

## UNLIREC Newsletter

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) is mandated to support Latin American and Caribbean States in achieving and maintaining peace and security through disarmament.

### Enhancing Firearms Forensic Ballistics Systems in the Caribbean

#### UNLIREC carries out forensic ballistics collaborative exercises in Trinidad and Tobago



**24-26 January (Trinidad and Tobago) / 15-17 March (Jamaica) / 27-30 March (Dominican Republic):** A total of 12 firearms examiners participated in the UNLIREC-led pilot forensic ballistics collaborative exercise at the national level in Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic, respectively.

These exercises form part of a series of practical and paper-based assessments on the competencies of: forensic examination of small arms ammunition, forensic examination of firearms and their components and trigger pull and travel examination. The exercises - based on UNLIREC's standard operating procedures - were developed as a preparatory step for a regional framework of competency testing. These exercises may also be used as an internal assessment tool for the forensic science institutes and laboratories of the region.

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These assessments also support the internal identification of existing gaps in skills, knowledge and procedures within Firearms Units in each State benefitting from UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package.

This Package, made possible thanks to the support of the US Department of State and the Government of Canada, is being implemented in Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago.

UNLIREC, as the regional organ of the UN Office for Disarmament, seeks to advance the cause of practical disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean as part of its commitment to support Member States in their implementation of international disarmament and non-proliferation instruments, in particular, the 2001 UN Programme of Action on Small Arms.

### **Jamaica boosts forensic and ballistics capabilities to compare bullets in their effort to help solve gun crimes with the UNLIREC donation of an IBIS Bulletrax-3D System**



**14 March:** UNLIREC officially handed over the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) Bulletrax-3D System to the Jamaica Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine in efforts to assist the country in solving firearms-related crimes. This IBIS Bulletrax-3D System – funded by the Government of Canada – aims to boost the island's forensic and ballistics capabilities by making it easier for analysts to compare bullets in their efforts to help solve gun crimes.

In addition, the system will facilitate the lab technicians and firearm examiners to trace the ammunition back to firearms used in the crime and thus help to combat and prevent firearms-related violence and combat illicit trafficking through the use of the system.

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## UNLIREC carries out double cast training in Belize



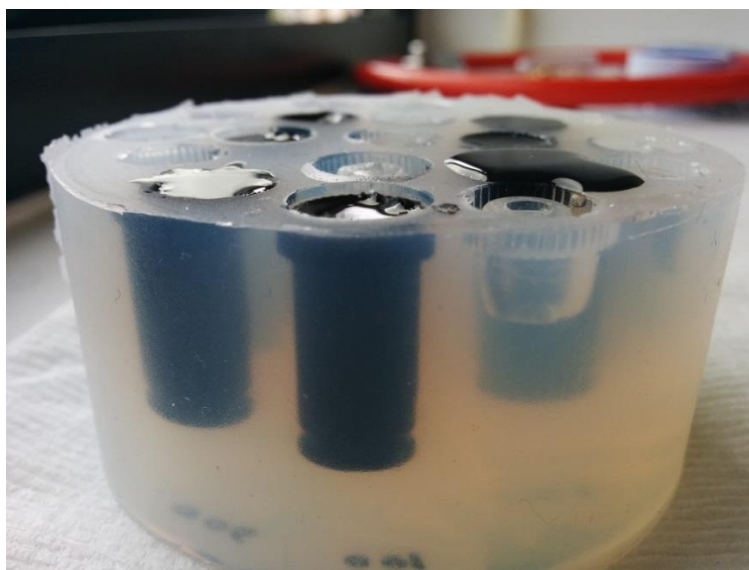
**19-23 June:** UNLIREC, together with ARQUEBUS Solutions Ltd, delivered its third double cast training and consequent donation of equipment in Belize.

Four participants, among them firearms examiners, assistant firearms examiners, and IBIS Technicians of the National Forensic Science Service (NFSS), participated in the training. Participants were trained on INTERPOL's Double Casting methodology.

