



VERTIC's legislative assistance to implement CBRN international instruments

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About VERTIC

- The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) is an independent not-for-profit organization located in London, United Kingdom, established in 1986.
- VERTIC promotes the effective verification and implementation of international agreements and related regional and national initiatives.
- Two programmes
 - Verification and Monitoring
 - National Implementation Measures



About the NIM Programme

- VERTIC's National Implementation Measures (NIM) Programme advises States on national implementation of the obligations under C-B-RN international instruments
- Our multilingual team of common and civil law lawyers provide legislative analysis and assistance across the international C-B-RN legal regime ('one-stop shopping' = no institutional mandate restrictions)
- NIM Programme was marked by expansion in 2012 into assistance with adherence to and implementation of international instruments to control nuclear and other radioactive material



What instruments are covered?

- Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC)
- Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) (and Amendment)
- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT)
- IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources (Code of Conduct) and Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources (Guidance)
- RN-related provisions of international legal instruments in the fields of civil aviation, maritime navigation and fixed platforms
- Related provisions of UNSCR 1540 (2004)



Our legislative assistance offer

At a Government's request, we can provide cost-free legislative assistance to:

1. Assist States to adhere to the BWC, CWC, CPPNM (as amended) and ICSANT:

- Raise awareness of obligations through presentations at conferences and workshops, publications, or meetings with officials and other relevant national stakeholders
- Prepare and/or supply accession and ratification instruments and related information on adherence procedures



Our legislative assistance offer (continued)

2. Undertake comprehensive analysis of a State's existing legislation for the implementation of CBRN instruments

- Legislative survey: an analysis based on criteria covering definitions; offences and penalties; jurisdiction; measures for national enforcement as well as for international cooperation; measures to account for, secure and physically protect material; measures to control transfers of material
- Relevant national legislation and regulations are thoroughly reviewed
- Confidential



Our legislative assistance offer (continued)

3. Organize and participate in awareness-raising workshops and technical assistance visits to:
 - Elaborate national action plans
 - Draft/revise legislation
 - Support national processes considering legislative development and treaty adherence (either in capital or at relevant workshops)



VERTIC Tools

- **Fact sheets** on BWC, CWC, NPT, CPPNM (and amendment), ICSANT and Code of Conduct
- Comprehensive **C, B and RN legislative analysis** templates and statistics database (not publicly available)
- VERTIC's *Guide to National Implementation of UNSCR 1540*
- **Model legislation:** National Legislation Implementation Kit on Nuclear Security; BWC Sample Act
- **Ratification/Accession** tools for BWC, ICSANT and CPPNM Amendment
- VERTIC's **Nuclear Security and BWC Legislation Databases**



Examples of legislative assistance

- BWC Action (2013-15):
 - Regional workshops in Africa, Eastern Europe, South and South East Asia, Central America and the Caribbean to raise awareness about the BWC
 - National workshops to raise awareness on national implementation of the BWC, establishment of BWC national authorities
 - Assistance visits to review and draft BWC legislation
- EU CBRN Centres of Excellence Project 8: Prerequisite to strengthening CBRN national legal frameworks in South East Asia (2013-2015)
- Seminars, work sessions and roundtables on UNSCR 1540 implementation and UNSCR 1540 Voluntary National Action Plans with UNODA and OSCE

Examples of legislative assistance

- Senegal BWC Legislative Drafting Workshop (20-22 October 2015)





Statement of support

Former 1540 Committee Expert Dr Dana Perkins said of the NIM Programme's work:

- “These efforts [by the National Implementation Measures (NIM) Programme] arguably make VERTIC the most prolific and efficient legislative assistance provider in the world in areas related to Resolution 1540's implementation and an illustrative example of civil society involvement.”



Thank you

- NIM@vertic.org
- See also: www.vertic.org > Programmes > National Implementation Measures

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