



Security Council

Distr.: General
11 September 2019
English
Original: Spanish

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

Note verbale dated 3 September 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) and has the honour to transmit the fifth report of the Argentine Republic on the implementation of the resolution (see annex).



Annex to the note verbale dated 3 September 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

Report of Argentina on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#)

Argentina has long been deeply committed to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to the sovereign right of States to develop technology for exclusively peaceful purposes.

Argentina has made great advances in the peaceful applications of technology and, as its previous reports indicate, has implemented national and international control measures. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Argentina strengthened its implementation of such measures by taking additional action at the regional and global levels.

From a legal perspective, it should be noted that article 75, paragraph 22, of the Argentine Constitution states that “treaties and concordats have a higher hierarchy than laws”. In the event of a contradiction between a law and an international treaty to which Argentina is a party, the provisions of the latter prevail.

With regard to paragraph 1 of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), the strong commitment of Argentina to non-proliferation is evident in its national laws, which reflect the main relevant international instruments: in addition, Argentina participates in all multilateral export control regimes and has acceded to the Proliferation Security Initiative.

Argentina has implemented a series of measures to combat terrorism, a scourge that threatens international peace and security. Argentina reports on those measures annually to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism.

Argentina is also a member of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, and the Government of Argentina complies strictly with the measures adopted by specialized international organizations, in particular the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization, in relation to security and safety and to matters connected with resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).

Since 2000, Argentina has been a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), of which Dr. Santiago Otamendi of Argentina was President from 2017 to 2018. Also since 2000, Argentina has been a member of the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT), a regional body in the style of FATF, and Argentine technical experts have actively participated in GAFILAT mutual evaluations. In 2017, Argentina held the presidency of GAFILAT.

Argentina has actively participated in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism since 2010.

With regard to money-laundering and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Argentina has made progress in the adoption of a complex normative system.

On 13 April 2000, Argentina adopted Act No. 25.246 on the concealment and laundering of assets of criminal origin, promulgated by the Executive on 5 May 2000 (Decree No. 370/00). Under the Act, the Financial Intelligence Unit was established to analyse, process and transmit information for the purpose of preventing the laundering of the proceeds of a series of serious crimes. Initially, the Unit’s functions were primarily administrative.

On 13 June 2007, Act No. 26.268 on unlawful terrorist associations and the financing of terrorism was adopted, having been promulgated by the Executive on 4 July of the same year. Pursuant to the Act, the mandate of the Financial Intelligence Unit was extended to include the analysis of suspicious transactions potentially connected with the financing of terrorism, for the purpose of preventing such crimes. In article 2, a punishment for those who “possess military weapons, explosives, chemical or bacteriological agents or any other instrument suited to endangering the life or physical integrity of an indeterminate number of persons” was incorporated into the Penal Code, as article 213 ter, Chapter VI, Title VIII, Volume Two.

In 2008, the issuance of Decree No. 2226/2008 enabled the head of the Financial Intelligence Unit to act as plaintiff in proceedings relating to the offences covered by Act No. 25.246 (and amendments thereto), where warranted.

Pursuant to Decree No. 1936/2010 (and amendments thereto), the Financial Intelligence Unit was given such new and important responsibilities as coordinating, at the national, provincial and municipal levels, all public bodies related to the prevention of money-laundering, and representing the country in international organizations.

In Act No. 26.683 of 2011 (and amendments thereto), the definitions of the offence of money-laundering were updated.

On 22 December 2011, Act No. 26.734 was adopted. Under the Act and amendments thereto, the definitions of the offence of financing of terrorism were updated. On the same day, the Government adopted Act No. 26.733, in which the offences of market manipulation and the use of privileged information were incorporated into the Argentine Penal Code.

On 14 June 2012, the issuance of Decree No. 918/2012 further strengthened the tools at the country’s disposal to combat the crime of financing terrorism, by adapting national provisions to bring them into line with the international regulations in force, in particular Security Council resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#) and [1373 \(2001\)](#) and subsequent resolutions. Under the Decree, upon receipt of a suspicious transaction report concerning the financing of terrorism, provided that the report is well-founded, the Financial Intelligence Unit may order, through a reasoned decision, the immediate administrative freezing of the assets or funds of the target of the report. The measure must then be endorsed, rectified or revoked by the competent federal judge.

Similarly, the adoption of Act No. 26.831 of 29 November 2012 (and amendments thereto) resulted in a radical reform of the functioning of the capital market, ending “self-regulation” and establishing the National Securities Commission as the only monitoring agency for public offering in the country, thus eliminating secrecy in the exchange of information among regulators.

Pursuant to Decree No. 360/2016, a national coordination programme for combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism was established under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The mandate of this programme is to reorganize, coordinate and strengthen the national system to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in view of the specific risks to the country, as well as the global demands for more effective compliance with the international obligations and recommendations established in United Nations conventions and the FATF recommendations.

Since 2017, as part of the programme, a mechanism for the assessment of risks related to the financing of terrorism and proliferation has held quarterly meetings with a view to producing a national assessment of such risks. The final report of the mechanism is at the last stage of drafting. The preparatory work on the development

of a national survey of money-laundering risks has now begun, in compliance with the FATF recommendations.

A commission for the reform of the Penal Code was established through Decree No. 103/2017. The commission was composed not only of government officials but also representatives of the national and provincial judiciaries and of the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Public Defence Service, and academics whose work is related to the professional practice of and day-to-day problems in criminal law. The commission made significant amendments to the original text of the Penal Code and incorporated definitions of the crime of the financing of proliferation (articles 190 and 318 of the preliminary draft). On 25 March 2019, the new draft Penal Code was sent by the Executive Branch to Congress, where it is under consideration.