Double casting is a two step-process that requires a silicone mould to be made of the fired bullet or cartridge case and then making a resin cast using the mould created. Ballistic projectiles are mounted in a secured cup or mould box before pouring the silicone to make the mould. The moulds are then placed in a vacuum degassing chamber to remove air bubbles, taken out of the chamber, and cured for 15 hours. The cured mould is then removed from the cup or box and the specimen extracted. Next, the silicone mould is filled with casting resin, pressurized in a pressure pot, removed and the cured resin cast demoulded. The resin bullet and cartridge castings are then ready for ballistics imaging or microscope examination and comparison.

Equipment used in the training, as well as consumables to conduct further double casting of cartridge cases or projectiles, were handed over to the Government Belize.

Double cast training is part of UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package, which is made possible thanks to the support of the US Department of State and the Government of Canada.



Fuente: Arquebus

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## UNLIREC carries out double cast training in Trinidad and Tobago and The Bahamas



**29 May-1 June (Trinidad and Tobago) / 5-9 June (The Bahamas):** UNLIREC, in collaboration with ARQUEBUS Solutions Ltd., delivered the first in a series of double cast training in the Caribbean through two national courses in Port of Spain and Nassau.

A total of 10 firearms examiners, five from each country, participated in the four-day course, IBIS Technicians and Armourers of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre (TTFSC) and Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) participated in the 4-day Training, based on INTERPOL's Double Casting methodology.

Double Casting is a two step-process that requires a silicone mould to be made of the fired bullet or cartridge case and then making a resin cast using the mould created. Ballistic projectiles are mounted in a secured cup or mould box before pouring the silicone to make the mould. The moulds are then placed in a pressure pot to remove air bubbles, taken out of the pot, and cured for 15–24 hours. The cured mould is then removed from the cup or box and the specimen extracted. Next, the silicone mould is filled with casting resin, pressurized in a pressure pot, removed and the cured resin cast demoulded. The resin bullet and cartridge castings are then ready for ballistics imaging or microscope examination and comparison.

Training in double casting increases the ability of national authorities to make connections between crime and crime scenes, nationally, regionally and internationally. The training sought to build capacity in the region to create microscopic replicas of projectiles and cartridge cases that can be peer reviewed and uploaded to a Ballistics Information Network or shared across jurisdictions for comparison without disturbing the chain of custody of the original evidence.

Equipment used in the training, as well as consumables to conduct further, practical double casting of projectiles were handed over to the Government of each beneficiary State.

This training - carried out with funds from the US Department of State and the Government of Canada - forms part of UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package.

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## PEACE SPOTLIGHT

### UNLIREC launches pilot course in Costa Rica to identify weapons via the post through x-ray technology

Mindful of the problematic of illicit trafficking in small arms, ammunition and their parts and components by means of postal shipments, UNLIREC developed a course on interdicting small arms in postal shipments (ISAPS Course). This course serves as a practical tool to improve the capacity of practitioners to interpret x-ray images and identify possible concealment methods to prevent the diversion of weapons.

This course was piloted in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 20-24 March, with the invaluable collaboration of Costa Rica's Postal Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 40 officials working at entry and exit points with control responsibilities from Costa Rica's Post Office were in attendance, along with representatives from the Directorate of Intelligence and Security, Judicial Investigation Agency, Air Surveillance Service, National Customs Service, Ministry of Public Security and Fiscal Control Police.

The IPSAS Course makes use of a fundamental pedagogical tool: the Arms, Ammunition, Parts and Components Identification Guide, which highlights the operation and interpretation of x-ray images, as well as the main physical and material characteristics of arms, their parts and ammunition. The Guide familiarizes the user with the physical appearance of arms, ammunition, parts and components and with their equivalent scanned image.

UNLIREC thanks the contribution of the Federal Republic of Germany, which allowed for the development of the Guide and the organization of the ISAPS, as well as the support and expertise of the Center for Adaptive Security Research and Applications (CASRA) which was indispensable in designing the technologically-based IPSAS methodology.



