



Security Council

Distr.: General
10 June 2025

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#)

Note verbale dated 3 June 2025 from the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations, following its note dated 27 May 2025, has the honour to transmit herewith the updated version of the third national report of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) (see annex).



Annex to the note verbale dated 3 June 2025 from the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

Report of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is committed to international and non-proliferation obligations and supports the implementation measures of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), which seeks to bring about a more peaceful world through disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The Lao People's Democratic Republic is of the view that weapons of mass destruction pose a serious threat to international peace and security. Therefore, the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of such weapons, and the country fully supports the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), as detailed in its previous national reports to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) (S/AC.44/2004/(02)/117 and national submission matrix of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (2020)). The present and third national report provides an update to the objectives of resolution 1540 (2004) since the submission of the second report, on 20 May 2020.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic has undertaken a number of legal preventive measures in meeting the objectives of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). These measures are as follows:

1. National legislation

(a) Chemical

Legislation and regulation to manage chemicals in the Lao People's Democratic Republic include the following:

- (a) Law on chemical management, of 10 November 2016;
- (b) Regulation on chemical inventory, of 23 March 2021 (new);
- (c) Regulation on chemical import, export, transit, registration and business, of 24 December 2020 (new);
- (d) Regulation on chemical storage, of 1 February 2021 (new);
- (e) Regulation on chemical labelling, of 15 September 2021 (new);
- (f) Regulation on chemical safety service (new);
- (g) Government decree on the management of dual-use goods, endorsed and signed on 20 November 2023 (new);
- (h) Drafting of a ministerial decision on the export and transit of dual-use goods (ongoing process);
- (i) Drafting of a ministerial guideline on the implementation of an internal compliance programme (ongoing process).

(b) Biological

Several laws include provisions related to the management and mitigation of biological risks. However, certain laws still require reviews and additional revisions to ensure comprehensive coverage, alignment with all provisions under international conventions to which the Lao People's Democratic Republic is a Party, and

consistency with regional and international standards. The contents of biological risk mitigation regulations and policies in the Lao People's Democratic Republic are embedded within the legislation under the purview of multiple sectoral authorities, detailed as follows:

- (a) National biosafety regulations (2019);
- (b) Laboratory biosafety manual (third edition) (new);
- (c) Regulations of the Medical Analysis Association (new);
- (d) National manual for specimen packaging and domestic transport (2020);
- (e) National guidelines for specimen transport (2020);
- (f) Standards for health laboratories in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (2023) (new);
- (g) National policy on medical laboratory work (2023) (new);
- (h) Revised law on communicable disease prevention and control (2023) (new);
- (i) National medical laboratory strategy, 2023–2030 (new);
- (j) Development plan for animal disease research and animal product management in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2023–2030 (new).

(c) Radiological and nuclear

The Lao People's Democratic Republic has enacted various laws and regulations related to radiation and nuclear safety management, specifically the Law on Radiation Protection and Safety, adopted and promulgated in early 2019, along with other relevant laws as detailed below:

- (a) Ministerial notification (Ministry of Education and Sports) No. 669/MES, dated 14 July 2022, assigning the Department of Science, Ministry of Education and Sports, to continue implementing the Law on Radiation Protection and Safety until new legislation replaces it (new);
- (b) Ministerial agreement (Ministry of Education and Sports) No. 1958/MOES, on radioactive source management, dated 22 April 2024, published in the Official Gazette on 22 May 2024 (new);
- (c) Country programme framework for radiation safety management (2014–2018), version 1, between the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), endorsed on 13 May 2014;
- (d) Country programme framework for radiation safety management (2020–2025), version 2, endorsed on 18 December 2020 (new);
- (e) Government endorsement of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in April 2023 (new);
- (f) Adoption of the modified small quantities protocol by the Government through a notice of the Prime Minister's Office dated 23 May 2022 (new);
- (g) Government decree on the management of dual-use goods, endorsed and signed on 20 November 2023 (new);
- (h) Enactment of regulations to implement the Law on Radiation Protection and Safety, endorsed on 26 April 2024 (new);

(i) Endorsement of the code of conduct on the safety and security of radioactive sources by the Government through a notice of the Prime Minister's Office dated 3 July 2024 (new).

