



Security Council

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

Note verbale dated 13 December 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).

The Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations wishes to address the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, in his capacity as Chair of the Committee, and to inform him that Solomon Islands is pleased to transmit its country report on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).



Annex to the note verbale dated 13 December 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

Report of Solomon Islands on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

Paragraph 1 of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands will not develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery.

Solomon Islands remains supportive of the objective stipulated under Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and does not support in any way or form activities that may assist and/or encourage States or non-State actors to commit or attempt acts contrary to the objectives of the resolution.

In accordance with this policy, the Government of Solomon Islands remains committed to the international and regional legal frameworks that promote disarmament and non-proliferation, and has ratified or acceded to the following international conventions and arrangements relevant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004):

- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Done at London, Moscow and Washington, D.C., on 1 July 1968. Acceded to in 1981.
- Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare. Done at Geneva on 17 June 1925. Acceded to in 1981.
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction. Done at London, Moscow and Washington, D.C., on 10 April 1972. Acceded to in 1981.
- Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof. Done at London, Moscow and Washington, D.C., on 11 February 1971. Acceded to in 1981.
- Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques. Done at Geneva on 10 December 1976. Acceded to in 1981.
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Done at New York on 10 September 1996. Signed in 1996.
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Done at Oslo on 18 September 1997. Ratified in 1999.
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction. Acceded to on 23 September 2004.
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Signed on 4 December 1997.
- South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty. Ratified on 27 June 1989.
- Honiara Declaration on Law Enforcement Cooperation. Adopted in 1992.

- Boe Declaration on Regional Security. Adopted in 2018.
- Nasonini Declaration on Regional Security. Adopted in 2002.

Solomon Islands has also ratified the following three counter-terrorism conventions:

- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Ratified on 24 September 2009.
- International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. Ratified on 24 September 2009.
- International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. Ratified on 24 September 2009.

Paragraph 2 of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands enacted its Counter-Terrorism Act of 2009, with provisions to enforce the law against acts of terrorism. The Counter-Terrorism Act provides for various activities involving nuclear, chemical and biological weapons for terrorist purposes. It provides a mechanism to respond to terrorist acts by designating powers to the law enforcement agencies and allows for the prosecution of those who commit such acts.

The Money-laundering and Proceeds of Crimes Act of 2010 and the Counter Terrorism Act of 2009 prohibit the financing of terrorism. The Immigration Act of 2012 also stipulates offences relating to money-laundering activities.

Article 20 of the Counter-Terrorism Act of 2009 prohibits assisting in terrorist acts.

In part 4 of the Counter-Terrorism Act, which refers to non-State actors and charitable organizations, a call is made for their deregistration if they are deemed or believed, on reasonable grounds, to be directly or indirectly linked to a terrorist group, or to support or be supported by such a group.

Under the Counter-Terrorism Act, the Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services and the Commissioner of Police are responsible for seizing or securing any items that may be developed or obtained for terrorist purposes. The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force is equipped with an effective unexploded ordnance disposal team and with a hazardous materials disposal team. However, further specific training may be required to build capability to handle nuclear, chemical and biological materials.

Paragraph 3 (a) and (b) of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands has concluded a comprehensive safeguards agreement and a small quantities protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency relevant to measures to account for production, use and storage of nuclear-related materials. Solomon Islands is considering becoming a member of the Agency. The Department of Energy and the Medical Imaging Division of the Ministry of Health and Medical Services have protective measures, such as radiation monitoring devices and protocols, when dealing with radiology and energy-related work. The National Pharmacy Division within the Ministry of Health and Medical Services has a manual on storage and rules and standard operating procedures governing the use and handling of dangerous chemicals in Government-run pharmacies and medical storage facilities.

Solomon Islands is a State party to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade is the designated focal point, thereby

ensuring that Solomon Islands adheres to the requirements stipulated under the Convention.

Under the Counter-Terrorism Act, the Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services and the Commissioner of Police are responsible for seizing or securing any items that may be developed or obtained for terrorist purposes. The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force is equipped with an effective unexploded ordnance disposal team and with a hazardous materials team. However, further specific training may be required to build capability to handle nuclear, chemical and biological materials.

