

Information Note ¹

Event: Participation in a meeting of the Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG)

Organizers: Italy on behalf of the G-7 Global Partnership (GP)

Date and venue: 22-24 February 2017, Rome, Italy

Participants: ***Governments:*** Representatives from: Canada, Chile, Cote d'Ivoire (Guest), Czech Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Jordan (observer), Kazakhstan, Mexico, Netherlands, Niger (Guest), Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.

Regional Organisations: Representatives from: European Union (EU)

International Organisations: Representatives from: 1540 Committee Group of Experts, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU), International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), United Nations Inter-Regional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), World Health Organization (WHO), Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA), International Science and Technology Centre (ISTC), Science and Technology Centre in Ukraine (STCU).

Non-Governmental Organisations: Representatives from: CBRNE Global Alliance, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Laboratory of Clinical Microbiology, Virology and Bio-emergencies (CLIMVIB), GROUPA Lotos, International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) (Poland), International Chemical Trade Association (ICTA), Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA).

1. Background

- The 1540 Committee experts have been regular participants in GPWG meetings since 2010.
- GPWG meetings constitute a unique opportunity to learn about the wide range of 1540 related projects taking place worldwide.
- States that are major assistance providers and international organisations most relevant to 1540 implementation participate in these meetings.
- During that last meeting, the experts also proposed some ideas for strengthening the role of the GP in delivering assistance.

2. Highlights

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

The plenary included a session devoted to CBRN risk mitigation and technical assistance in Africa. During this section, representatives from Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, the European Commission, the African Union, UNICRI and the 1540 Committee Group of Experts intervened.

The representative of Niger, referred to the current challenges faced by Niger and recalled the visit by the 1540 Committee to Niger in 2014 during which it started the process of the development of a voluntary National Action Plan and the assistance request contained therein.

The 1540 Committee participating expert made a presentation on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa, highlighting the changes recorded since the last 1540 Comprehensive Review. He also referred to the various visits by the Committee to African States and its efforts to support them in developing voluntary National Implementation Action Plans. He highlighted the results of the 2016 AU Assistance Conference and recalled the assistance requests received from African States.

During the course of the meeting the delegation of Niger and the 1540 expert met with several GP participants to discuss ways to support Niger's 1540 assistance request.

Similarly as during other GP meetings, four sub Working Groups met (Nuclear and Radiological Security Sub-Working Group, Chemical Security Sub-Working Group, Biological Security Sub-Working Group and the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Security Sub-Working Group).

3. Additional comments

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