2. International and regional cooperation

The Lao People's Democratic Republic believes that international and regional cooperation is the way to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their related systems. The Lao People's Democratic Republic plays an active and constructive role in non-proliferation and disarmament efforts in various regional and international forums, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United Nations and its specialized agencies and related organizations, such as IAEA, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic has readily shared its experiences, in particular the best practice of implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and the challenges that it has faced in implementing the export control regime, to assist in regional capacity-building. The following are some examples:

(a) The Lao People's Democratic Republic consistently participates in the annual Asian Export Control Seminar and the Asian Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation held in Tokyo, including the latest meetings, in February and March 2025, respectively. Representatives of the Lao People's Democratic Republic have given presentations on the updates to the export control system in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the challenges of implementing strategic trade control;

(b) The Lao People's Democratic Republic supported regional capacity-building efforts for officials by presenting its implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and its best practice at the regional workshop for ASEAN States in Bangkok, Thailand, in September 2022 and the regional meeting for stakeholders involved in supporting the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) in Asia, in March 2023 in Tokyo, Japan;

(c) At the Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) Regional Industry Outreach Conference for South-East Asia (Wiesbaden process), in September 2023 in Bangkok, the Lao People's Democratic Republic shared its experience on challenges on coordination with the private sector and industries, including the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(d) The Lao People's Democratic Republic co-hosted, with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the second regional peer-to-peer workshop on the theme "Countering radiological and nuclear trafficking through intelligence-led operation: overview of security-related regional threats in South-East Asia", in May 2023 in Luangprabang, Lao People's Democratic Republic. The workshop was aimed at providing an overview of the major security-related threats in South-East Asia and their impact on risks stemming from trafficking in radioactive and nuclear materials. Moreover, at the workshop, best practices and challenges related to various forms of crimes, including trafficking in radioactive and nuclear materials, were shared, and future activities to improve regional cooperation were identified;

(e) The Lao People's Democratic Republic hosted the eleventh ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy Annual Meeting in August 2024; and co-hosted, with IAEA, the Regional Workshop to Promote the Universalization of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, from 10 to 21 August 2024 in Luangprabang. The workshop was related to national

and regional capacity-building, for the exchange of lessons learned among participants and experts;

(f) The Lao People's Democratic Republic showed some key achievements in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), and the priorities and plans needed to implement the resolution, at the fourth training course for Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) points of contact in the Asia-Pacific region, in June 2024 in Beijing; and shared the best practice of the Lao People's Democratic Republic experience in establishing its dual-use goods management system at the national workshop to elaborate Cambodia's Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) national action plan, in Sihanoukville, Cambodia, in April 2025;

(g) The Lao People's Democratic Republic and China co-hosted the First Regional Workshop on Implementing the Biological Weapons Convention and Promoting Biosafety and Biosecurity in South-East Asia from 23 to 25 October 2024 in Shenzhen, China. The workshop was supported by the Office for Disarmament Affairs through the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific. The workshop participants exchanged information and shared best practice on national approaches to implementing the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, including the preparation of confidence-building measures under the Convention.

3. Challenges

The Lao People's Democratic Republic still faces some challenges in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), such as:

(a) Lack of capacity-building, experience and skills in chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear fields;

(b) Limited human resources to implement the technical activities, including legal drafting on national legislation;

(c) The Lao People's Democratic Republic has shared borders with many countries with international and provincial border checkpoints, posing unique challenges to border management and security related to chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear fields, due to the limited training and detection equipment for border control officers;

(d) More importantly, the Lao People's Democratic Republic is still facing the challenges of limited finance for participation in relevant regional and international forums. Therefore, support from integrational organizations is very crucial for strengthening the capacity-building of government officials.

4. Future needs for assistance

The needs in specific areas for support in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for the Lao People's Democratic Republic are as follows:

(a) Support for capacity-building in specific areas that provide training, workshops and development of specific skills and knowledge in the areas of export control work;

(b) Assistance in developing guidelines for field officers;

(c) Support in drafting legal frameworks related to export control and chemical and biological weapons;

(d) Technical support related to equipment and access to technical expertise and resources for specific areas of implementing resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) and the existing export control system in the country.
