

**VIEWS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE
MEASURES TO PREVENT TERRORISTS FROM ACQUIRING WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION
A/RES/77/75**

The Philippines, in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 77/75, has the following relevant measures for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction:

Strategic Trade Management Act of 2015

The Strategic Trade Management Act (STMA) of 2015 was enacted in response to the emerging proliferation threats and in accordance with the Philippines international obligation under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 to enforce effective measures and domestic controls to stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, to uphold international peace and security, and to foster economic growth by facilitating trade and investment through responsible management of strategic goods. The National Security Council's Strategic Trade Management Committee or NSC-STMCom, and the Department of Trade and Industry are created under the aforementioned Law while Anti-terrorism Council-Program Management Center (ATC-PMC) was designated as Secretariat to the Committee to provide administrative and technical assistance to the NSC STMCom. Relative thereto, the ATC-PMC as Secretariat shall develop guidelines pertaining to Administrative Appeals based on Rule VII, Section 2 of the STMA Implementing Rules and Regulations.

Biological and Toxin Weapons Act of 2023

Pursuant to Section 46 (j) of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020, the Anti-Terrorism Council is empowered to take measures to prevent the acquisition and proliferation by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction. The ATC-PMC, being the coordinating and program management arm of the ATC, leads the inter-agency meetings and coordination activities to facilitate the crafting of the bill titled, "Biological and Toxin Weapons Act of 2023" which aims to strengthen the Philippines' national security by instituting minimum biosecurity measures around biological agents and materials to prevent them from being weaponized by terrorists. Through concerted efforts with various agencies, this proposed measure would prevent, prohibit and criminalize the unlawful development, production, use, and stockpiling of biological and toxin weapons.

Chemical Weapons Act of 2020

The ATC-PMC as the Secretariat to the Philippine National Authority on Chemical Weapons Convention (PNA-CWC) under Executive Order No. 39, s.2022, spearheaded the technical working group (TWG) under the ATC which drafted the proposed bill prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical

weapons also known as the “Chemical Weapons Act of 2020”. The proposed legal measure espouses that the ATC-PMC would serve as the Secretariat and implementing arm of the PNA-CWC. The bill aims to establish a legal framework that would prohibit the development, production, stockpiling, acquisition, retention, transfer, and use of chemical weapons in the Philippines thereby strengthening the Philippines’ export controls to prevent the transfer of chemicals or equipment that could be used to produce chemical weapons.

In addition, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has adopted the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives (CBRNE) Emergencies Standard Operating Procedure as a guideline for undertaking measures to prevent the proliferation of CBRNE threats and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs).

The AFP Logistics Service Command (AFPLSC) has intensified the implementation of security measures in all its facilities to prevent the probable pilferage and the unauthorized access of threat groups to these assets. Moreover, regular physical accounting and validation of documents of firepower assets in the inventory of all AFP units are conducted to ensure proper monitoring and compliance to security procedures.

Concerted efforts and cooperation among concerned agencies, the Government, and the general public are necessary to deter terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. The immediate passage of aforementioned bills and proper implementation of existing laws are essential steps toward ensuring the security of the Philippines and the global community against the threats posed by chemical weapons and other hazardous substances.

XXX

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