

Ecuador

Ecuador, as a State party to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction ("Chemical Weapons Convention"), refrains from providing any form of support to non-State actors and exercises control over all activities designed to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

Although article 2 of the Act does not specifically prohibit the manufacture, acquisition, possession, development, transport, transfer or use of nuclear weapons, such weapons are provided for under the Act by virtue of their being weapons whose control, manufacture, import, export, sale and possession fall within the purview of the Ecuadorian Armed Forces under article 4 of the Act, which prevents the development of the aforementioned activities and their delivery systems.

Article 8 of the Act authorizes the Ministry of National Defence to prohibit the import, admission, export, transit or transfer of the items set forth in article 11, which includes weapons in general. The resolution refers to the introduction of measures to establish controls at the domestic level. In this regard, the Combined Armed Forces Command has set up 17 weapons-control units, as well as border controls, to implement the provisions of the Act. However, support is needed in the form of resources, equipment and the staff-training for the prevention and control of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their delivery systems.