

**Training Course for 1540 Points of Contact of the Caribbean Community
Countries**

10 - 12 September 2019,

Bridgetown, Barbados

**Opening Remarks/Message from H. E. Dian Triansyah Djani,
Chair of the Committee Established Pursuant to
UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)**

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the United Nations Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I would like to express our gratitude to the Government of Barbados and the CARICOM for hosting this important training for National Points of Contact on resolution 1540 (2004). I very much regret that due to prior commitments, I am not able to join you. However, I wish to welcome all participants and to thank you for your commitment and interest in this important topic. I also wish to express great appreciation to the various international organisations who will contribute to the course.

At the outset, I commend CARICOM and especially the CARICOM Regional Implementation Coordinator for resolution 1540 (2004) for their continued commitment to support their Member States in strengthening national capacity in the implementation of resolution 1540. Additionally, I thank Canada for their financial contribution and UNODA for their support.

Since its unanimous adoption on 28 April in 2004, resolution 1540 has become a vital and integral component of the international non-proliferation architecture, and main guidance for the international community's efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery to and by non-State actors.

Resolution 1540 imposes binding obligations on all States to adopt legislation to prohibit any non-State actor to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes. It also obliges all States to take and enforce

effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of these weapons and their means of delivery. The most recent Security Council resolution, 2325, adopted unanimously on 15 December 2016, confirms that the need to implement those obligations remains as strong as ever.

It is important to bear in mind the potentially devastating effects that nuclear, chemical or biological weapons could have in the hands of non-State actors, including terrorists. We are in an era in which terrorist groups and their supporters are ready to commit extreme violence on a wide scale, which could have catastrophic humanitarian, economic and political consequences. Globalization, rapid advances in science and technology, and the continuously evolving trading environment - while bringing great benefits, too – bear new risks, including in respect of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Therefore, the provisions of the resolution remain as relevant today as when adopted more than 15 years ago.

To achieve the non-proliferation objectives of resolution 1540, close co-operation between States, and co-ordination with relevant international, regional and sub-regional organisations is important. While there is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to effective implementation given the unique circumstances prevailing in different States and regions, much can be achieved through the sharing of experience.

The Committee is aware that the specific circumstances of States may impact on the implementation of their obligations, and throughout this training course there will be possibilities to discuss this. From my side let me say that conditions vary in all your countries and, while it is a binding obligation for States to have effective measures in place, how they are implemented is up to each State in accordance with their own legal, regulatory and control systems.

The aim of this course is to equip you to be an effective 1540 Point of Contact within your own country, to be a direct link to the 1540 Committee. Therefore, you will be learning more details about the obligations on States deriving from the resolution and you will obtain a better understanding of how your government can effectively implement these obligations or where there might be a need for more assistance.

The Committee has at its disposal several tools to promote and support effective implementation of the resolution by Member States, such as the 1540 Matrix, voluntary National Implementation Action Plans and the sharing of effective implementation practices. Moreover, some States continue to require assistance in the implementation of their obligations. Accordingly, the Committee is able to apply

its match-making tool to facilitate assistance to States, upon request, with their 1540 implementation efforts. All these will be discussed over the next few days. The Committee also relies on reporting and I encourage all Member States to submit to the Committee updated information on 1540 implementation measures, as envisaged in UNSC Resolution 2325.

I will conclude my remarks by noting that the Security Council decided the 1540 Committee will conduct a Comprehensive Review prior to the renewal of the Committee's mandate under Operative Paragraph 3 of resolution 1977, which was adopted in 2011. Preparations for the Comprehensive Review are well underway and we expect from CARICOM countries active participation in the upcoming comprehensive review of implementation of resolution 1540.

I trust that this training course will contribute towards deepening understanding of the respective obligations under resolution 1540 and the role of Points of Contact in national implementation.

Thank you for your attention.