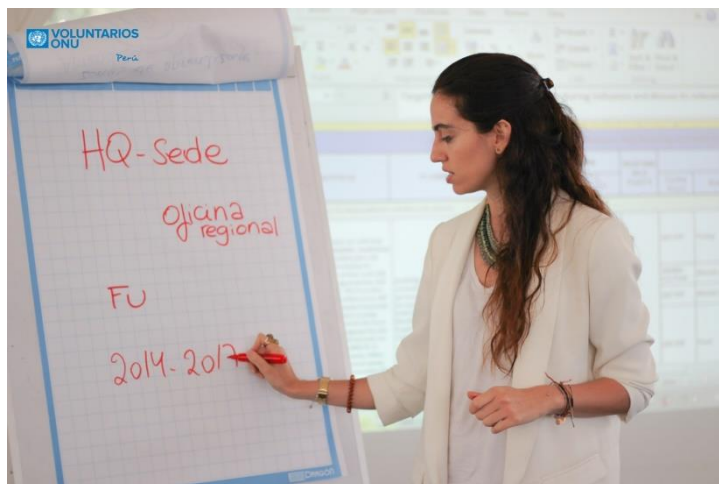
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## Incorporating youth in SDG implementation

### UNLIREC and UNV launch a new SDG project aimed at youth in Colombia, Honduras, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago



**7-8 June:** UNLIREC conducted a training workshop in Lima, Peru, as part of a joint project with the United Nations Volunteers Program (UNV). Colombia, Honduras, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago represent the four countries to benefit from this joint initiative.

The purpose of this project is to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to improve the skills of young volunteer leaders with regards to SDG 16, peace, security and disarmament so that they may be able to propose indicators (developed through participatory methodology) to measure these phenomena. SDG 16 is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and the creation of effective and accountable institutions at all levels. It includes targets for reducing illicit arms flows, all forms of violence and related deaths, and ensuring participatory decision-making. Specifically, goal 16.4 establishes the intrinsic relationship between development and flows of illicit arms.

Participating in the workshop were young volunteers who will serve as focal points in three of the four beneficiary countries, namely, Colombia, Honduras and Peru. The sessions were facilitated by UNLIREC and the UNV Regional Office, along with the invaluable contribution of two young specialists in the creation of volunteer infrastructures and the management of training programs.

The workshop marks the official launch of the project whose activities will continue until December 2017 in the four countries. During this time, not only will participatory indicators for SDG 16 be developed, but these will be validated by the youth in their communities and presented to the main local and regional government authorities with the aim of giving greater visibility and recognition to the role the youth can play in the promotion of more peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

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## UNLIREC and UNV launch SDG Project in Trinidad and Tobago



**13-15 June:** UNLIREC and the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV) conducted its first training workshop for young volunteer leaders in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The pilot workshop was attended by fifteen young volunteers representing volunteer organizations leading the promotion of the 2030 Agenda at the community level in the country. The sessions were facilitated by UNLIREC, the UNV Regional Office, and the young volunteer who serves as focal point for this project.

The workshop addressed the different dimensions and scope of violence, peace, human security and disarmament and introduced practical tools to convert their perceptions of these phenomena into valuable indicators for their measurement.

*“We must work closely together to make [this] year a year of global action, one that will be remembered as the dawn of a new era of sustainable development.”*

- Former UN Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon -

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## Promoting small arms control dialogue

### UNLIREC presents study on less lethal weapons to Colombian authorities

**5 April:** UNLIREC presented the findings of its German-funded study entitled “*Less Lethal Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – Challenges and Opportunities*” in the facilities of the Colombian National Police in Bogota. This initiative was carried out at the request of the Colombian government to support the work performed by the National Coordination Committee for the Prevention, Combat and Eradication of Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons (*Comité TIA*).

Less lethal weapons (LLW) are devices designed to generate a specific and intermediary effect that temporality neutralizes or incapacitates the recipient of the impact without causing death. These types of weapons are used in numerous countries throughout the region by diverse actors with an institutional mandate to maintain and monitor public order in a variety of circumstances.

