

Information Note¹

Event: Conference on Prevention of Terrorism Financing and Nuclear Weapons Proliferation

Organizer: Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Date and Venue: 10-11 December 2019, Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Background

- On 19 November 2019, the Minister of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr Dragan Mektić, sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting an expert to take part in the Conference on Prevention of Terrorism Financing and Nuclear Weapons Proliferation in Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina during 10-11 December.
- According to the organisers, the overarching objective of the conference was to strengthen co-operation between relevant governmental and non-governmental sectors and actors within the Countering Financing of Terrorism framework through assessing the existing level of implementation of, and compliance with, international standards embodied in the relevant UNSC resolutions, FATF recommendations on combating money laundering and financing of terrorism and its interpretive notes. A representative of the 1540 Committee was asked to give a presentation during the second session on “Legislative and institutional framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

Overview

Day 1:

The first session of the conference focused on international standards and best practices for the prevention of terrorism financing, in particular FATF Recommendations 5 to 8. The participants heard from the Deputy Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Programme Co-ordinator in the Department of Security Co-operation in the OSCE Mission to BiH and an Associate Programme office in the OSCE Secretariat who spoke on the OSCE’s approach and activities in countering terrorism financing.

The 1540 Expert then gave a presentation on the obligations of Member States to prohibit and prevent non-State actor proliferation of nuclear weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, the financial obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004), and the work of the

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Committee in these areas. He focused on 1540 requirements in general and the role of the Committee and its Group of Experts, as well as financial obligations under the resolution and their implementation. The expert learned that this was the first time most participants in the conference had heard anything about resolution 1540 (2004). He also stressed that 1540 is not a sanctions regime, but rather that the Committee engages in co-operative efforts with States to implement the resolution.

During the second session, the participants heard presentations from the Head of the Department for Combating Organised Crime and Corruption in the Ministry of Security of BiH and from the Head of the Investigation Department of the Financial-Intelligence Department in the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA).

Day 2:

During the third session, the participants heard a presentation from the SIPA official who described BiH's plans to implement FATF Recommendations 6 and 7.

The meeting concluded with an observation that this was the first time banking representatives had been included in a discussion with government officials on the FATF recommendations.

Additional Comments

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