



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN NEW YORK



Malta
2023-2024

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL

Open Briefing of the 1540 Committee, 9 October 2024

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

Thank you, Chair.

At the outset, I would like to sincerely thank you and your team, as well as the Secretariat and UNODA for organising this important briefing.

Malta is proud to be a vice-Chair of the 1540 Committee and we commend Ecuador's skilful leadership as Chair. We will continue to support all your efforts, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to work with all parties towards the fulfilment of the Committee's mandate.



This briefing is a timely and precious opportunity to engage with all member states, as well as with international and regional organizations on the work of the Committee. While we welcome this, we also regret that the Committee was not able to agree to the organisation of a briefing to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of resolution 1540 last April. Nor was it able to agree on a PRST on that occasion, despite having adopted one on the tenth anniversary.

Chair,

Twenty years ago, the unanimous adoption of resolution 1540 marked a crucial moment for global non-proliferation efforts. The resolution established that all member states shall adopt and enforce appropriate laws and measures to prevent non-state actors from developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, and transferring weapons of mass destructions. More generally, it demonstrated the Council's ability to unite towards non-proliferation to non-state actors, particularly for terrorist purposes.



Since then, the 1540 Committee has played a vital role in monitoring its implementation, providing assistance, and supporting cooperation with international and regional organizations, including through outreach activities. The mandate of the Committee was renewed for another 10 years with Resolution 2663, and we commend the emphasis placed on the meaningful participation of women to strengthen its work.

Central to the work of the Committee is also the Group of Experts. Malta highly appreciates their invaluable and professional work. In this regard, we welcome the appointment of five new experts earlier this year. Protracted deadlocks and repeated rejections of multiple compromise proposals on this issue impacted on the work of the Committee and on the Experts' ability to participate in outreach events over the course of 2023. Such activities are mandated by resolution 2663, and we are glad that the Experts are now able to attend such important events.

Chair,



This year, the Committee has been able to make progress, as demonstrated by the adoption of its Programme of Work. This was instrumental in setting out activities and priorities for the year, including discussions, which are still ongoing, related to OP12 of resolution 2663.

In conclusion, Malta will continue to strongly support the work of the Committee and will stand behind all efforts by Chair. As an EU member, we are committed to non-proliferation, including through the many EU-funded projects aimed at supporting implementation of resolution 1540. And we stand ready to engage with all parties towards this goal.

I thank you.