Through this study, UNLIREC sheds light on the issue of LLW and their role in citizen security, identifying the main actors, risks, challenges, and good practices, as well as the possibility of States to incorporate LLW into the equipment of security forces and regulate their use by citizens and security companies, all the while respecting international standards of human rights and the use of force. The objective of the research is to contribute to the debate on the legality, feasibility and suitability of using these types of weapons.



Officials from the National Police, The Superintendence of Surveillance and Private Security, the Judicial Police, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other members of the Colombian defense sector attended the presentation. The event concluded with a debate between the participants on the different aspects to consider in achieving better regulation of LLW in Colombia. UNLIREC recommends that a classification for these types of elements be determined, which would facilitate the incorporation of the control and regulation of these types of weapons into the national legal framework.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the president of the *Comité TIA*, will analyze the results of the presentation of the study, with the aim of continuing to support the process that will propose a normative framework for less lethal weapons, in line with its efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

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## UNLIREC holds multi-sectoral dialogue on the use of force in private security companies

**17 May:** UNLIREC, in partnership with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), organized a regional seminar on "The Use of the Force in Private Security Companies" in Lima. This activity was carried out within the framework of the project entitled 'Strengthening capacities for the effective and transparent management of small arms and ammunition in the private security sector', funded by the Germany.



The seminar was attended by representatives from various sectors in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru, such as governmental entities in charge of regulating private security, entrepreneurs within the sector, civil society and academia. The objective of this meeting was to present concepts and tools to enrich the debate and provide inputs to establish norms and policies in the field of the use of force in the provision of private security services. UNLIREC and DCAF held this event with a view to discussing this issue given the recurring news on the use of force and, in particular, the use of firearms by private security agents during and after working hours in the countries of the region, which pose challenges to citizen security.

Throughout the various working sessions, several aspects were discussed such as the international normative framework for the use of force and its flaws vis-à-vis private security, the limitations that private security companies are mandated to have on the use of force, the challenges and opportunities posed by the use of alternative devices such as the least lethal weapons used by security agents while on duty, as well as the various roles and responsibilities of governments and the private sector in regulating the use of force in this field.

During the seminar, the participants exchanged views and detailed their national experiences. There was consensus that aspects such as incident investigation, the continuous selection and evaluation of staff, training (theoretical and practical), working conditions, operational planning, equipment, supervision and monitoring during operations were some of the fundamental elements that must be taken into account to prevent the excess use of force by private security agents.

Since 2015, UNLIREC and DCAF have provided technical assistance to national authorities and security companies in these four countries of the region in order to support both the regulation of private security and the control of weapons in this sector by promoting standards, good practices and globally recognised initiatives such as the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers (ICoC), the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATGs).

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## Improving small arms control by private security companies

### UNLIREC provides training to promote the effective and transparent management of weapons and ammunition in the private security sector in Guatemala



**23-24 February:** UNLIREC facilitated a two-day training session for representatives of private security companies in Guatemala through the *Technical Workshop on International Standards for the Management of Arms and Ammunition Warehouses of Private Security Companies*.

In order to minimize the risk of diversion to illegal channels, participants received training on physical security procedures in the weapons and ammunition storage facilities within the security companies. It is well known that stolen or lost weapons and ammunition from both state and private locations, represent a major source of crime-related weapons. These risks can be significantly reduced by implementing international standards and good practices that are recognized at the global level. Therefore, training those who are in charge of storing, controlling, transporting, and custody of firearms and ammunition, is a key step in arms control and armed violence prevention.

The UNLIREC-led workshop focused on topics, such as firearm and ammunition classification, safe storage and inventory management, risk assessment, safety plans, and incident reporting, among other topics.

This workshop forms part of the UNLIREC project entitled *Strengthening Oversight and Building capacities for Small Arms Control and Nonproliferation in the Private Security Sector*, which is funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. One of the main objectives of this project, implemented in partnership with the Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), is the promotion of standards, good practices and global recognition initiatives to strengthen good governance, and arms control in the private security sector.