In 2019, through Decree No. 331/2019, an inter-agency coordination committee for preventing and combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction was established, with functions similar to those of the coordination programme and the political status of a ministry.

Also in 2019, through Decree No. 489/2019, a public registry of persons and entities associated with acts of terrorism and terrorist financing was established. Information regarding any human or legal person or entity that is the subject of a judicial decision, or a decision of the Public Prosecutor's Office, in which that person or entity is charged or an investigation against that person or entity is authorized in connection with any crime committed for the purpose set forth in article 41 quinquies of the Penal Code, any crime defined in article 306 of the Penal Code, or equivalent crimes defined before the adoption of Act No. 26.734, must be entered in the register. Decree No. 489/2019 was regulated by Decision No. 509/2019 of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Argentina has taken the measures set out below.

Nuclear materials

In Argentina, the use of radioactive materials, including materials suitable for use in a nuclear weapon, is subject to the provisions of Act No. 24.804 (National Nuclear Activity Act), which was promulgated on 23 April 1997. Article 1 of the Act provides that "the implementation of nuclear policy shall strictly comply with the obligations assumed by the Argentine Republic under the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco); the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; the Agreement between the Republic of Argentina, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the Application of Safeguards; as well as with its commitments as a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and in view of the national regime for the control of sensitive exports (Decree No. 603/92)".

The Act also stipulates that the State authority responsible for regulating and monitoring nuclear activity in all areas relating to nuclear non-proliferation, radiological and nuclear safety, physical protection, transport of nuclear and radioactive material, control of the use of nuclear materials, licensing and control of nuclear facilities and international safeguards is the Nuclear Regulatory Authority.

Argentina ratified the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in 1989. In 2011, it ratified the amendment to the Convention, adopted in July 2005, which entered into force in May 2016.

Argentina took an active part in the Nuclear Security Summits, held between 2010 and 2016. Since the last of those Summits, Argentina has been participating in the work of the Nuclear Security Contact Group.

Argentina also ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, on 8 April 2016.

Argentina has been a State party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco since 1994. At the twenty-fifth General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, held on 14 February 2017 in Mexico City, Latin American and Caribbean States reaffirmed their commitment, under the Treaty, to prohibiting the development, acquisition, testing and deployment of nuclear weapons in the region, resulting in the establishment, in a densely populated region, of the world's first nuclear-weapon-free zone.

In the bilateral sphere, Argentina has developed an unprecedented degree of trust in the field of nuclear energy with the Federative Republic of Brazil through the signing of the Agreement on the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, which established the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials, the body charged with verifying that the nuclear materials being used in any of the nuclear activities of the two countries are not being diverted for use in nuclear weapons or other explosive nuclear devices.

Chemical materials

Argentina adopted the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (Chemical Weapons Convention) by means of Act No. 24.534 (1995), which was ratified on 2 October 1995. When it ratified the Convention, Argentina stated that it did not possess and had never possessed chemical weapons or related facilities and had established no programmes for their development.

By this Act, the Argentine Republic ensures the establishment of the necessary internal procedures for compliance with its chemical weapon non-proliferation obligations, through the conduct of inspections of companies in the chemical industry, on the basis of their respective annual declarations, and by so doing ensures the reliable tracing of the material produced and stored in its territory in order to prevent its diversion to non-State actors.

In Decree No. 920/97, the Interministerial Commission for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons was established, pursuant to article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Within the territory of the Argentine Republic, the Commission is the national authority responsible for fulfilling the obligations emanating from the Convention. The Commission is composed of an Executive Secretariat and a Board, comprising representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, the Ministry of Production, the Ministry of Defence and the Institute of Scientific and Technical Research for Defence.

The national authority is responsible for implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention in Argentina and liaises with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the other States parties to the Convention and the relevant public and private institutions. It ensures compliance with the requirements of the Convention in relation to declarations, inspections, verification, the organization of training courses and the adaptation of domestic administrative and legal regulations to the Convention.

Through Decision No. 904/98 of the former Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining, a registry for industries whose activity is covered by the Chemical Weapons Convention was created within what is now the Ministry of Production. In accordance

with the Decision, all individuals or entities that are legally responsible for a facility that carries out activities involving the substances listed in schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention, as well as facilities that produce the discrete organic chemicals listed in the Convention, must submit declarations to the National Authority. The National Authority prepares the declarations that it submits each year to OPCW on the basis of these declarations, the data in the registry and the information provided by the Directorate-General of Customs.

The provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention were incorporated into the national legal system by Act No. 26.247 of 2007. This act is fully comprehensive, including national and international inspections and the submission of declarations by companies in the chemical industry, and provides for administrative and criminal penalties in cases of violations.

Under Decree No. 826/2011, the national register of property seized and confiscated during criminal proceedings was established in the Secretariat for Registration.

As regards import controls, under Federal Administration of Public Income General Decision No. 1892 of 1 June 2005, chemicals in schedules 1 and 2 of the Chemical Weapons Convention were added as annex XII “B” to the control of sensitive imports list. These chemicals are included in that annex as part of the list of explosives and related materials whose import is subject to prior authorization by the Executive, subject to the intervention of the National Agency of Controlled Materials. When processing each import request, the Agency conducts a technical analysis of the chemicals to be imported and issues an import licence, in accordance with Order No. 270/2005 of 8 November 2005. As regards the control of imports of chemicals in schedule 3 of the Convention, Note No. 18 of 15 July 2016 of the Directorate-General of Customs provides that the Agency shall require the presentation of the certificate of inclusion in the Chemical Weapons Registry – which contains industries to whose activities the Chemical Weapons Convention applies – through the Malvina computer system, at the time of the actual processing of imports of chemicals listed in schedule 3 of the Chemical Weapons Convention and of mixtures (containing a concentration equal to or greater than 30 per cent).

