

Information Note¹

Event: Bahrain National Roundtable on Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)

Organizer(s): Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Date and Venue: 9-10 October 2018, Manama, Bahrain

Background

Resolution 2325 (2016) re-emphasizes the importance for all States to fully implement and effectively resolution 1540 (2004) and encourages the 1540 Committee to continue to engage actively in dialogue with States.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations requested for assistance to the 1540 Committee in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Two 1540 Experts attended.

Overview

A national roundtable was opened by Under-Secretary of Foreign Ministry of the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Ms. Rana Isa Alkhalifa, noted this was the first meeting in Bahrain to host this kind of meeting, gathering all the relevant governmental experts and stakeholders for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), underlining the importance of raising awareness and exchange of knowledge among the stakeholders.

1540 experts provided several presentations, including an overview of resolution 1540 (2004) with basic obligations; a brief overview of the conclusions of the comprehensive review of 2016 in relation to progress made in terms of implementation at both a global and regional (including Middle East and North Africa region) level, overview of links between resolution 1540 (2004) and other non-proliferation regimes, detailed obligations on Operative Paragraphs 2 and 3, and introduction of assistance programs of resolution 1540 (2004).

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.

An official from Bahrain Defence Force subsequently presented the legal status of the Kingdom of Bahrain on enforcing the agreements on the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction and non-proliferation. Bahrain has formed the National Committee for the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction in March 2016, with the authorization to follow up the obligations of the Kingdom of Bahrain as specified in the Conventions and Treaties which are ratified on the non-proliferation of WMD, which includes resolution 1540 (2004). Discussion with national stakeholders, on the basis of Bahrain's matrix, was also undertaken to identify gaps of their legislations and challenges to fill such gaps, as well as possible further steps to be taken.

The experts also met with H.E. Ms. Rana Isa Alkhalifa, Under-Secretary of Foreign Ministry of Bahrain for a bilateral meeting. In the meeting, H.E. Ms. Alkhalifa reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment in implementing Resolution 1540 (2004) and expressed Bahrain's need for a more regular exchange with the Committee and the Group of Experts with an aim to strengthen Bahrain's national capacity in implementing the Resolution.

Additional Comments

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