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## UNLIREC supports various initiatives to strengthen arms control among private security sector in Costa Rica



**3 April:** UNLIREC continues moving forward on the implementation of its project aimed at strengthening the capacity for effective and transparent management of small arms and ammunition in the private security sector in Costa Rica, which began in September 2016, in partnership with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

During the months of March and April of 2017, UNLIREC supported the Costa Rican government in the implementation of different activities aimed at strengthening arms control in the private security sector in the country. With the aim of making the achievements visible, the Government of Costa Rica convened a public event in San José, in which weapons were marked and destroyed in the presence of different national authorities and sectors of society.

The secondary marking of firearms, carried out with laser technology, contributes to improving the inventory management of the weapons belonging to private security companies. In addition, secondary marking – a follow up marking at the time of the manufacture of the weapon - allows the weapons to be traced and their trajectory in time and space to be reconstructed from its place of manufacture to its last legal owner, thus facilitating the traceability and criminal investigative process in the case of deviation. Between March and April, more than 500 firearms were marked belonging to 10 security companies. Markings are expected to continue in the coming months with this initiative. Through weapons marking, Costa Rica continues to move forward in the fulfillment of the international agreements signed on the combat to the illicit traffic in small arms.

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In addition to the marking of weapons, UNLIREC accompanied the first destruction of weapons belonging to private security companies. Since 2016 security companies in the country are determining the need to carry and use firearms, depending on the locations where their services are rendered. Following the trend in the reduction of weapons, some companies are delivering the weapons that are no longer required to the national authorities for their destruction. During the first week of April, UNLIREC verified the destruction of 454 weapons of 17 different companies and certified that the process was carried out in accordance with international standards and good practices recognized in the matter. The destruction of weapons is one of the most effective measures to prevent unwanted weapons from entering illegal cycles and end up causing damage.

Finally, UNLIREC and DCAF held meetings with legal advisors from the Ministry of Public Security in which progress was made in the incorporation of international norms and standards in the processes of reforms to the private security law currently being developed in the country.

Since 2016, UNLIREC and DCAF have supported the Government of Costa Rica and the private security guild in the country to promote standards, best practices and initiatives of international recognition such as the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers and The United Nations International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATGs).

*“The International Small Arms Control Standards contribute directly to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.”*

- UN Secretary-General António Guterres -

## Bolstering ATT implementation through capacity-building in South America

### UNLIREC supports Colombia in its efforts towards ATT implementation

**6-7 April:** UNLIREC held a *Practical Seminar for the Implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty* in Bogota, Colombia. Representatives of the institutions that make up the National Coordination Committee for the Prevention, Combat, and Eradication of Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (*Comité TIA*), participated in this seminar held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The seminar was delivered by the UNLIREC Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Programme team and attended by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Directorate of Tax and Customs (DIAN, for its initials in Spanish), the National Police, the Arms Trade Control Department, The Military Industry (INDUMIL, for its initials in Spanish) and other representatives of the Ministry of Defense.



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Participants received information aimed at incorporating treaty obligations into the national system that controls the international transfers of conventional arms, their ammunition, and their parts and components. UNLIREC presented various illustrations of control systems with a focus on the operations to be undertaken, their composition and functioning, as well as inter-institutional cooperation mechanisms, and examples of practices in other States at the regional and international levels.

In addition, a working session was devoted to presenting the methodology of an export evaluation, prepared by UNLIREC, which gathers a series of criteria and sources of information to analyze prior to authorizing an export request in accordance with the requirements of the Treaty.

This seminar forms part of UNLIREC's project entitled '*Mitigating the Risk of Arms Diversion to Reduce Armed Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean*', which is funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Through its assistance to Latin American and Caribbean States, UNLIREC supports improvements in peace, security, and in implementing the Arms Trade Treaty.