The Secretariat of the Environment and Sustainable Development also fulfils functions relating to the control of chemicals through its Unit for Chemical Substances and Products. The Unit coordinates the activities of the National Directorate for Environmental Management of the Secretariat in the field of chemical substances and products within the scope of its competence.

The Secretariat of the Environment and Sustainable Development ensures compliance with the commitments made under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, signed by Argentina in May 2001, and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, approved by Argentina in July 2000 by Act No. 25.278.

In addition, on 5 September 1991, Argentina, Brazil and Chile signed the Joint Declaration on the Complete Prohibition of Chemical and Biological Weapons (Mendoza Commitment), in which the region is declared a zone free of chemical and biological weapons and which was subsequently signed by Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay. On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signature of the Mendoza Commitment and the commemoration of the International Day for the Foundation of OPCW, held at the OPCW headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands, on 2 May 2016, the signatories reaffirmed their full commitment not to develop, produce, acquire in any way, stockpile or retain, transfer directly or

indirectly, or use chemical or biological weapons. On that occasion, a commemorative plaque was unveiled at the OPCW headquarters.

Biological materials

Argentina ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention) in 1979, by means of Act No. 21.938. The various competent agencies are working together to regulate the Act.

With regard to regional measures, on 5 September 1991, Argentina, Brazil and Chile signed the Mendoza Commitment, in which the region was declared a zone free of chemical and biological weapons and which was subsequently signed by Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru also signed a joint declaration on the strengthening of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention on 10 July 1998 in Geneva. On 24 July 1998, the Political Declaration of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), Bolivia and Chile as a Zone of Peace was signed in Ushuaia, Argentina. The Declaration provides that the signatory States will support, in the relevant forums, the full force and improvement of international instruments and mechanisms for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

With regard to paragraph 3 (a) and (b) of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Argentina has taken the following measures.

The transport of hazardous materials is regulated by Act No. 24.449 of 1994 (and amendments thereto), which is governed by Decree No. 779/95 and its complementary provisions. These rules regulate the use of public roads and apply to the movement of persons, animals and land vehicles on such roads, and to all activities related to transit.

Joint Decision No. 663/1999 (General Administration of Gross Income) and No. 760/1999 (National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality) addresses health checks for passengers and luggage.

Decision No. 299/1999 sets out procedures for the control of persons, accompanied luggage and vehicles at points of entry into Argentina, with a view to keeping out sources of disease.

In Decision No. 145/2003, the MERCOSUR Technical Regulations for the Transport of Infectious Substances and Diagnostic Specimens were approved and incorporated into domestic law.

Decision No. 1789/2006 authorizes the shipment to and from the country of certain biological materials for diagnostic or research purposes, or for participation in external quality-assurance programmes and for epidemiological surveillance carried out by institutions responsible for disease prevention and control policies.

Through Decision No. 714/2010, a national plan to prevent the entry and transmission of pests and diseases in regulated waste (amended and supplemented by Decision No. 401/2014 of the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality) was established.

The Argentine National Gendarmerie, as the body responsible for enforcing the National Transit Act (article 2 of Act No. 24.449, amended pursuant to Act No. 26.363), has competence for control and prevention related to transit on national routes and other areas in the national public domain. That competence empowers the Gendarmerie to control all vehicle traffic in those areas. In controlling transport, the

Gendarmerie may review vehicle, cargo and passenger documentation, inspect storage compartments and carry out checks on dangerous goods.

Nuclear materials

As stated above (see “Paragraph 2”, “Nuclear materials”), in Argentina, the use of radioactive materials, including materials suitable for use in a nuclear weapon, is subject to the provisions of Act No. 24.804 (National Nuclear Activity Act), which was promulgated on 23 April 1997.

The Act also stipulates that the State authority responsible for regulating and monitoring nuclear activity in all areas relating to nuclear non-proliferation, radiological and nuclear safety, physical protection, control and transport of nuclear and radioactive material, control of the use of nuclear materials, licensing and control of nuclear facilities and international safeguards is the Nuclear Regulatory Authority.

The remit of the Nuclear Regulatory Authority is to establish, develop and implement a regulatory regime for all nuclear activities in the Argentine Republic, to ensure that such activities are not carried out for unlawful purposes and to prevent intentional acts that might have serious radiological consequences or lead to the unauthorized removal of nuclear materials or other materials or equipment subject to regulation and control.

The Nuclear Regulatory Authority sets the standards for the implementation of such activities. Its duties in this regard include: granting, suspending and revoking licences, permits or authorizations; carrying out regulatory inspections and evaluations at facilities under its regulatory supervision; and imposing penalties in the event of failure to implement its regulations.

All individuals or entities must be in possession of a licence – issued on the basis of the relevant facility-design questionnaire – authorizing activities related to uranium mining and concentration, the safety of research reactors, relevant accelerators and radioactive facilities, including facilities for the management of nuclear waste or discharge, and nuclear applications used for medical and industrial purposes.

Under the national regulatory regime, all responsibility for the radiological and nuclear safety of a nuclear facility lies with the organization (owner or operator) responsible for designing, building, commissioning and operating the facility concerned, or for withdrawing it from service.

Moreover, the regulatory regime extends to non-proliferation safeguards and guarantees. To that end, the Nuclear Regulatory Authority established the State System of Accounting for and Control of Nuclear Material, Equipment and Facilities, through Regulation AR 10.14.1 (on guarantees of non-diversion of nuclear materials and nuclear-related material, facilities and equipment).

The central pillar of the System is the independent verification by the Nuclear Regulatory Authority of materials, equipment and technologies subject to safeguards. Such verification is combined with containment and monitoring procedures. The verification process requires that operators make annual declarations of the stocks and inventories of materials within their facilities.

