

Information Note¹

- Event:** 27th Asian Export Control Seminar
- Organizer(s):** Centre for Information on Security Trade Control (CISTEC) under the auspices of the Government of Japan (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs).
- Date and Venue:** 12-13 February 2020, Tokyo, Japan
- Participants:** *Governments:* Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, UAE, United Kingdom, USA, Vietnam and Chinese Taipei
- International and regional Organisations:* European Union, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), Australia Group (AG), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), HCOC, United Nations 1874 Panel of Experts, 1540 Committee Group of Experts and JCPOA.
- Industry and NGO Representatives:* CISTEC, Rolls-Royce Japan, JTEKT Corporation and University at Albany SUNY.

Background

On 1 November 2019, CISTEC invited the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in the 27th Asian Export Control Seminar. The Asian Export Control Seminar has been held annually since 1993 and is organized by CISTEC under the auspices of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Japan.

The Seminar aimed to deepen the understanding of participants from Asian countries and regions on export control systems and to promote discussions on related issues including implementation of the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions. The conference attracts the largest number of expert-level export control officials both from government, industry and academia in the Asian region.

Resolution 1977 (2011) encourages the 1540 Committee, with the support of necessary relevant expertise, to actively engage in dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and to continue to participate in outreach events on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) at the international, regional, sub-regional and national levels.

In resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council decided that “the 1540 Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution

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.

1540 (2004), ... particularly noting the need for more attention on: enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and transshipment controls” (OP12).

In resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council also recalled its decision “that all States 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 control over related materials, and calls upon States that have not done so to start developing effective national control lists at the earliest opportunity for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)” (OP14).

The role of industry in the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) has been referred to in operative paragraph 8 of resolution 1540 (2004), operative paragraphs 12 and 30 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.

Highlights

The seminar brought together approximately 230 participants from 33 countries and regions, international organizations, industries, universities and other organizations. The seminar provided an excellent opportunity to get an update on current export control related developments, in particular in the Asia-Pacific region.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Hideki Makihara, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, pointed out the growing concern that advanced technologies would be used for military purposes in the Asian region, which has a significant role in the global supply chain, and stated that it is important for Asian countries to increase the effectiveness of export controls in order to respond to internationally responsible sensitive technology procurement activities. Ms. Asako Omi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan then called for the full implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) to prevent proliferation to non-State actors.

The seminar offered a valuable opportunity for the Group of Experts to brief a wide and relevant audience on resolution 1540 obligations and to interact directly with national representatives, and to be informed of the latest export control trends in the Asia region. In addition, the seminar is a useful opportunity to introduce the assistance mechanisms of the 1540 Committee.

Additional Comments

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