## UN Inter-agency Project on Improving Human Security in Northern Peru

### UNLIREC promotes measures to prevent and reduce armed violence in northern Peru

**8 June:** As part of its contribution to the Joint United Nations Programme entitled "*Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience by Fostering Peaceful Coexistence in Peru*", UNLIREC conducted a seminar on public policies for the prevention and reduction of gun violence in Trujillo City.

The seminar took place on the occasion of the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence, which took place from 5-12 June 2017 with the theme "*The Road to Development and Peace Begins with Silencing the Guns*". With a view to creating visibility for this global campaign, UNLIREC provided a space for the various sectors of municipal and district governments, as well as community leaders and organizational networks within civil society to reflect on and discuss gun violence and its effects on society.



Plenary discussion on addressing armed violence at the community level

During the event, participants presented and discussed comprehensive measures and citizen security policies aimed at preventing and reducing gun violence as a shared responsibility between different sectors and stakeholders. The various institutions of the State with responsibilities in the matter made known their policies and axes of intervention, generating a broad debate on effective mechanisms to reduce gun violence from a comprehensive and multisectoral perspective.

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Special attention was given to preventative measures aimed at young people, such as accessibility to public spaces for sport and recreational activities, as well as the concept of community policing as a means of reducing violence and crime in vulnerable areas.

UNLIREC is part of the UN Joint Programme on Human Security which works with public institutions and local authorities in Trujillo to reduce and prevent crime in general, gender violence and the involvement of adolescents in criminal activities.

### Supporting Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)

#### UNLIREC formally engaged with Suriname on WMD non-proliferation issues

**18-20 January:** UNLIREC travelled to the Surinamese capital, Paramaribo, to formally initiate engagement in relation to UNLIREC's non-proliferation programme. The purpose of the programme is to provide legal and technical assistance to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) (UNSCR 1540).

During the visit, a national roundtable meeting was held involving participants from the ministries of Defense; Foreign Affairs; Trade and Industry; Justice and Police; Suriname Police Corps; Bureau of National Security; Central Bank of Suriname; National Assembly; and Customs. Topics addressed during the presentation included international proliferation, WMDs, global security and counter-proliferation measures, UNSCR 1540 and its operative paragraphs, as well as the resolution's implementation in a Surinamese context.



UNLIREC looks forward to returning to Suriname to present its legal study and work alongside national authorities in the development of a UNSCR 1540 National Action Plan.

### Resolution 1540 (2004) - Objectives

- **Enhance the capacity of all States** to respond effectively to the threats posed by the proliferation of WMD
- **Prevent the proliferation of WMD**, their means of delivery and related materials
- **Fill the existing gaps** in international law by preventing and deterring any non-State actor from manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, developing, transporting, transferring, or using WMD and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes

Security Council Meets on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction  
UN Photo/Eskinder Dobebe, 28 April 2004



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## Peru advances 1540 implementation on preventing WMD proliferation

**7 March:** UNLIREC held consultations with the Government of Peru to elaborate its Draft National Action Plan on implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004). This meeting brought together 19 representatives from nine institutions and agencies, including Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Production, National Police, Customs & Excise National Agency and Fire Department, among others.

During the one-day workshop, the group discussed the content of a Voluntary National Action Plan that is to be submitted to the 1540 Committee in the near future. UNLIREC seized the opportunity to provide support in the process of identifying needs, priorities and next steps to articulate national efforts towards UNSCR 1540 implementation. In particular, issues relating to the modernization of non-proliferation legislation, including in the biological ambit, and institutional strengthening and training needs were pointed out by authorities as essential areas to be addressed.

Prior to this workshop, in November 2016, UNLIREC presented its national legal study and its main recommendations to Peruvian authorities for better aligning 1540 obligations with national provisions.

This meeting forms part of the Canadian funded portion of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package.

