

Welcome Remarks at IRO Round Table Meeting on UNSCR 1540 Activities,  
Focusing on Technical Assistance Programmes

By Committee Member, Ms Pia Poroli

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am privileged to join you here in Vienna today for this important event. I will join my colleagues from Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and United Nation Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to welcome you to this two day meeting on UNSCR 1540 activities, focusing on Technical Assistance Programmes.

I thank UNODA for having organized this meeting which is third of its kind, the first was in 2010 and the second in 2012. Organizing the IRO week draws attention to two aspects of the resolution: one is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Resolution 1540 and the other is its comprehensiveness. The agenda for IRO week highlights three out of four areas of 1540 Committee's work. First, cooperation with International, regional and sub-regional organization; second, assistance needs and offers required for capacity-building; and the third is implementation of Resolution 1540 through sharing of effective practices.

The elements of cooperation and assistance, so crucial to the implementation of Resolution 1540, have been amply highlighted in Resolution 1540 paragraph 7 and 8 (c) and reiterated in all subsequent resolutions, especially Resolution 1977 (2011), where they have been covered under separate headings.

The role of 1540 Committee in supporting the provision assistance to the member states is that of a facilitator. On receiving the request from a State the Committee quickly circulates the request to all registered assistance providers, including the IROs, who have specialist capabilities to meet the requests. On receiving the response from the assistance providers, the requesting member states are informed of the available assistance. Thereafter, the feedback on to what extent the assistance request has been met and in what time frame, is dependent on the reports by the requesting States and the assistance providers.

This is an area which improvement through prompt sharing of additional information by the States and enhanced cooperation between the 1540 committee and the IROs. I am pleased to mention that this cooperation has improved over the past year. The enhanced cooperation with IAEA, OPCW, WCO, INTERPOL and OSCE is very much in evidence. This meeting with the IROs is by itself a living example of enhanced cooperation between 1540 Committee and the IROs.

Building on the progress of previous years the 1540 committee has identified some key priorities for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, which will help in achieving higher levels of implementation in the years up to 2021. One of these priority areas is enhancing the Committee's role as an assistance facilitator to better respond to the requests of Member States. This requires even greater cooperation with the IROs in the coming years to achieve a more comprehensive and effective implementation of Resolution 1540.

Finally, I once again welcome you all to this meeting on UNSCR 1540 activities, focusing of Technical Assistance Programmes. From my perspective a a member of eth 1540 Committee your input and cooperation is essential to the successful implementation. I very much look forward to hearing your ideas and to fruitful discussions.

Thanks