On the basis of these declarations, the Nuclear Regulatory Authority identifies material balance areas within each facility. The purpose of establishing these areas is to ensure that inventories and flows (entry to and exit from each facility) of nuclear material are accurately recorded. The physical inventory-taking process complies with the latest relevant international standards. Inventories are verified through periodic facility inspections carried out by the Nuclear Regulatory Authority.

At the bilateral level, the Agreement between the Republic of Argentina and the Federative Republic of Brazil for the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy of 1991 established the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials, which is responsible for implementing the Common System of Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials. At the international level, the Agreement between the Argentine Republic, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials and IAEA for the Application of Safeguards (Quadripartite Agreement) is in force, providing comprehensive safeguards. Through that Agreement, IAEA applies safeguards in both countries, and Argentina meets its obligations under article 13 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and article III of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

As regards physical protection, Argentina is a State party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities, which is mainly concerned with the international transport of such material and was approved by Act No. 23.620 of 2 November 1988. In addition, Argentina ratified the amendment to the Convention on 15 November 2011. At the national level, the Nuclear Regulatory Authority, in its Regulation AR 10.13.1 on the physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities, established the general criteria applicable to counter robbery, theft, sabotage or unauthorized use in relation to protected materials, facilities and the transport of protected material. A general review of the Regulation is currently being carried out with a view to the issuance of an update.

Lastly, the minimum safety requirements for the transport of radioactive materials are stipulated in Regulation AR 10.16.1. The purpose of these requirements is to protect persons, property and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation during transport. The Regulation applies to all forms of land, water or air transport of radioactive materials that do not form an integral part of the vehicle or craft in question, including transport used to carry radioactive materials on an ad hoc basis. Argentina also adheres to the criteria set forth in the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (1996, revised).

At the subregional level, the Domestic Security Department signed, with the States members of MERCOSUR and Bolivia and Chile, Agreements Nos. 7/2000 and 8/2000, on the Supplement to the General Plan on Mutual Cooperation and Coordination for Regional Security with Regard to Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear and Radioactive Material. Through those agreements, the States agreed to exchange information, develop procedures for detection and response and train the security forces of the countries of the region.

Chemical materials

As stated above, the national authority established pursuant to the Chemical Weapons Convention is responsible for implementing the Convention in Argentina, including by ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Convention in relation to declarations, inspections, verification, the organization of training courses and the adaptation of domestic administrative and legal regulations to the Convention.

Through Decision No. 904/98 of the former Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining, a registry for industries to whose activities the Chemical Weapons Convention applies was created within what is now the Ministry of Production. In accordance with the Decision, all individuals or entities that are legally responsible for a facility that carries out activities involving the chemicals listed in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention, as well as facilities that produce the discrete organic chemicals listed in the Convention, must submit declarations to the National Authority established pursuant to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

The National Authority prepares the declarations that it submits each year to OPCW on the basis of these declarations, the data in the registry and the information provided by the Directorate-General of Customs.

Biological materials

The National Service for Animal Health was established by Act No. 23.899 of 1990 (and amendments thereto). Responsible for implementing the policy on animal health, its primary mission was to plan and implement measures to prevent, control and eradicate animal diseases, including those that can be transmitted to humans, and to exercise comprehensive health and hygiene control over all animal products, while taking into account advances in health technology and the most up-to-date regulatory procedures applying to such products and to products for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of animal diseases.

In addition, the Argentine Institute for Plant Health and Quality was established by Decree No. 2266/91. Its functions included the promotion, inspection and certification of the health and quality of plants and plant products, by-products and derivatives, whether in their natural state, semi-prepared or prepared, or wholly or partly industrially processed, and of specific plant inputs and biological products for domestic consumption, import and export, except the quality control of grains and grain products and by-products.

By Decree No. 660/96, the National Service for Animal health and the Argentine Institute for Plant Health and Quality were merged to form the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality, which assumed their competences, powers, rights and obligations.

Pursuant to Decree No. 1585/96, the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality was given responsibility for implementing national policies on animal and plant health and quality, verifying compliance with current regulations on the matter and controlling agrifood quality for products in its sphere of competence. It was also given responsibility for controlling federal-level trade in, and imports and exports of, products, by-products and derivatives of animal and plant origin, agrifood products, veterinary drugs, agrochemicals, fertilizers and soil conditioners.

Pursuant to Act No. 27.233 of 2016 (and amendments thereto), animal and plant health; the prevention, control and eradication of diseases and pests that harm national forestry, agricultural and livestock production; flora and fauna; the quality of the raw materials produced by forestry, crop-farming, livestock-raising and fishing activities; agrifood production, safety and quality; specific agricultural inputs and the control of chemical residues and chemical and microbiological contaminants in food; and the domestic and international trade in such products and by-products are declared to be matters of national interest.

By Administrative Decision No. 1881/2018, amending the structure of the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality, the Directorate of Agrochemicals and Agrobiological Products was attached to the National Directorate of Plant Protection, while the Directorate of Veterinary Products was attached to the National Directorate of Animal Health.

The functions of the Directorate of Agrochemicals and Agrobiological Products include ensuring compliance with standards related to the manufacture and formulation of plant protection products, fertilizers and soil conditioners used for agricultural production and plant pest control; proposing restrictions or prohibitions related to such products, and recording, registering and inspecting establishments that manufacture or formulate plant protection products.

The Directorate of Veterinary Products monitors the production, fractionation, deposit, retailing, distribution, dispatch, storage and conditions of sale of all veterinary medicines and drugs, and controls veterinary medicines and drugs that are imported and produced or fractionated throughout the country. It provides authorizations to and maintains a registry of establishments that conduct those activities, and it certifies and verifies compliance with the regulations on good practices in the manufacture of veterinary products.