## UNLIREC supports Dominican Republic in strengthening its implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540



**28-29 March:** A set of activities aimed at strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) was carried out in the Dominican Republic as part of UNLIREC's support to States in the region. These activities - made possible thanks to the financial contribution by the government of Canada - encompass the adoption of internal regulations in accordance with the provisions established in the Resolution, as reflected in the National Plan of Action that the Dominican Republic presented in November 2015 to the 1540 Committee.

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Within this context, UNLIREC continued its technical and legal assistance related to the draft of ‘WMD Non-Proliferation Bill of Law’. UNLIREC’s technical expert was accompanied by a former member of the Group of Experts of the 1540 Committee who provided technical support in the matter. In attendance were 15 national stakeholders and legal drafters from relevant institutions (Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Energy and Mines, and Environmental Ministry) who engaged in a second lively round of discussions to identify specific issues to be covered through subsidiary regulations, as well as a roadmap for the development of these regulations. In addition, the control list to be annexed to the regulations and the definition of national authority roles and responsibilities were highlighted as priorities.

These activities represent a significant step forward in the country’s efforts to strengthen the implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004) and will enable the Dominican Republic to establish concrete objectives towards preventing WMD proliferation.

### **UNLIREC presents national legal study in Suriname to support WMD nonproliferation efforts in the country**



**12 April:** UNLIREC representatives returned to Paramaribo to host a national roundtable event in conjunction with the Surinamese Ministry of Defense. The purpose of the roundtable - made possible with funding from the Government of Canada - was to present Suriname with its UNSCR 1540 National Legal Study and highlight to national authorities its key findings and recommendations. The event was attended by 30 participants representing a broad-range of government stakeholder organizations, as well as a representative of CARICOM and a 1540 Committee Expert.

The National Legal Study analyzed Suriname’s existing legislative framework against the operative paragraphs of UNSCR 1540 to provide a detailed overview of the Suriname’s current state of 1540 legislative implementation. The Study is intended to provide a solid basis that may be of assistance to Suriname in formulating its National Action Plan and identifying what needs, challenges and areas exist for strengthening the implementation of the resolution within the Surinamese context.

UNLIREC plans to return to Paramaribo in the coming months to provide support in Suriname’s elaboration of its 1540 National Action Plan.

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## UNLIREC and OAS provide regional platform for States to engage in open debate on combating WMD proliferation



**25-26 April:** The United Nations Common House in Lima, Peru, was the site of a Regional Encounter to discuss preventing and combating the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) from a Latin American and Caribbean perspective. 22 States from the region and six partner organizations joined in this open debate organized by the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) and the Organization of American States (OAS) through the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE).

The main theme guiding this two-day event is the effective implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on preventing and combating the proliferation of WMDs by non-State actors. Resolution 1540 calls on States to refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery.

While State representatives are provided with a platform to share successful experiences and exchange essential information on 1540 implementation, dialogue delved into practical - yet crucial - elements outlined in UNSCR 1540, such as the need to enhance border and export controls and bolster normative frameworks to better protect States against proliferation offences. By enforcing these practical measures to establish domestic controls to prevent WMD proliferation and their means of delivery, States will come into closer compliance with key provisions of the resolution and thus boost 1540 implementation from both a national and regional perspective.

Making the most of the 'regional' scope of this event, UNLIREC and OAS/CICTE led exploratory dialogue on establishing common 'regional' positions on, for instance, Strategic Trade Legislation (STL) to control the export of sensitive technology and materials in order to combat terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and the spread of WMDs. As well, this regional platform was used to launch a much-awaited UNLIREC-developed Control List. This List encompasses all of the items from the main strategic trade control

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regimes, while - at the same time - is capable of being modified to meet the specific needs or interests of any implementing State. For example, a State may wish to tailor the List to reflect their own domestic industries or particular trade patterns and thus have applications across the entire region.

This collaborative event is financed in its entirety by the Government of Canada and forms part of a wider UNLIREC Programme aimed at supporting State implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004) and an OAS/CICTE 1540 Programme. UNLIREC and OAS/CICTE are long-standing partners committed to supporting States and providing them with the tools and capacity they need to address pressing peace- and security-related challenges facing the citizens of Latin America and the Caribbean.

