

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

- Event:** 26<sup>th</sup> 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:** 26-28 February 2019, Tokyo, Japan
- Participants:** *Governments:* Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Turkey, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE, Vietnam, Canada, Germany, France, Mexico, Netherlands, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, USA.
- International(regional) Organisations:* European Union, Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), Australia Group (AG), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), 1540 Committee Group of Experts.
- Industry and NGO Representatives:* CISTEC, Ericsson, Hamamatsu Photonics, Infineon Technologies, General Electric, King's College London.

### **Background**

- On 1 November 2018, CISTEC invited the 1540 Committee group of Experts to participate in the 26<sup>th</sup> 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 aims 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 level.
- 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 1540 (2004), ... particularly noting the need for more attention on:

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for an 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 200 participants from 32 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 her opening remarks, Ms. Toshiko Abe, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan stated that non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and its delivery means is an agenda that international community needs to work in solidarity, and a responsibility of every country. She also emphasised the importance of full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and reminded that Japan provided one-million-dollar voluntary contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for global and regional disarmament to support the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and encouraged the participating states to reach out to the 1540 Committee for assistance requests.

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 particularly to the region where very little assistance requests are submitted. If invited, the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts should continue to participate in the event in the coming years.

### **Additional Comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org).