

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR OF THE 1540 COMMITTEE  
AMBASSADOR OH JOON  
AT THE CONFERENCE ON “NON-PROLIFERATION RISKS:  
GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT – DIALOGUE  
WITH INDUSTRY IN SUPPORT OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION 1540 (2004)

FRANKFURT AM MAIN  
20 NOVEMBER 2014

Ambassador Antje Leendertse,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to participate in this Wiesbaden 2014 Conference on “Non-proliferation Risks: Governance and Compliance Management - Dialogue in Support of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004).”

On behalf of the 1540 Committee, I would like to thank the Government of Germany for inviting the Committee to participate in this meaningful event. My appreciation also goes to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the European Union “Outreach in Export Control of Dual-

use Items Programme” for their efforts in organizing this conference.

The German Government’s initiative through the “Wiesbaden Process” to facilitate dialogue with industry on their implementation of resolution 1540 is very much appreciated.

Building on the successful outcome of the two previous events in 2012 and 2013, I am confident that this year’s conference will also be a huge success.

Distinguished participants,

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1540.

Since its unanimous adoption by the Security Council in 2004, the resolution has played a key role in mobilizing efforts across the globe to prevent and counter the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

I will briefly recall the core obligations of resolution 1540, which require States:

To refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors regarding weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

To adopt and enforce appropriate legislation that prohibits non-State actors from engaging in any proliferation-related activities, and;

To establish domestic controls to prevent WMD proliferation, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials.

Over the past ten years, significant strides have been taken toward full and universal implementation of the resolution.

Member States have been exerting strenuous efforts to fulfil their obligations. This is evidenced by the fact that 173 out of 193 Member States have voluntarily submitted their national reports to the 1540 Committee.

The 1540 Committee, for its part, has been making active contributions in facilitating the implementation of resolution 1540.

In addition to monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the resolution through compilation and examination of national reports, the Committee has conducted extensive outreach and dialogue with member states, including country-specific visits, workshops and outreach events, to raise awareness of the importance of the resolution.

The Committee has also conducted the crucial role of coordinating and facilitating assistance, which is a key element for promoting full implementation of resolution 1540.

Distinguished participants,

Despite past achievements, achieving full implementation of resolution is a long-term task that will require continuous efforts at the national, regional and international level.

On 7 May this year, the UN Security Council adopted a Presidential Statement (PRST), in which it called upon all States to “step up their efforts to implement resolution 1540, focusing on areas where measures taken may be strengthened, with a view to achieving full implementation of the resolution by 2021.”

It is my firm conviction that in pursuing the goal of full implementation of the resolution, the role of industry will continue to be crucial.

Industry is a key partner in WMD non-proliferation efforts, as they operate at the forefront of national implementation of resolution 1540.

While States have the fundamental responsibility to implement the obligations under resolution 1540 by establishing national laws and measures, industry and the private sector are the key actors that apply these measures on the ground.

Compliance with export control regulations, as well as implementation of effective security arrangements for nuclear, chemical and biological facilities and materials, are key examples of the essential role of industry and the private sector in the implementation of resolution 1540.

Resolution 1540 therefore encourages States to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry regarding their obligations under laws to implement the resolution.

The Wiesbaden Conference, which brings together the government, the 1540 Committee and industry representatives

from diverse sectors for direct engagement, provides an ideal platform for such dialogue and partnership with industry.

Distinguished participants,

One of the key tasks that the Security Council requested of the Committee in resolution 1977 (2011) was to identify and compile effective practices in the areas covered by resolution 1540.

In identifying these effective practices, the Security Council encouraged the Committee to “draw also on relevant expertise, including from civil society and the private sector, with, as appropriate, their States’ consent.”

In this regard, we are privileged to have so many representatives from diverse sectors of industry, including from nuclear, chemical and biological industries as well as aerospace engineering and transport. Also present are representatives that deal directly with companies’ internal compliance measures and their export control divisions.

Through discussions today and tomorrow, we will be able to benefit much from your sharing of experiences and best practices in implementing the laws and regulations of your respective countries.

I would also be glad to hear your views on what industry and the private sector expects from the States and the 1540 Committee in facilitating implementation of the resolution.

Your views and experience on the ground could contribute to the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of the resolution, which the Committee needs to complete before December 2016.

Distinguished participants,

In closing, I would like to reiterate the importance of cooperation of all relevant stakeholders, including not only States, 1540 Committee and the relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations, but also the civil society, industry and the private sector.

I am convinced that the outcome of this conference will contribute to further strengthening the role of industry in preventing WMD proliferation. I look forward to your active participation and lively discussions in each of the ensuing sessions.

I thank you.