Executive Summary

1. Caribbean Community Members are parties to and have consistently urged compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (CWC), and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons (BWC).

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

3. In the past year, the CARICOM Secretariat has co-sponsored a Maritime Security and Export Controls Workshop in Support of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540 in Jamaica and CARICOM Members have hosted several fora aimed at advancing the global non-proliferation agenda. These include a UNODC-sponsored Counter-terrorism Committees Sub-regional Meeting in St Kitts and Nevis, a Bio-Terrorism Assessment and Training Seminar in Trinidad and Tobago with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), a Caribbean Sub-regional Workshop on Best Practices in Port Security in the Bahamas as well as in Trinidad and Tobago, and a Specialized Legal Workshop in the Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its Financing for the Caribbean Sub-region, in St. Kitts and Nevis.

4. The CARICOM Secretariat has also been engaged in other CT/CFT capacity building for CARICOM Members in collaboration with the UNODC /OAS-CICTE at Workshops in St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent.

5. The CARICOM Implementation Agency on Crime and Security (IMPACS), the CARICOM Institution at the centre of the regional security framework has also engaged in programmes related to CT. This includes the operation of the Advance Passenger Information System, the provision of regional intelligence capabilities and the conduct of training courses relevant to CT capacity.

6. In respect to future non-proliferation measures it is recommended that more emphasis be placed on programmes such as the CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 Initiative which focus on
dual use interventions to ensure that measures taken to prevent the spread of WMD also address the day to day security challenges of particular UN Member States.

Introduction

7. The Caribbean Community is committed to redoubling its efforts to prevent terrorists and non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, related materials, as well as their delivery systems. This issue remains at the top of our regional security agenda, given CARICOM’s awareness that the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists poses a grave and consequential threat to the collective economic, political, environmental and cultural viability of the international system as a whole.

Overview and Work of the CARICOM Secretariat

8. Given the fundamental importance of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and dismantling international networks that traffic in related materials and technology, Caribbean Community states have been parties to and have consistently urged compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (CWC), and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons (BWC).

9. In relation to the NPT, the region has also consistently called for the adoption of policies to discourage future noncompliance, as well as the enactment of effective controls to ensure greater compliance with the NPT and for the full and rigorous application of related International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

10. Our long-standing commitment to the principle of multilateralism in facing this threat has been underscored by the ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco by all CARICOM Members and, more recently, the undertaking of a regional initiative aimed at fully implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540. The CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 implementation initiative, which is the first such effort in any region to collectively implement a non-proliferation mandate, demonstrates CARICOM’s understanding of the urgency of the threat of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) proliferation and the need to pool resources in facing this present challenge.

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

12. In the past year, the CARICOM Secretariat has co-sponsored a Maritime Security and Export Controls Workshop in Support of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540 in Jamaica and member states have hosted several forums aimed at advancing the global non-proliferation agenda. These include a UNODC-sponsored Counter-terrorism Committees
Sub-regional Meeting in St Kitts and Nevis, a Bio-Terrorism Assessment and Training Seminar in Trinidad and Tobago with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), a Caribbean Sub-regional Workshop on Best Practices in Port Security in the Bahamas as well as in Trinidad and Tobago, and a Specialized Legal Workshop in the Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its Financing for the Caribbean Sub-region, in St. Kitts and Nevis.

13. The CARICOM Secretariat has also been engaged in other capacity building for CARICOM Members to combat Terrorism and its Financing. Representatives from the Office of the General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat have made presentations at Regional Workshops on hosted by the UNODC /OAS-CICTE in St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent.

14. These “Workshops on Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its Financing: Legal Framework and Mechanisms of International Co-operation” have trained prosecutors, magistrates and Financial Intelligence Unit personnel on measures to prevent, deter and identify threats of terrorism and terrorist financing. CARICOM has presented on “International Cooperation in the Fight against Terrorism. Regional Perspective, Programmes, where the work, particularly of the CARICOM Implementation Agency on Crime and Security (IMPACS), the CARICOM Institution at the nerve centre of the Regional Security Agenda outline in ensuing paragraphs has been highlighted.

15. A fundamental approach of Counter-Terrorist (CT) capacity building carried out or contributed to by CARICOM entities focuses on the reality that overall enhancement of capacity to combat and deter organized crime also enhances CT capacity.

16. This has been a critical strategy to sustain local buy in given the trenchant problems of the region in relation to the organized crime manifested in illegal drugs and arms trafficking.

The Work of CARICOM IMPACS

17. The work of IMPACS is supported and enhanced by its two sub-agencies the Joint Regional Communications Centre (JRCC) and the Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre (RIFC)

18. The JRCC acts as the central clearing house for Advance Passenger Information (API) and acts for and on behalf of ten (10) individual CARICOM Members for the purpose of pre-screening passengers from air and sea vessels

19. The RIFC receives intelligence from regional and international sources and platforms and provides intelligence support to key stakeholders in an effort to enhance the detection and deterrence of crime within the Region

20. Yearly IMPACS runs several courses for law enforcement officials from CARICOM Members that are relevant to CT efforts.
   a. Among the intelligence courses are included the following:
Advanced intelligence analysis
ii. Advanced intelligence tradecraft
iii. Threat and Risk assessment
iv. Cyber crime intelligence and investigations
v. Scenario Planning
vi. Predictive Analysis
vii. Border Security Systems
viii. Operations and Analysis

b. Among the law enforcement courses are included the following:
   i. Counter and Anti Kidnapping operations
   ii. Ballistics Identification
   iii. Forensic Interviewing and Polygraph Examinations
   iv. Forensic Sciences

**Additional Relevant Measures for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorist of WMD**

21. It is of fundamental importance that the measures promulgated to combat the acquisition of WMDs and to prevent and deter all forms of terrorism and support for terrorism also provide enhanced capabilities to address other forms of criminal activity which plague States.

22. This complementary/dual use approach promotes sensitivity to the daily realities States face in crime fighting capacity and ensure that terrorism prevention methodologies are built on a firm foundation of adequate intelligence gathering and law enforcement strategies.

23. It is therefore recommended that more emphasis be placed on programmes such as the CARICOM-UNSCR 1540 Initiative which from its inception has sought to leverage the implementation and compliance process to access needed technical assistance that will assist CARICOM Members in detecting and interdicting strategic goods. This thrust is in keeping with an acknowledgement of the stated mandates in the operational paragraphs of UNSCR 1540, which require specific action by all Member States to enhance existing export, import and customs controls which, in relation to CARICOM Members, have particular relevance to current vulnerabilities in particular in relation to illegal drugs and firearms trafficking within the Region’s maritime domain.

CARICOM Secretariat
18 June 2010