Solomon Islands has been implementing international ship and port security regulations that cover maritime transport and trans-shipment security, as well as the security of storage facilities in its ports. The Maritime Safety Administration, under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, is mandated to implement the regulations.

Paragraph 3 (c) of resolution 1540 (2004)

The import of prohibited goods and items is criminalized (see part 3, clause 20, of the Customs and Excise Act).

The Customs and Excise Act (schedule II) provides a list of all prohibited goods and materials. It empowers the Minister of Finance and Treasury to periodically update the list of all prohibited goods and materials.

The Customs and Excise Act (part 10) contains provisions against the smuggling of illicit goods and materials.

The Customs and Excise Act empowers the Comptroller to seek relevant information, cooperation and support from other government agencies in relation to border security and the prevention, detection and confiscation of prohibited goods and materials.

Solomon Islands is a member of the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, the Oceania Customs Organization and the Pacific Immigration Development Community. These regional law enforcement agencies provide a platform for coordination and collaborative responses to address and manage illegal transnational activities within the region.

Solomon Islands has a basic border agreement with Papua New Guinea and an agreement on the administration of the Special Areas, for the effective management of the border between the two countries.

The law enforcement agencies (for example, the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force and the Biosecurity and Customs and Excise Divisions) do not have the intelligence capability to monitor or trace the movement of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, their means of delivery or related materials in its international or territorial waters. However, existing regional arrangements, through the respective law enforcement organizations as well as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), provide a platform for sharing some information and intelligence.

The Customs and Excise Division lacks the technical capability, resources (including equipment) and expertise to detect and deal with these extremely dangerous weapons at the borders. It requests more awareness-raising, training and information-sharing on these issues.

Paragraph 3 (d) of resolution 1540 (2004)

The import of prohibited goods and items is criminalized (see part 3, clause 20, of the Customs and Excise Act and part 2 of the Counter-Terrorism Act of 2009).

At the operational level, customs officials conduct frequent routine checks on cargo ships and aircraft. The relevant authorities are notified as soon as prohibited goods and items or terrorist-related activities are discovered or suspected.

There are no specific sections in the Customs and Excise Act that prohibit or deal with the import, export, transit, trans-shipment and brokering or transportation of these extremely dangerous weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, and it is suggested that there should be stand-alone legislation in that respect.

Paragraph 5 of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands is a State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention. Aligning domestic laws and mechanisms with the obligations stipulated under these instruments and adhering to them is therefore a national obligation.

Paragraph 6 of resolution 1540 (2004)

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force is in the process of creating an effective national armoury list for its newly established armoury. The relevant authority of Solomon Islands will consider creating an effective national control list. Solomon Islands needs assistance in developing an effective national control list. Additional training and relevant external technical assistance are needed to further improve the control list in order for it to be effective.

Paragraph 7 of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands may request support from external partners to provide assistance with establishing a mechanism to address security issues through the National Security Working Group to respond to acts of terrorism, including by implementing resolution 1540 (2004).

Solomon Islands needs assistance in building proper facilities for the secure storage of nuclear (radioactive), chemical and biological materials.

Paragraph 9 of resolution 1540 (2004)

Solomon Islands is a member of the Oceania Customs Organization. Under the Charter of that organization, all member States are obliged to share intelligence and information on issues and concerns, in addition to cooperating in training and investigation or enforcement matters.

Solomon Islands is a member of the World Trade Organization and the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures. Work is under way to become a member of the World Customs Organization.

The Customs and Excise Act empowers the Comptroller to seek relevant information, cooperation and support from other government agencies in relation to border security and the prevention, detection and confiscation of prohibited goods and materials.

Solomon Islands is a member of INTERPOL and maintains regular cooperation with it. Solomon Islands is also a member of the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police.

Solomon Islands has ongoing bilateral cooperation with relevant agencies from different States, including security, immigration, maritime and police cooperation with Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

Paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 1540 (2004)

The Government of Solomon Islands will continue to render its utmost support for international initiatives to reduce the threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials. Solomon Islands will also continue to participate and contribute to efforts to ensure that the Pacific region is free from such threats.
