



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

**Preventing catastrophe: A global agenda for stopping the proliferation of
weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors**

15 December 2016

Intervention by

H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay

Permanent Representative

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

Dear Colleagues,

Let me thank the Spanish Presidency for convening this timely debate. The tireless efforts of Madrid to advance the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 are also much appreciated.

We welcome the adoption of the Report of the comprehensive review of the Resolution 1540 and the Resolution adopted this morning by the Security Council, which Hungary also co-sponsored.

Hungary aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union.

Hungary has traditionally been active in the field of non-proliferation, export control of sensitive technologies and materials, and more recently in the fight against terrorism. These are the reasons why we have already taken a range of legislative and executive measures that ensure compliance with Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). Furthermore, we continuously review our policies, with a view to identifying what further action might be necessary.

The threat of non-State actors, terrorists, using WMDs (either nuclear, chemical or biological) is one of the biggest threat the international community has to face. It is a threat that is not limited in scope to one specific country or region, but has rather global ramifications.

Non-State actors have already demonstrated some capability in acquiring and using WMD. The chemical weapons employed by ISIL/Daesh in Syria and Iraq underscore the need for the international community to broaden and deepen its understanding of these actors. There is ostensibly more work ahead of us to understand how these actors operate in all aspects of WMD proliferation.

Building and maintaining WMDs still require specific knowledge and infrastructure. However, with technology advancing at a rapid pace (opening up new possibilities) the international community has an obligation to monitor non-State actors engaging in proliferation activities and it should also place an emphasis on sharing relevant information on such organizations.

Special attention needs to be paid to Unstable and Failed States. WMDs in possession of these states are obviously of huge concern, as the risk of WMDs ending up in the hands of non-State actors is significant. Thus, it is vital to monitor respective equipment and parts of weapons, as well as other dual-use items in the hands of Unstable and Failed States.

The comprehensive review rightly put great emphasis on assistance and regional and international cooperation. Within means and capabilities Hungary provides active assistance to partner countries in the framework of the European Union or on a bilateral basis. In this context, let me highlight our assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina joining to the Wassenaar Arrangement. We believe that these kinds of activities contribute to improving the effective implementation of the Resolution.

I thank you for your attention.