

# **REPORT**

**ON**

**MEASURES TAKEN BY THE CARIBBEAN  
COMMUNITY (CARICOM) ON ISSUES  
RELATING TO THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE  
FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND THE  
PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS  
DESTRUCTION**



**Prepared by the  
Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat**

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## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States are Parties to, and have consistently adhered to, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (CWC), and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons (BWC).

CARICOM's commitment to the principle of multilateralism in facing the threat posed by WMDs and realizing a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean has been long-standing. It has been underscored by the ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco by all CARICOM Member States and more recently, the undertaking of a regional initiative aimed at fully implementing United Nations Security Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 (2004). In this vein, CARICOM also strongly supports the adoption of UNSCR 1977 on 20 April 2011, which extends the mandate of the United Nations (UN) 1540 Committee for 10 years.

The CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 Implementation Programme, which is the first such effort in any region to collectively implement a non-proliferation ordinance, demonstrates CARICOM's understanding of the urgency of the threat of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) proliferation and the need to pool resources in facing this ongoing challenge to international peace and security.

In 2010 the CARICOM Secretariat co-sponsored the first Commodity Identification Training (CIT) Workshop in the Region, which sought to acquaint policy and enforcement/operational personnel with dual-use materials and the management of strategic goods and technologies, including the utilization of domestic export control strategies to prevent this illicit trade. CARICOM Member States also hosted a range of other related counter-terrorism and non-proliferation related initiatives which focused on the enactment of laws and regulations to prevent terrorism financing, as well as training to improve aviation and maritime security. These initiatives were conducted in

coordination with several hemispheric and international organizations and served to deepen the Region's global cooperation efforts with respect to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) non-proliferation.

The CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 Implementation Programme also initiated a major regional activity in February of 2011, which is focused on identifying current gaps in existing laws, regulations and administrative controls to prevent the trafficking, transshipment, transit, export, re-export or brokering of strategic goods. This initiative will also seek to develop a Reference Legal Framework (RLF), or model legislation, which will allow CARICOM Member States to enhance existing legislation and enact comprehensive laws and regulations that will control the trade in CBRN-related materials and technology.

Given the meaningful progress which has been realized in furthering non-proliferation goals in the Region, the CARICOM Secretariat is recommending that greater emphasis be placed on building capacity in Member States to enable border control to identify and interdict suspect strategic materials and to fully utilize critical control mechanisms - including licensing procedures, watch lists and databases – which are essential to preventing the trade in dual-use materials. In addition, CARICOM Member States would benefit from increased investment in non-proliferation hardware, technology and related training which could also be simultaneously used to engage other traditional security priorities, including the trade in illegal narcotics and small arms and light weapons.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

The Caribbean Community continues to demonstrate its full commitment to increasing global, hemispheric and regional cooperation to prevent the acquisition of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), related materials, as well as their delivery systems by non-state actors and terrorist networks. CARICOM is aware that the acquisition of WMD by

terrorists poses a grave and consequential threat to the collective economic, political, environmental and cultural viability of the international system as a whole.

### **3. OVERVIEW AND WORK OF THE CARICOM SECRETARIAT**

In keeping with threat reduction strategies emanating from regional security cooperation in advance of and subsequent to the hosting of Cricket World Cup 2007, CARICOM Member States have adopted customs controls, improved port and border security, and are assessing existing legal, regulatory and administrative frameworks to ensure that obligations are met under UNSCR 1540. In addition, CARICOM Member States are also Parties to, and have consistently urged, compliance with the NPT, the CWC, and BWC.

With regard to the Community's longstanding concern about the proliferation of WMD and nuclear weapons-related materials and technology in relation to the NPT, the Region has also consistently called for the adoption of policies to discourage future non-compliance, as well as the enactment of effective controls to ensure greater compliance with the NPT and for the full and rigorous application of related International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

The CARICOM Secretariat and CARICOM Member States have long reiterated the key goal of a nuclear-free world and are convinced that this thrust, along with a revitalization of and a more robust adherence to the NPT, will imbue the process with a new momentum that will serve to increase the stakeholder-effect of both Nuclear and Non-Nuclear Weapon States (NNWS), thus allowing for the adoption of other measures which will serve to strengthen the non-proliferation regime. NNWS, and particularly small states such as those that constitute the Caribbean Community, also view global and regional arms control agreements as being of vital importance in setting needed parameters that attend to the security priorities of NNWS. The enforcement of rules-based regimes, like the NPT, which emphasize the adherence to and implementation of treaty obligations and are underpinned by strong verification mechanisms, will allow

NNWS to fully invest in the non-proliferation process and will also serve to build necessary confidence.

The Caribbean Community's long-standing commitment to the principle of multilateralism in facing this threat has been underscored by the ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco by all CARICOM Member States and, more recently the undertaking of a regional initiative aimed at fully implementing UNSCR 1540. The CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 Implementation Programme, which is the first such effort in any region to collectively implement a non-proliferation mandate, demonstrates CARICOM's understanding of the urgency of the threat of CBRN proliferation and the need to pool resources in facing this important challenge.

While a primary focus of the CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 initiative has been enacting legislation, regulations, and administrative strictures to prevent the export, re-export, import, transit and transshipment of strategic goods, the Region has continued to deepen its cooperation with the international community in an effort to assist operational and enforcement personnel in identifying threats and preventing proliferation.

In the past year, the CARICOM Secretariat co-sponsored, with the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the US National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), a Commodity Identification Training (CIT) Workshop in Trinidad and Tobago in July 2010, which was aimed at acquainting policy officials and enforcement/operational personnel with dual-use materials and strategic goods and technologies as well as domestic export control strategies to prevent illicit trade. CARICOM Member States also hosted a range of other related initiatives in the non-proliferation domain. These include an Aviation Security "Train the Trainer" and "Excellence in Screening Techniques" National Training Initiative held in Nassau, The Bahamas from 16-25 August 2010; the Maritime Security and Regional Workshop on CBRN and Maritime Terrorism which was convened by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Barbados from 24-26 November 2010; and a Legislative Assistance and

Terrorism Financing Specialized Training Workshop in Trinidad and Tobago from 24-27 November 2010.

In June 2011, the CARICOM Secretariat in cooperation with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) will be hosting a Workshop on the State Parties Obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and will highlight related responsibilities emanating from UNSCR 1540 and also UNSCR 1977, which was recently adopted.

The CARICOM Secretariat has also been engaged in other initiatives aimed at combating terrorism and building needed capacity to prevent the proliferation of WMD. Representatives from the Office of the General Counsel and the Foreign and Community Relations Directorate of the Secretariat have participated in Regional Workshops hosted by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Lima, Peru and Bridgetown, Barbados respectively. These meetings have served to strengthen existing cooperation between the CARICOM Secretariat, the United Nations, as well as the inter-governmental community in general, in forging partnerships that will assist CARICOM Member States in implementing the necessary structural controls, including legal and enforcement mechanisms that will aid in preventing the trade in strategic materials and technology.

