

## 1. How VERTIC's legislative assistance works:

### 1.1. Three prongs:

1.1.1. Universality: BWC, CWC, CPPNM Amendment, Nuclear Terrorism Convention

1.1.2. legislative analysis

1.1.3. technical drafting visits

1.1.4. I will briefly focus on the last two prongs: legislative analysis and technical drafting

## 2. First, legislative analysis:

2.1. Three templates for the BWC, CWC and nuclear security

2.2. BWC template has 96 data points across

2.2.1. Definitions

2.2.2. offences and penalties

2.2.3. preparations to commit offences

2.2.4. jurisdiction over offences

2.2.5. control lists

2.2.6. measures to account for, secure and physically protect biological agents

2.2.7. preventive measures to control transfers

2.2.8. and enforcement

2.3. CWC template 92 data points

2.4. Nuclear security template: nearly 300 data points

2.5. We prepare these surveys using open source information: gazettes, legislation databases, etc.

2.6. We share the survey with the concerned government and ask for feedback and then revise the survey based on these comments

2.7. Our surveys are ONLY shared with the concerned States, not with the 1540 Committee or its experts, nor with our funders

2.8. We DO encourage the States to share their completed BWC, CWC and nuclear security legislation surveys with the 1540 Committee but we have no indication as to whether this has happened or not

2.9. ALL laws and regulations that we review and include in the BWC and nuclear security legislation surveys are posted in our BWC and nuclear security legislation databases, on the VERTIC website

### **3. Second, technical drafting assistance:**

3.1. First, our technical drafting assistance takes place under projects funded by governments:

3.1.1. these include current projects with Canada in Latin America and the Caribbean

3.1.2. and with the UK, primarily in West Africa

3.2. VERTIC was the lead, on a now completed project funded by the European Union CBRN Centres of Excellence; our project partners were the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the German Export Control Agency, BAFA

3.3. Assistance requests have come to VERTIC in several forms:

3.3.1. Through the BWC Action, funded by EU Council decisions

3.3.2. Directly from the BWC Implementation Support Unit

3.3.3. Through our EU CBRN Centres of Excellence Project 8

3.3.4. Through other direct requests

3.3.5. And now through outreach and “buy-in” efforts by project partner Stimson under our project funded by Canada in Latin America and the Caribbean

3.4. Requests through the BWC Action:

3.4.1. We have organized and led BWC legislation drafting workshops in

3.4.1.1. Benin

3.4.1.2. Burkina Faso

3.4.1.3. Colombia

3.4.1.4. Mongolia

3.4.1.5. Nepal; and

3.4.1.6. Uganda

3.4.2. VERTIC is recognised in the most recent EU Council decision as an “expert” for implementation of the BWC

3.5. Assistance requests from the BWC Implementation Support Unit:

3.5.1. We co-organised a BWC legislation drafting workshop with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Malawi and stand ready to assist them with their latest request to the 1540 Committee

3.5.2. We co-organised a BWC legislation drafting workshop with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangladesh

3.6. Under our EU CBRN Centres of Excellence Project:

3.6.1. We organised three legislative drafting visits, across the CWC, BWC and/or nuclear security in Lao PDR and Malaysia

3.6.1.1. With model legislation translated into Lao

3.6.2. We organised four legislative drafting visits, across the CWC, BWC and nuclear security in Cambodia and Philippines

3.6.2.1. With model legislation translated into Khmer

3.7. We have worked with countries through direct request, for example:

3.7.1. With Senegal's Ministry of Defence and other ministries on BWC implementing legislation

3.7.2. And most recently on BWC and CWC implementing legislation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica in co-operation with CARICOM

3.7.2.1. I'm not sure if the representative from CARICOM may have a perspective on this but we have been collaborating with him and the Government of Canada on our engagement with Jamaica;

3.7.2.2. he has also informed VERTIC about the need for a similar engagement with Trinidad & Tobago as well as the Bahamas

3.8. We have heard a number of times about the need for models; there are indeed models already available and being used in our legislative drafting activities with States:

3.8.1. VERTIC's *Sample Act* for implementation of the BWC and related provisions of UNSCR 1540

3.8.2. The OPCW's *Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Kit*

3.8.3. Indonesia-VERTIC's *National Legislation Implementation Kit on Nuclear Security* and the IAEA's Handbook on Nuclear Law

3.8.4. And VERTIC's *Legislative Guide to National Implementation of UNSCR 1540*

3.8.5. These documents were submitted by the United Kingdom Mission to the UN in April 2015 as examples of best practice for implementation of the resolution and can be found on the 1540 Committee's website

Thank you Mr Chair.