

Information Note¹

- Event:** International workshop “Promoting effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of evolving proliferation risks and challenges”
- Organizer:** Ukraine with the support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).
- Date and Venue:** 2 – 3 November 2017, Kyiv, Ukraine
- Participants:** *States:* Australia, Bolivia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Hellenic Republic, India, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Netherlands Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine, United States, Uruguay.
- International, regional and subregional organizations:* European Union Delegation to Ukraine, Organization for the prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), OSCE, Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), UNODA, World Customs Organisation, 1540 Committee Group of Experts.

1. Background

Operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 1540 (2004) decided, respectively, that all States “in accordance with their national procedures, shall adopt and enforce appropriate effective laws which prohibit any non-State actor to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes, as well as attempts to engage in any of the foregoing activities, participate in them as an accomplice, assist or finance them; ... and shall take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials.”

Implementation of these obligations requires Member States to develop and maintain the appropriate legislative and regulatory framework.

Resolution 2325 (2016) calls upon States to take into account in their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) the evolving nature of risks of proliferation and rapid advances in science and technology. Resolution 2325 (2016) urges the 1540 Committee, to identify and compile

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effective practices for implementing resolution 1540 (2004) as well as to draw on relevant expertise, which can assist States in their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

On 6 September 2017, an invitation letter was sent to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting him and a member from the 1540 Committee's Group of Expert to participate in the workshop. Participating Member States were asked to assess and present evolving proliferation risks; present current challenges in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) as well as to present their practices to strengthen and update laws and regulations deriving from their obligations of resolution 1540 (2004) in the light of new risks.

2. Highlights

Around 70 participants from different countries were invited to the conference to brief the participants about their efforts in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and give presentations that highlight their implementing laws and regulations based on 1540 obligations. Invited representatives from the different international, regional and subregional organisations were asked to give presentations of their work and their efforts to assist States to implement 1540 resolution (2004).

The workshop was designed to discuss in detail practical aspects of 1540 implementation, as well as to get an overview on state of play of 1540 implementation and new developments. Different areas of resolution 1540 (2004) were highlighted. Presentations covered *inter alia* implementation of prohibitions, internal controls based on operative paragraph 3 a) and b) of resolution 1540 (2004), as well as implementation practices regarding obligations laid down in operative paragraph 3 c) and d) of resolution 1540 (2004). The workshop provided a good opportunity to discuss all relevant 1540 obligations, important facts from the follow up resolution 2325 (2016) as well as to learn about implementation challenges in the light of evolving risks and new technologies.

1. Additional Comments

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org.