

Statement delivered on behalf of Ambassador Kim Sook, Chair of the 1540 Committee, by Ambassador Shin Dong Ik, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea, at the Workshop on "Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors: The Implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the Arab World", hosted by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**23 April 2013
New York, United States**

Your Excellencies and distinguished participants,

I express my sincere appreciation to Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi for hosting us today, to exchange ideas on the important matter of the prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors and the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

I would like, also, to convey the warmest regards from the Chairman of the 1540 Committee, H.E. Ambassador Kim Sook, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, and who wishes us success in our deliberations today.

As participants know, UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) is a central non-proliferation instrument that imposes three main obligations upon States:

- an obligation to refrain from providing any form of support to non-state actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery;
- an obligation to adopt and enforce appropriate effective laws to prohibit and prosecute such activities from non-State actors; and,
- an obligation for States to establish domestic controls over materials, equipment and technology which could be used for the design, development, production or use of weapons and mass destruction and their means of delivery.

Resolution 1540 (2004) is a non-proliferation tool of vital importance, to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors, and reduce the risk of such weapons being used and the dreadful humanitarian and political consequences that would flow from such use. The participation of all concerned, first and foremost

States themselves, is vital to ensure that the resolution is fully and effectively implemented.

I would like to recognize the active role played by Saudi Arabia to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). As participants in the workshop know, Saudi Arabia has pledged US\$500,000 in support of projects that will effectively contribute to enhanced implementation of the resolution. Today's important event is part of a number of projects planned in this context, following and building on a high-level event hosted in New York last December, and a successful training workshop for Saudi officials held in Riyadh last January. The Minister Plenipotentiary and Disarmament Department Director Mr Naif B. Al-Sudairy played a key role to shape the agenda, in cooperation with the 1540 Committee group of experts, and made this event possible.

I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to him, as well as to Mr Saad Al-Saad and Ms Ceny Santiago, who closely interacted with the 1540 Committee experts in preparation of this event, under the leadership of Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi. I also express sincere appreciation to UN University and its dedicated team, for their active involvement in bringing us together today and for tomorrow..

The agenda of today's workshop will offer an opportunity to explore and exchange views on important matters, such as the convergence between resolution 1540 (2004) and development objectives, the role of the industry and the private sector, and the synergy between resolution 1540 (2004) and other international instruments non-proliferation and initiatives.

I hope that the discussions will lead to the emergence of new and innovative ideas and to the identification new approaches that will lead us towards full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by members of the League of Arab States and others. I trust that the different speakers, who are all highly knowledgeable on 1540-related matters, are ready to engage in active dialogue that will stimulate our thinking. Our special thanks should go to those who have travelled from across the Atlantic to join in our discussions. Thanks should go as well to friends from the academic community in New York, Athens (Georgia, USA) and Washington DC, who

will be speaking today and tomorrow, who will stimulate us by bringing in some perspectives from outside the government community.

Since the views expressed at the meeting today will be non-attributable I hope that you will share your ideas freely and bring new thinking to the fore.

Your Excellencies, distinguished participants, I am looking forward to active discussions.

Thank you for your attention.