It is also involved in the procedures for importing and exporting products and drugs used in veterinary medicine and in the issuance of certificates of competence for presentation to health authorities or bodies in third countries and in Argentina. Where appropriate, the Directorate proposes the prohibition or restriction of veterinary products.

The handling of foot-and-mouth disease viruses is regulated by Decision No. 219/95 (and amendments thereto), while requirements for the authorization of facilities that produce foot-and-mouth disease antigens and vaccines, as well as biosecurity standards and requirements for the registration, production and quality control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines, are established in Decision No. 609/17 (repealing Decision No. 351/2006 and Decision No. 111/2010).

Decision No. 505/1998 (and amendments thereto) contains procedural manuals for inspections, to be used by the staff of the laboratories of the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality. The annex to Decision No. 531/1999 contains the procedural manual for the national plan for the control and eradication of brucellosis, porcine brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis.

A system for preventive action whenever animal or plant health, or agrifood quality, has been compromised, with a resulting risk to human health, is established in Decision No. 488/2002 (and amendments thereto), pursuant to which the closure of facilities and the confiscation of materials is authorized. The scope of the Decision includes trade at the federal level.

Decision No. 422/2003 (and amendments thereto) provides for the National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality to adapt domestic procedures to international rules governing systems for the notification of animal diseases, epidemiological surveillance and continuous epidemiological follow-up, risk analysis and health emergencies, in accordance with a regulatory framework governing all aspects of efforts to protect against and combat diseases.

In Decision No. 725/2005 (and amendments thereto), general requirements are established for the movement of animals prone to foot-and-mouth disease, brucellosis, classical swine fever, Aujeszky's disease and ticks, and for concentrations of livestock; and for the entry of animals from countries or areas that are free of foot-and-mouth disease and do not practise vaccination. The Decision also provides for the division of the country into regions for the specific purpose of the movement of live animals, in connection with the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and other diseases.

In addition, Act No. 20.247 of 1973 (and amendments thereto) is designed to promote efficient seed production and marketing, safeguard the identity and quality of the seeds that producers acquire, and protect the ownership of new plant varieties.

The International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants was approved by Act No. 24.376 of 1994.

Regulations on the operations of laboratories performing diagnostic tests on citrus nursery plants and their parts are established in Decision No. 98/2003.

Phytosanitary requirements for imports of plants, plant parts, soil conditioners, means of organic sustenance and growth, biological control organisms, products, by-products and derivatives of plant origin or goods and inputs whose ingredients are of plant origin are established and amended in Decision No. 55/2003.

With regard to paragraph 3 (c) of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Argentina updated its domestic law in the area of security through Decree No. 1993/2010, establishing the Ministry of Security. In article 22 bis (15) of Decree No. 13/2015, the Ministry of Security is mandated to fulfil the specific competencies set out in Act No. 24.059 of 1991 on domestic security, and, pursuant to article 22 bis (19) of that Decree, the Ministry intervenes in the application of Act No. 22.352 of 1980, concerning border controls at international border crossings, border centres and integrated monitoring areas at borders with neighbouring countries.

In Decree No. 147/2018, the Government established the Office of the Undersecretary for Border Monitoring and Surveillance, under the auspices of the Ministry of Security. The Office coordinates the border security system (border control and surveillance of the border security area) and, pursuant to Decree No. 27/2017, holds the presidency of the National Commission for Security Areas, which is responsible for the regulation of and coordination among the border security areas of the Argentine Republic.

The Office is one of the bodies that comprise the National Border Commission, which is responsible for ensuring the effective presence of the State throughout the border security area. It is also the overall coordination body for international border crossings, in which capacity it carries out tasks related to the issuance of alerts and the implementation of precautionary border security measures for chemical, biological and nuclear materials.

At the subregional level, the Office participates in the specialized working group on criminal offences, within the framework of the meetings of the Ministers of the Interior and Security of MERCOSUR, Bolivia and Chile. Through this forum, Argentina approved the procedural guide for the control of radioactive materials at control points, signed on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 7 November 2013.

Also at the subregional level, the Office participates in the Technical Subcommittee on Border Controls and Operations of Technical Committee No. 2, Customs Matters, of the MERCOSUR Trade Commission. The Subcommittee deals with issues related to operations in the integrated control areas of border crossings between member countries. It brings together the various authorities responsible for border control, security, verification procedures and compliance with legal, regulatory and administrative provisions related to the entry and exit of goods, vehicles and people.

Through these regional mechanisms, Argentina is demonstrating its commitment to the exchange of information, the development of procedures, the updating of national regulations, the detection of and response to suspicious activities, and the ongoing training of the federal and provincial security forces.

With regard to weapons of mass destruction, Argentina continues to use the work methodology described in its 2007 report on the national implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). Any warnings required will be transmitted through the civil protection communications network, organized by the communications coordination unit of the Office of the Undersecretary for Operations, which operates under the auspices of the Civil Protection Secretariat.

In 2019, the National Centre for Emergency Alerts and Monitoring was established under the auspices of the Civil Protection Secretariat of the Ministry of Security. The Centre connects the civil protection bodies of the provinces, federal

forces, provincial police forces and volunteer firefighters around the clock, allowing the resources available to the State at all levels and in all jurisdictions to be managed and integrated in a coordinated manner, for more effective work and better deployment of resources. The Centre is equipped with various forms of information and communications technology that facilitate the detection of, issuance of alerts regarding, follow-up to and monitoring of adverse events, and also the response to such events for better decision-making.

Potential risk scenarios are developed in conjunction with the scientific and technical bodies of the National Integrated Risk Management System and the directorates and coordination bodies of the Civil Protection Secretariat. In addition, as part of the 2018–2023 Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, technical commissions have been established to provide advice to and participate in the system.

