of the Committee and for strengthening implementation of UNSCR 1540 across the Western Hemisphere.

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

Alison August Treppel
Executive Secretary
Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)
Organization of American States (OAS)