## UNLIREC undertakes workshop on WMD Focus List in Dominican Republic

**22-23 June:** A planning mission was held in Santo Domingo, bringing together national authorities from the different sectors involved in the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. This activity



was intended to pool the mapping of the strategic trade of elements that are controlled by the Dominican Republic in compliance with Resolution 1540 of the United Nations Security Council and to receive feedback from the authorities on risk analysis and profiling processes from a customs perspective in that State.

Preliminary meetings and visits held on 21 and 22 of June were attended by UNLIREC experts with responsibilities in the customs sector with a view to becoming more acquainted with national risk management procedures, as well as the profiling process, if any, with the aim of having a panorama that helps to offer better assistance in making the operational list, as such.

A second meeting was held on 23 June with the “Multisectoral Coordination Committee for the Implementation of Resolution 1540”, which is made up of representatives from various sectors competent in the field. This meeting introduced the specific objectives of the workshop, which will be held next September, which is designed as a practical tool to support the functions of officials at the entry and exit points of the country to strengthen controls of elements of dual use.

*The Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, “[...] recognizes the utility in implementing this resolution of effective **national control lists** and calls upon all Member States, when necessary, to pursue at the earliest opportunity the development of such lists.”*

- UN Security Council Resolution 1540(2004) -

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## UNLIREC Agenda (July-Dec 2017)

### JULY

- ✓ UNLIREC technical accompaniment to UNMIC – Colombia Peace Process  
**Bogota, Colombia**
- ✓ National meeting and sub-regional double cast training  
**Bridgetown, Barbados**
- ✓ ATT workshop on reporting obligations  
**Bridgetown, Barbados**
- ✓ Legal seminar on combating illicit firearms trafficking  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ Youth training on SDG 16  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ Double cast training and handover of equipment  
**Georgetown, Guyana**
- ✓ Private Security project activities  
**Guatemala City, Guatemala**
- ✓ 1540 Industry engagement workshop  
**St. George, Grenada**
- ✓ 1540 Industry engagement workshop  
**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**
- ✓ Capacity building workshop · Youth volunteerism for peace building and disarmament: Youth Measuring community security through participatory indicator  
**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**
- ✓ 1540 national legal study workshop  
**St. John, Antigua and Barbuda**
- ✓ Weapons destruction  
**Lima/Pisco, Peru**

### AUGUST

- ✓ UNLIREC technical accompaniment to UNMIC – Colombia Peace Process  
**Bogota, Colombia**
- ✓ WMD non-proliferation regimes and the UNSCR 1540 capacity building workshop for national authorities  
**Lima, Peru**
- ✓ Meeting with local authorities on UNV-UNLIREC partnership  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ Youth training on SDG 16  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ OFB sub regional and national roundtable  
**Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic**
- ✓ 1540 legal drafting assistance-new BWC legislation  
**Lima, Peru**
- ✓ Youth training on SDG 16 and meeting with local authorities  
**Trujillo, Peru**

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- ✓ *National UNSCR 1540 roundtable*  
**Georgetown, Guyana**

## **SEPTEMBER**

- ✓ *UNLIREC technical accompaniment to UNMIC – Colombia Peace Process*  
**Bogota, Colombia**
- ✓ *Youth training on SDG 16 and meeting with local authorities*  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ *1540 control list pilot course - Part 1*  
**Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic**
- ✓ *1540 legislative drafting assistance (chemical weapons)*  
**Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic**
- ✓ *1540 technical assistance: tabletop exercise with the International Maritime Organization*  
**Lima, Peru**
- ✓ *1540 legal drafting assistance-new BWC legislation*  
**Lima, Peru**
- ✓ *D1 artistic performance outreach on armed violence prevention*  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- ✓ *UNV-Honduras SDG 16 training*  
**Tegucigalpa, Honduras**
- ✓ *Seminar on use of force in private security companies*  
**San Jose, Costa Rica**

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