The Civil Protection Secretariat, through the Office of the Undersecretary for Operations, carries out tasks related to emergency and disaster response and the coordination of the deployment of the federal security forces, in preparedness and immediate response actions. Through the Office of the Undersecretary for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Secretariat organizes, coordinates and implements disaster risk reduction policies; mitigates and reduces the consequences of, and reconstructs following, natural or man-made events; and acts jointly with other State bodies in matters related to the environment, climate change, land planning, and water, environmental and energy resources.

Pursuant to Decree No. 68/2017, the security forces attached to the Ministry of Security are responsible for providing the security and law enforcement assistance required by the border control bodies; these security forces are the Argentine National Gendarmerie, the Airport Security Police and the Argentine Coastguard. There are currently 156 international border crossings, both land and river, for authorized entry into the Argentine Republic – all of them under the operational supervision of the Ministry of Security.

The Argentine Coastguard has operational units posted all along the seacoast and on rivers and lakes, controls 57 points of entry into and departure from Argentine territory, and carries out delegated functions of the National Directorate of Migration at 16 ports without adjacent borders. The Coastguard is also jointly responsible, with the other federal security forces, for the specific security situation. It continues to work towards the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), both through information-sharing and technical cooperation and by carrying out security checks within its jurisdiction and sphere of competence.

To that end, it has worked extensively with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, the Nuclear Regulatory Authority, the Institute of Scientific and Technical Research for Defence, the National Atomic Energy Commission, the National Authority established pursuant to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the federal security forces, and has in recent years participated actively in security initiatives promoted by leading countries to develop programmes for the non-proliferation of sensitive (chemical, bacteriological, radiological and nuclear) materials.

In terms of training, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in conjunction with the Nuclear Regulatory Authority and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, held a regional introductory course on on-site inspection in April 2018.

Particularly noteworthy are the maritime safety and security activities carried out by the Coastguard in relation to the International Maritime Organization; the Coastguard is responsible for the enforcement in Argentina of many international conventions directly or indirectly related to resolution 1540 (2004), in particular the

International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, within the framework of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, which was incorporated into domestic law by Act No. 22.079.

With regard to the control of dangerous goods, we hereby confirm that the Coastguard performs the functions set forth in the annex to the note verbale dated 8 January 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee (S/AC.44/2018/1).

The Argentine National Gendarmerie is responsible for security and local coordination at 105 authorized international border crossings to prevent, inter alia, illegal trading in nuclear, chemical and biological materials and weapons and their means of delivery. The Gendarmerie is responsible for monitoring the international border and the border security area along the country's 9,376-kilometre-long terrestrial border, including the land border crossings.

Pursuant to the 2006 National Nuclear Plan, cooperation agreements have been signed with the Department of Energy of the United States of America, and Argentine National Gendarmerie personnel have participated in training provided by that Department as part of the international nuclear safety programme of the United States National Nuclear Safety Administration.

Various courses related to the control and supervision of nuclear technology have also been introduced as part of the Annual Professional Technical Training Plan. The courses are intended, inter alia, to improve compliance with international standards for the physical security of critical facilities by ensuring that highly trained personnel with specific knowledge of military tactics are available to defend strategic objectives. In addition, pursuant to Protocol No. 01/16, on the establishment of procedures for physical security during the transport of radioactive substances and critical or nuclear material, a course on the matter has been introduced.

As part of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, the Gendarmerie participated in the Paihuen II bilateral exercise held by Argentina and Chile in October 2017.

The Gendarmerie formed a team of instructors as part of the international programme for the control of exports of strategic goods related to non-proliferation. Staff were trained to serve as instructors for strategic goods identification training courses.

The Counter-Terrorism Investigation Department of the Argentine Federal Police is specialized in the active prevention and investigation of counter-terrorism at the federal level. It has the human and material resources needed to address the risks mentioned in resolution 1540 (2004). In performing this task, the Department coordinates with and is assisted by the counter-terrorism liaison officers who are assigned to every branch of the Federal Police.

The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Department of the Argentine Federal Police, in its capacity as the INTERPOL National Central Bureau, is the sole and exclusive representative of Argentina in INTERPOL and of INTERPOL in Argentina. The Department's objectives are the coordination of mechanisms for the exchange of police information and good practices, the holding of multilateral events and training courses, the conduct of combined operations, the analysis of information at the regional and international levels, and all other activities related to international cooperation.

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Materials Subdirectorate of the INTERPOL General Secretariat, which conducts and

coordinates, at the global level, activities intended to make connections among member countries, administers the INTERPOL programme for the prevention of the use of such materials.

Through the programme, training activities, work meetings and other events relevant to the monitoring and investigation of such threats are organized.

The INTERPOL Department provides the National Migration Directorate with systematic and continuous updates to the records of citizens subject to national and international arrest warrants. As a result, the records can be consulted during immigration checks at the border and in prevention and monitoring areas in the border security area and along State roads, in line with government directives to the Argentine National Gendarmerie and the Argentine Coastguard.

The mission of the Airport Security Police includes preventive airport security, which consists of the planning, implementation, evaluation and coordination of the activities and operations necessary at the strategic and tactical levels to prevent, avert and investigate crimes and infractions at airports (in accordance with Act No. 26.102, the Airport Security Act, adopted on 31 May 2006).

As the authority responsible for security at the 44 airports of the national airport system, the function of the Airport Security Police is to safeguard national and international civil aviation through the surveillance, verification and control of facilities, vehicles, persons, luggage, mail, cargo, goods, and items being transported, as well as aircraft and crews at airports. The Airport Security Police also monitors and controls the transport, possession and carrying of weapons, explosives and other potential hazards at airports.

