



VERTIC's legislative assistance to implement UNSCR 1540 (2004)

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About VERTIC

- The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC)
 - Independent not-for-profit organization, based in London, United Kingdom
 - We promote the effective verification and implementation of international agreements and related regional and national initiatives; and have organised our work in three main programmes: verification and monitoring, national implementation measures and compliance.
 - Our national implementation measures programme have provided legislative assistance to over 50 States since 2005.
 - VERTIC advises States on national implementation of the obligations under CBRN international instruments – including UNSCR 1540 (2004)
 - Our multilingual team of common and civil law lawyers provide legislative analysis and assistance across the international CBRN legal regime
- ➔ ‘one-stop shopping’ = no institutional mandate restrictions



What instruments can VERTIC assist with?

- **UNSCR 1540 (2004)**
- 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
- Ratification and implementation support for nuclear safeguards (since 2013).



Our legislative assistance offer

At a government's request, we can provide cost-free legislative assistance to: **undertake a comprehensive analysis of a State's existing legislation for the implementation of UNSCR 1540/other CBRN instruments**, which includes:

- 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
- Thorough review of relevant national legislation and regulations, identifying areas where further legislation may be necessary
- Our work is confidential, shared only with the partner government.



Our legislative assistance offer (continued)

- 2. Organize and participate in awareness-raising workshops and technical assistance visits to:**
 - Elaborate national action plans (policy & legislation development)
 - Draft/revise legislation
 - Support national processes considering legislative development and treaty adherence (either in capital or at relevant workshops)
 - Provide follow-up support on request: comment on draft/revised bills; provide additional information, examples and legislative tools



Our legislative assistance offer (continued)

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

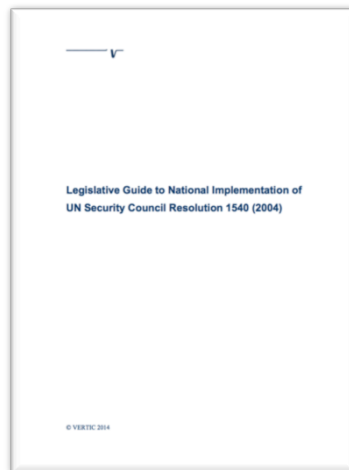
- Raise awareness of obligations through presentations at conferences and workshops, publications, or meetings with officials and other relevant national stakeholders.
- Prepare and/or supply accession and ratification instruments and related information on adherence procedures.
- Training on safeguards (in collaboration with, amongst others, the US National Nuclear Security Administration and the Norwegian Radiological Protection Authority).

VERTIC's assistance tools on UNSCR 1540

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

Canada and the United Kingdom submitted this guide to the 1540 Committee in 2014 as an example of effective practices for implementation of UNSCR 1540.

- VERTIC's **Fact Sheets** on UNSCR 1540 (English & French versions).
- **Comprehensive website:** drafting tools, examples of regional approaches, legislation databases, helpful documents, details of assistance providers.





Other VERTIC assistance 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);
- New safeguards implementation database;
- **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
- FATF 7, BWC, CWC and strategic trade workshops in Kingston, Jamaica this week (5-8 April 2016)



Statement of support

“These efforts 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.”

- Former 1540 Committee Expert, Dr. Dana Perkins.



How to contact us

- Email the Programme Director for National Implementation, Mr. Scott Spence at scott.spence@vertic.org.
- Our team will liaise with you to define the scope of your legislative assistance request and what assistance we can provide
- See also: www.vertic.org > Programmes > National Implementation Measures > UNSCR 1540