

**Statement by Ms. Pia Poroli (Argentina), Member of the 1540 Committee, at the event:
the 12th ROK-UN Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues
Jeju, ROK, 14-15 November 2013**

**“Enhancing Capacity-building Efforts: Facilitating Assistance and
Sharing Effective Practices”**

Your Excellencies, distinguished colleagues,

First of all I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Korea for inviting me, as a member of the 1540 Committee, to participate in this important and timely event. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those, especially the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament, who contributed to excellent organization of this conference. I really felt privileged to have a chance to present on *Enhancing 1540 Capacity-building Efforts: Facilitating Assistance and Sharing Effective Practices*.

Realizing the growth in increasing efforts by non-State actors to acquire weapon of mass destruction, resolution 1540 (2004) was adopted unanimously by the United Nations Security Council under Chapter VII of the UN Charter in April 2004. Since then it has served as a vital non-proliferation tool, to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors. Since its inception the 1540 Committee has been contributing to strengthening global non-proliferation and counter-terrorism efforts. Though the main responsibility for the implementation of the resolution rests with States, the task of the Committee is to help them to take more effective measures to meet their obligations under resolution 1540 (2004).

The Security Council recognizes in Operative Paragraph 7 of resolution 1540 that some States may require assistance in implementing the resolution, and invites those in a position to do so to offer assistance. Experience shows that customised assistance is a crucial element for successful implementation of the resolution. As you may know, the Committee itself does not provide assistance. Its task is to match assistance requests with offers of assistance. It also collects up-to-date information on interests in and programmes of assistance by States and international, regional and sub-

regional organizations. This information is regularly updated and has proven to be very helpful for States.

Currently, the 1540 Committee has posted on its website assistance requests from 54 States and two from regional and subregional organizations. The requests range from legislative, drafting assistance to technical aspects such as, among other things, detection or protection equipment, export controls, support for customs officials, and strengthening of border check points. The match-making task is carried out by providing the assistance requests to States, international and regional stakeholders who make offers of assistance such as the IAEA, OPCW, and the Global Partnership.

Another practical way through which the Committee can assist States is through visits at their invitation, like the visit to the Republic of Korea that will take place on 18 and 19 November. This direct engagement facilitates the review of the host country's regulatory and enforcement instruments, engaging the whole range of government agencies. This helps identify implementation challenges, existing and potential gaps as well as assistance that may be required that would be hard to detect without this tailored dialogue. For example, after the visit to the Republic of Congo in June 2012, Congo sent to the Committee its request for assistance, and in this year, the 1540 Committee visit to Grenada in July, also discussed their assistance needs.

Visits can also be carried out on a smaller scale to help governments develop their national implementation action plans. These action plans map out priorities and strategies in their implementation of resolution 1540. The voluntary national implementation action plan is another way of exploring assistance needs from states. For example, among 7 national action plans that the 1540 Committee has received, the Kyrgyzstan NAP contains assistance requests to invite other States and Organizations to support in implementing its plan.

As such, the 1540 Committee is heavily engaged in assistance related activities. It dedicates much energy into building direct cooperation channels with international and regional organisations that have the expertise and experience. This year alone, INTERPOL, OIE and WHO have formally registered as potential assistance providers for requests received by Committee. There are now 49 Member States and 15

International Organisations registered as providers. In addition, resolution 1977 (2011) has called upon relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to designate and provide the Committee with a point of contact or coordinator for the implementation of resolution 1540.

Assistance matters and requests are discussed at outreach events attended by 1540 Committee members or the experts. Playing the matchmaking role, it was able to facilitate the delivery of assistance with the cooperation from donor States. Examples of responses to requests include:

- The provision of financial support by the USA for a 1540 Coordinator for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM);
- The response by the IAEA to Kyrgyzstan's request for nuclear security related assistance;
- Canada has provided training courses to enhance the Colombian National Police Force's response to a CBRN threat as well as detection and protective equipment;
- Switzerland has provided a biosecurity training for Iraqi specialists;
- UNODC has provided legal drafting assistance for a number of States including the member States of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Republic of the Congo, which also received assistance for upgrading their cargo and container security at borders and seaports under the UNODC's Container Control Programme.

The 1540 Committee depends on information provided by the concerned States to evaluate the outcome of the match-making. It is challenging to keep track of the great variety of assistance or cooperation projects, especially if they only touch certain aspects of resolution 1540 but nevertheless help in the implementation of this very complex resolution. Therefore, we strongly recommend that States, international and regional and subregional organizations report to the 1540 Committee on assistance provided.

Interaction with relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations and other intergovernmental institutions and arrangements, in particular those possessing non-proliferation expertise, like the IAEA and the OPCW, continued to contribute to

the effective implementation of resolution 1540 by strengthening cooperation through the exchange of information, the sharing of implementation experiences and lessons learned, and achieving closer coordination in facilitating assistance to Member States. Regional and sub-regional organizations by bringing to the attention of their Member States the importance of resolution 1540 can assist in monitoring the process of implementation and urge their members to take steps in this direction and assisting in its implementation.

Resolution 1977 (2011), in its operative paragraph 7, encourages all states to provide additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540, including, voluntarily, on States' effective practices. As we all know, the Implementation of 1540 is a continuous and cooperative process, and all States have something to learn from others. In their respective national endeavour of implementing resolution 1540, States have had breadth and diverse experiences which led to unique national effective practices. By sharing these experiences and lessons learned with others, it will definitely facilitate the full and effective implementation.

Exploring the activities and experiences of other geographic regions may also be useful for these organizations to draw on relevant experiences, effective practices and lessons learned to be applied and adapted for local conditions. In this regard the organization of regional workshops with a wide range of participants, like this one in Jeju, could be helpful in elaborating mutual understandings and recommendations. Recently, the Committee sent a note to Member States and to international and regional organization requesting information on their relevant experience, lessons learned and effective practice, in the areas covered by resolution 1540 or any form of supporting or guidance material developed by the organization in that regard. The information will be used by the Committee, in accordance with operative paragraph 12 of resolution 1977 (2011), to develop a compilation that will be posted on the 1540 Committee's website.

Distinguished colleagues,

The resolution is about cooperation and has a preventive nature. Thus, this is a real challenge to put effective non-proliferation work on a broad-based cooperation

between States, the 1540 Committee and specialized international and regional organizations. The success here depends a lot on the ability of the Committee to find a right way of its interaction with Member States. Assistance to countries in the implementation of the resolution should be based on constructive tailored dialogue. Good will and patience are also needed.

On a concluding note, after nine and half years since adoption of resolution 1540, a great progress has been achieved on the way to implementation of this document. However, implementation of the resolution remains a comprehensive and daunting task for many countries, and moreover not a single State is in fulfilled completely all its provisions. This is a long process requiring mobilization of all the efforts by States, the Committee, international and regional organizations and civil society.

Thank you for your attention.

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