Between 2011 and 2015, the Airport Security Police was provided with equipment for detecting explosives, industrial chemical agents, chemical warfare agents and radioactive agents. Such equipment is no longer exclusively for specialized personnel who are members of response groups, and is now used at preboarding inspection and registration points to optimize checks. All police personnel who perform prevention-related guard duties are trained in these technologies and their use.

In July 2017, the Airport Security Police and the Nuclear Regulatory Authority signed a cooperation framework agreement, under which radiological safety training has been provided not only to incident response personnel but also to personnel who work at inspection and registration points.

When the Group of 20 Summit was held in Buenos Aires in 2018, specific training in radiation detection and security was provided, and the Airport Security Police participated in the working group on the development of plans to prevent and respond to possible chemical, bacteriological, nuclear or radioactive attacks.

The Directorate-General of Preventive Airport Security, through its Directorate of Explosives and Special Weapons Control, actively participates in the MERCOSUR Specialized Technical Group on Illicit Traffic in Nuclear and Radioactive Material, whose work is reflected in the instructions on basic concepts related to radiation, radioactive sources and radiological protection and the procedural guide for the monitoring of radioactive materials at control points.

With regard to paragraph 6 of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), the national regime for the control of exports of sensitive goods and military materiel was established by Decree No. 603/92. The decree led to the creation of the National Commission for the Control of Exports of Sensitive Goods and Military Materiel. The purpose of the Commission is to ensure that all exported items are strictly controlled to ensure that they will be used exclusively for peaceful means. The Commission also establishes

licence types and a series of procedures for processing licences, in accordance with different trade flows and the requirements of the international non-proliferation treaties and groups to which Argentina has subscribed.

The Commission comprises representatives of the Ministry of Defence, the Trade Secretariat of the Ministry of Production and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. In addition, depending on the nature of the transfer, the following bodies may also be represented: the Nuclear Regulatory Authority, in the case of nuclear exports; the National Space Activities Commission, in the case of exports of missile technology; and the Institute of Scientific and Technical Research for Defence, in the case of exports of chemicals, bacteriological substances, military materiel in general, and dual-use materials and technologies. Although not officially a member of the Commission, the Intelligence Secretariat alerts all the relevant agencies, each in its specific area of competence, about any factors, events or methods that could lead to the evasion of export controls or conceal the trans-shipment, re-export or transit of materials presenting a proliferation risk. It also alerts them to possible factors facilitating illicit trade in sensitive materials and illegal activity on the part of brokers.

Decree No. 603/92 empowers the Commission to issue an advance export licence on sensitive materials and dual-use goods that could be used to produce weapons of mass destruction. The Commission is also empowered by Decree No. 1291/93 to grant an import certificate, which is to be requested by the exporter before goods intended for shipment to Argentina leave the country in which they are currently located.

Decree No. 657/95 empowers the Commission to require an end-user certificate before issuing either the export licence or the import certificate, in order to ensure that the goods to be transferred cannot be used for proliferation. The legislation expressly stipulates that requirement for sales of military materiel, but the Commission also requires it for sensitive materials and dual-use goods.

The annexes to and laws supplementing Decree No. 603/92 contain lists of materials, equipment and technologies for which an advance licence is required. Those lists bring together the lists agreed by the multilateral export control regimes in which Argentina participates (the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Zangger Committee, the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group and the Wassenaar Arrangement) and those of the Chemical Weapons Convention (schedules 1, 2 and 3):

- Annex A (Missile Technology Control Regime)
- Annex B (Australia Group and Chemical Weapons Convention)
- Annex C (Nuclear Suppliers Group and Zangger Committee)
- Annex D (Military materiel – Wassenaar Arrangement)
- Annex E (Dual use – Wassenaar Arrangement)

These lists are updated periodically. The latest update was in July 2019.

In addition, of particular significance for the control of international transfers of sensitive or dual-use materials is the “catch-all” clause. That clause, which forms part of the Argentine control regime pursuant to article 15 of Decree No. 603/92, provides that exporters of nuclear, chemical, bacteriological or missile-related materials, equipment, technologies, technical assistance or services not specified in the current relevant laws or in the annexes thereto shall be required to obtain an advance licence when the Commission deems it appropriate.

Some transactions involving nuclear matters are conditional on the existence of a bilateral agreement on nuclear cooperation for peaceful purposes with the country concerned. Such agreements shall also stipulate that:

- (a) The relevant country is a party to the IAEA safeguards agreements;
- (b) It expressly undertakes not to use the material exported by Argentina for purposes related to nuclear explosives;
- (c) It undertakes to adopt appropriate security measures for the material exported by Argentina;
- (d) It undertakes to seek the consent of the Argentine Government for subsequent transfer of the material.

General Decision No. 354/1999 of the Federal Administration of Public Income – Directorate-General of Customs, includes the Chemical Weapons Convention schedules in its system for the control of sensitive exports, identifying each substance in accordance with the MERCOSUR common nomenclature and the integrated customs tariff system.

In 2006, the Federal Administration of Public Income established the Subdirectoriate-General of Customs Control through Order No. No. 36/06. The unit now known as the Non-economic Prohibitions and Trademark Fraud Division was attached to the Subdirectoriate-General, and successive structural changes have been made since that time. The Argentine customs authority had, in fact, been working in this area for approximately 20 years – a fact not reflected in its organizational structure – in conformity with the functions and powers emanating from Act No. 22.415.

This is the operational and technical framework in which matters related to the implementation of non-economic import and export prohibitions, which are protected under article 610 of the Customs Code, are analysed, diversions are detected, and rule changes and control measures are proposed. The prohibitions necessary to control the trade in strategic goods are those mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of that article (security, national defence, international policy and defence of the political institutions of the State).

