

Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) / Regional Disarmament Branch



UNLIREC

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and
Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Regional Caribbean Workshop to Promote Universality
and Implementation to BTWC UNSCR1540 (2004)**

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
29 April 2019



About UNLIREC

33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

UNODA Regional Subdivision

The unique UN entity with the mandate to address disarmament and non-proliferation issues in the LAC region.

Supports LAC States in the achievement and maintenance of peace and security through disarmament.

Personnel :18 / bilingual experts



Provide "... on request, **substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the Latin American region [and the Caribbean (A/43/76H)]** for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development..." (A/41/60)

... strengthening peace and security through regional disarmament



UNLIREC Strategic Objectives



Strengthen the **national capacities** of Latin American and Caribbean States in **disarmament and non-proliferation**.



Contribute to the development and implementation of a **multidisciplinary disarmament** approach.



Foster a culture of **disarmament and non-proliferation** which contributes to an increase in confidence among States in the region.



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**Why is Resolution 1540
important for States which do
not have weapons of mass
destruction?**



Contexto

April 2011

United Nations Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1977, which extends the mandate of Resolution 1540 (2004) Committee of Experts for ten years.

- Resolution 1977 contains specific obligations which Member States must assume.
- Resolution 1977 urges regional and sub-regional organizations to support the implementation of 2004's Resolution 1540 and strengthen the capacities of Member States.
- Resolution 1977 urges UNODA to strengthen the capacities of its regional centres- including UNLIREC- to support Member States in the implementation of the resolution at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.

UNLIREC Assistance Programme for the Implementation of UNSCR 1540

This projects purpots to adress the following vulnerabilities:

Lack of support in conceptualizing, elaborating and/or implementing National 1540 Action Plans

Weak trade controls + feeble enforcement to controlling dual use agents

Lack of specialized training related to implementation of O.P.3 (UNSCR 1540)

Lack of robust WMD legal framework

Weak transit/trans-shipent controls



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UNLIREC Assistance



Legal Assistance

Goals

- ▶ Boast a strong legal framework to combat the proliferation of WMDs.
- ▶ Harmonize the national legal systems and adapt their regulations to the international legal framework.

How?

- ▶ Reviewing national regulations and suggesting possible amendments to strengthen legal frameworks.
- ▶ Assisting Member States to strengthen strategic controls on trade as well as creating and/or updating lists of controlled items.



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Activities on the Region



9 legal studies on the implementation of UNSCR 1540.



434 legal and policy officers engaged in legislative discussions and reform.



Provide assistance in legal drafting on the Bill of Law on WMD in the Dominican Republic and the bill of law on the Prohibition of Biological Weapons in Peru.

Technical Support



Goals

- ▶ Support the development of a voluntary National Action Plan as a tool to outline thematic priorities which focuses state action to effectively implement Resolution 1540.
- ▶ Creation of inter-institutional working groups to monitor the development of national plans.

How?

- ▶ In close collaboration with the States, evaluating the general situation of the country regarding Resolution 1540 including strengths, weaknesses and needs which will be part of the National Action Plan.
- ▶ Provide training according to the specific needs of the country.

Activities on the Region



Technical Support



Support to the development of 7 National Action Plans (NAP).



5 NAPs sent to the 1540 Committee.



More than 600 national officers have enhanced their legal-technical and operational capacities.



Apprised of the relevance of establishing inter-institutional mechanisms or working groups to support the implementation of UNSCR 1540.

Activities in the Region



Regional Dialogue



Strengthened regional dialogue in themes relevant to the implementation of UNSCR 1540 of 160 representatives in 4 Regional Seminars.



Development of practical tools: Guide to Control Lists, Focus Lists and the Licensing Guide.



The Project in its Current Phase

For its current phase until December there will be:

Undertake **2 legal drafting exercises** through assistance in drafting BWC-related legislation in Peru.

Carry out **1 national training workshop** for frontline operators in collaboration with IMO in Suriname

Deliver **1 work session** to monitor **application of focus list** in Dominican Republic

Prepare **1 Sub-regional Caribbean workshop** on focus lists and licensing protocols in Belize.



The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

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