Statement by Counselor Wu Jianjian at the Open Briefing of the 1540 Committee of the Security Council

Chairperson:

I thank USG Izumi Nakamitsu for her remarks and Ambassador De La Gasca, Chair of the 1540 Committee, for his briefing.

Security Council Resolution 1540 is an important pillar of the international non-proliferation regime. International efforts over the past two decades have contributed to a greater political consensus on the fight against proliferation by non-state actors, evidenced by markedly strengthened coordination and cooperation at international and regional levels, as well as ever-improving non-proliferation export controls and capacities at the national level. This committee and its group of experts have been highly productive as mandated, which China commends, with a view to furthering international cooperation against proliferation.

China wishes to propose the following:

First, global security governance must be strengthened in an era of greater instability, change, and challenges. The vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security is all the more relevant and serves to manage the increasingly diverse security risks through a robust governance system. The existing hard-won international non-proliferation regime must be valued and cherished. The authority of Resolution 1540, the NPT, the BWC, and the CWC must be preserved, and the related organizations and mechanisms enable to function fairly and equitably. International obligations are to be fulfilled in good faith, and hotspot issues managed objectively and impartially. Unjustified export controls, unlawful unilateral sanctions, and other wrongful practices must end. So the foundation for cooperation against proliferation can be reinforced.

Second, true multilateralism must continue to prevail. Non-proliferation is a global agenda. Developing countries, represented by the Non-Aligned Movement, have consistently argued that multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive, and non-discriminatory agreements are the best means to address non-proliferation concerns. The international system, with the UN at its core and international order and international law, must be strongly defended so that the UN can continue to serve as the primary platform for non-proliferation governance. Existing non-proliferation controls must keep up with the change in times, due regard given to the perspectives of developing countries on such matters as control criteria and lists.

Third, the legitimate right to the peaceful use of science and technology must be safeguarded. Promoting peaceful uses of science and technology through international cooperation is an unshakable international obligation. The UN Summit of the Future reaffirmed the importance of peaceful uses. It's China's consistent position that development and security be balanced. While essential non-proliferation export controls are a necessity in the interest of international security, the right to development must be fully considered, and such controls must not come at the expense of the right to peaceful uses.

China stands firm against the proliferation of WMDs and their means of delivery, attaches great importance to a more robust international non-proliferation regime and has incorporated the work in this area into the Global Security Initiative concept paper. In June this year, China and this committee co-hosted a training course for Resolution 1540 points of contact in the Asia-Pacific region, with participation from 27 countries and 17 international organizations and agencies for in-depth sharing of experiences practices in implementing the resolution. China is ready to make more such public goods for the international community.

Thank you.