

Information Note¹

- Event:** The 2nd UNSCR 1540(2004) Industrial Outreach Conference for the Asia-Pacific Region (Asia-Pacific Regional Wiesbaden Conference)
- Organizer(s):** Government of the Republic of Korea in coordination with the 1540 Committee supported by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) with financial contributions from the European Union and Germany
- Date and Venue:** 13- 14 September 2018, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background

The role of industry in the effective implementation of UNSCR1540 (2004) is referred to in operative paragraph 8 of UNSCR 1540 (2004) and operative paragraph 12 of resolution 1977 (2011) which, respectively, call upon all States to develop appropriate ways to cooperate, work with and inform industry and the public regarding their obligations under the laws relating to the resolution.

The annual Wiesbaden Conferences were hosted by the Government of Germany since 2012. They facilitated a dialogue between the 1540 Committee and industry and are designed to raise awareness of the importance of information-sharing on 1540 related activities between government and industry, as well as to identify and share effective practices for compliance strategies within companies. The 2015 Wiesbaden Conference concluded by acknowledging the importance of continuing and regionalizing the Wiesbaden Process in order to engage with industry to promote the effective implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004).

Building on the achievements of the series of Wiesbaden conferences, the first regional industry conference was hosted by the Republic of Korea in November 2016. The second regional conference was hosted by the Government of Mexico for the Pacific Alliance States (Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru) and Brazil in June 2017. In April 2018, India hosted an Indian-Wiesbaden Conference in New Delhi, with participation of representatives from regional states. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Korea sent an invitation letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee, inviting the Chair, or designated representatives of the Committee to participate in the 2nd UNSCR 1540(2004) Industrial

¹ For information - not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organizers or participants in the event.

Outreach Conference for the Asia-Pacific Region (Asia-Pacific Regional Wiesbaden Conference). Upon invitation, the Chair of the 1540 Committee delivered a video message to the Conference and two experts attended the conference.

Overview

The conference was opened by Mr Sun-min Kim, Director-General for International Trade Policy of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, and Mr. June-byoung Park, Director of the Disarmament and Nonproliferation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea. They emphasized the significance of implementing Resolution 1540 (2004) in the Asia and Pacific region, in the context of fast growth of trade volume, development of technology and the security environment in the region. They called on the governments to work hand in hand with the industry to advance the strategic cause of non-proliferation by reinforcing the export control regime. They also acknowledged the unique value of Wiesbaden process in facilitating dialogue between government and industry.

Ambassador Sacha Sergio Llorentty Solíz, 1540 Committee Chair and Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations delivered a video message to the conference. In his video message, he reaffirmed the importance of Resolution 1540 (2004) as a vital element in the global architecture to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons to non-State actors and the importance to ensure that States have appropriate and effective legislation and enforcement measures, including export control measures in place. The chair also stressed that an effective partnership between States and industry is vital to successful non-proliferation efforts.

Mr. Ioan Tudor, Chief of Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch Office for Disarmament Affairs delivered a statement at the opening session of the Conference. He reaffirmed that United Nations resolution 1540 remains an important component of the global security architecture and the Office for Disarmament Affairs considers the support to the implementation of resolution 1540 to be a peace and security priority for the United Nations, and an integral element of its mandate.

Representatives of the European Union and the government of Germany also delivered statements at the opening session. A representative of the EU acknowledged the value of the Wiesbaden conference in exchanging practices and reaffirmed EU's support to the process. A representative of Germany noted the eminent dangers posed by the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and materials and called upon the international community to maintain the spirit of Wiesbaden, as to continue the open dialogue between business and governments without any obligations. Government and Industry could share their experiences with each other and with less experienced states.

The opening session was followed by stock taking from previous Wiesbaden Conferences. A 1540 expert introduced the synergies between Resolution 1540 (2004) implementation and the Wiesbaden Process. A representative of the government of Germany took a detailed stock of the

Wiesbaden Process, and introduced the background, history and developments of the process. He also emphasizing the private sectors' important role in defending against proliferation. A representative of India briefed the participants on the last Wiesbaden Regional Conference held in New Delhi in April 2018. She noted the importance for the countries in Asia and Pacific region to get fully aware of the obligations given under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter and fight the challenge for enforcement of Resolution 1540 (2004) across borders.

A 1540 Expert subsequently made a detailed presentation on Resolution 1540 (2004), its successor resolutions and the 2016 Comprehensive Review. During the following sessions, government representatives from regional countries gave overview of their respective national export control regulations, organizational structure, authorization (licensing) procedures and status of implementation on trade control. Representatives of the Industry gave presentations on their Internal Compliance Programmes (ICP), including their respective trade compliance policy, internal regulatory compliance structure, process, training and recording keeping. One of the sessions was dedicated to Intangible Transfer of Technology (ITT). Representatives from both government and industry discussed challenges and solutions to ITT.

Additional Comments

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