The controls recommended by the units that conduct research related to weapons of mass destruction and the associated materials, precursors and technologies are implemented through alerts or smart computer rules (giving indications, guidance or instructions to controllers) to combat trafficking that could contribute to proliferation and that could, through error or omission or by design, evade the standardized controls applied through the computer rules established in response to Decree No. 603/92 and amendments and supplements thereto, and other similar laws on certain import items.

For the purposes of training and, in particular, awareness-raising among the staff of the Federal Administration of Public Income – Directorate-General of Customs, the Training Directorate has promoted various internal courses in this area, both for inspection personnel and as preparation for trainers. Experts accredited by the World Customs Organization are currently working with the Directorate and are actively involved in interministerial and international courses, training customs agents in identification and control.

All of the above is without prejudice to the tasks and activities of non-specialized, central risk units and units that address risks in specific areas.

The steady incorporation of non-intrusive technology, such as fixed and mobile scanners, radiation detector portals, density meters, fibrescopes and radiation meters

(Geiger counters), at ports, airports, land borders and border crossings is of particular importance in order to support and optimize customs controls.

With regard to paragraph 7 of resolution 1540 (2004), Argentina offers assistance through the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). In that connection, Argentina responded to requests for assistance from Grenada and Guyana in 2015. Such assistance is evidence of the strong commitment of Argentina to the region.

In 2019, Argentina reiterated its willingness to provide assistance in the implementation of the resolution. Specifically, Argentina has offered technical advice in the implementation of legislation and regulation in the nuclear and chemical fields.

With regard to paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 1540 (2004), Argentina is a party to the fundamental international legal instruments in the area of disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction: the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention; the Chemical Weapons Convention; and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

As a State party to the aforementioned instruments, Argentina has traditionally promoted their universalization. As an example, at the eighth Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention in 2016, together with Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru, Argentina presented a working paper in which signatory States that had not yet ratified the Convention were encouraged to do so without delay and States not party to the Convention were encouraged to consider acceding as soon as possible.

Argentina has expressed the repeated hope at every appropriate opportunity that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty will enter into force as soon as possible and that negotiations will begin promptly on a legally binding instrument banning the production of fissile material that can be used in nuclear weapons.

With regard to paragraph 8 (c) of resolution 1540 (2004), Argentina has been a member of IAEA since 3 October 1957 and currently sits on the IAEA Board of Governors.

With regard to OPCW, Argentina participates actively both as a State party and as a member of the Executive Council.

Additional information on international cooperation is presented below, in the section on paragraph 9 of resolution 1540 (2004).

In accordance with paragraph 8 (d) of resolution 1540 (2004), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship has publicized through the media the scope of the resolution and the related measures adopted by Argentina.

The agencies represented in the National Commission for the Control of Exports of Sensitive Goods and Military Materiel hold seminars and conferences to raise awareness of the issue of proliferation and the security implications.

In this connection, the Executive Secretariat of the Commission is engaged in regular dialogue with exporters, with a view to raising their awareness of the risks of proliferation.

Domestically, Argentina has made intense efforts to train relevant actors in the peaceful use of chemicals to prevent their diversion and use for prohibited purposes.

As another way to promote the proper implementation of the obligations emanating from the Chemical Weapons Convention in Argentina, the National Authority, along with the Secretariat of University Policies of the Ministry of Education, established the national project on education in the responsible and safe

use of chemical sciences and technologies in the service of the scientific, economic and social development of the Argentine Republic. The objectives of the national project are:

- To improve knowledge of the role of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the national implementing legislation.
- To help to raise awareness of the dual nature of the use of knowledge in chemical sciences and the risks that this entails.
- To promote a culture of responsible use of technical and scientific knowledge.

On 22 April 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and the Ministry of Defence signed a memorandum of understanding on education and training of members of the national defence education system regarding the Chemical Weapons Convention, designed to introduce the members of the national defence system to the obligations emanating from the Convention.

The Institute of Scientific and Technical Research for Defence works year-round to broaden its reach and raise awareness among Argentine businesses of the need to abide by the commitments entered into and to communicate promptly confidential information about technological developments in Argentina that are relevant to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention.

The document sets out data and information on biological activity relevant to the Convention. The confidence-building measures include information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and poisoning, research results, laboratories, research centres and vaccine production facilities. They also include detailed information on legislation, regulations and other legal measures and annual activities undertaken to raise awareness of use of knowledge.

In accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Argentina has since 2005 been working with the United States through its international non-proliferation export control programme. As a result, national trainers have been trained and regularly deliver training workshops in the detection of strategic goods. These detection courses are primarily intended for customs agents and members of the security forces deployed at ports, border crossings or airports. The practical training gives participants an insight into the issue of weapons of mass destruction and how to identify and detect sensitive goods.

Since Argentina joined the Proliferation Security Initiative in 2005, it also has participated in the high-level meetings of the Operational Experts Group and various workshops and exercises conducted by the Initiative.

Bilateral tabletop exercises were organized in conjunction with the United States in 2017 and 2018. In addition, in 2019, a regional workshop, attended by representatives of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay and the United States, was held in Buenos Aires. This was an opportunity to share experiences and good practices, discuss common challenges and to explore possible arrangements for cooperation in the fields of non-proliferation and the interdiction of sensitive goods.

Argentina, together with OPCW, has conducted various training activities with Latin American and Caribbean countries in Buenos Aires.

For the past eight years, an advanced regional course on assistance and protection has been held in Argentina. The course is organized by the National Authority established pursuant to the Chemical Weapons Convention, together with OPCW and the special hazards brigade of the Federal Superintendency of Firefighters. About 20 first responders from Latin American and Caribbean countries

take part each time the course is held. Previous participants have remarked on the quality of the course materials and the teaching.

A regional course on the security of chemical laboratories, in particular the security of persons, has been held three times, together with OPCW and the National Institute of Industrial Technology.
