

Information Note¹

Event: 17th Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting

Organizer: IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security

Date and Venue: 4-5 April 2019, Vienna, Austria

Participants: Representatives from the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, European Commission Joint Research Centre, UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), UN Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT), Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and the GICNT Implementation Assessment Group, Global Partnership and INTERPOL

Representatives from NGOs: Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) and World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS)

Background

- Resolution 1540 (2004) requires all States to implement, *inter alia*, effective domestic controls to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, and also effective measures to account for and secure such items. OP 12 of resolution 2325

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee nor the organisers or participants in the event.

(2016) notes the need for more attention by the Committee on, *inter alia*, accounting for and securing related materials;

- OP 7 of resolution 1540 (2004) invites States to offer assistance to other States in response to specific requests for assistance in implementing resolution 1540 (2004). OP 5 of resolution 1810 (2008) encourages States that have requests for assistance to convey them to the Committee, and also urges States and international, regional and subregional organizations to inform the Committee of areas in which they can provide assistance. OP 11 (c) of that resolution urges strengthening the Committee's role in facilitating technical assistance, including by matching offers and requests for assistance through;
- OP 10 of resolution 1977 (2011) urges the 1540 Committee to continue to engage actively with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations drawing *inter alia* on examples of successful assistance, and to liaise on the availability of programmes to facilitate implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). OP 14 of that resolution further urges relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to inform the Committee as appropriate of areas in which they can provide assistance;
- OP 17 of resolution 1977 (2010) encourages participation by the Committee in meetings on assistance between the Committee and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations. OP 18 of that resolution encourages relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to enhance cooperation and information sharing with the Committee on technical assistance. OP 19 of resolution 2325 (2016) urges relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to inform the 1540 Committee of areas in which they can provide assistance, and calls upon organizations to provide the Committee with information on their 1540 assistance programmes;
- OP 20 of resolution 2325 (2016) urges the Committee to continue strengthening its role in facilitating technical assistance, in particular by engaging actively in matching offers and requests for assistance, *inter alia* through a regional approach. OP 23 of that resolution encourages relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to enhance cooperation and information-sharing with the Committee on 1540 implementation issues.

Overview

The Workshop was opened on behalf of the Director of the IAEA Division of Nuclear Security by Mr Jason Tierney, Section Head of the Division's Programme Development and International Cooperation (PDIC) Section, who stated that nuclear security was an increasingly important component of the IAEA's work. The current meeting was intended to facilitate coordination between assistance providers, identify common assistance themes and avoid duplication and overlap.

The Director briefly reviewed IAEA events including the International Conference on the Security of Radioactive materials in December 2018. He noted that many States still lacked capacity to address nuclear security issues effectively; training programmes were important.

A ministerial-level conference, the International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS 2020), to be co-chaired by Panama and Romania, was scheduled for February 2020, and a conference on amendments to the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) in 2022. Preparatory work included regional workshops on the CPPNM in Latin America and Africa. In the meantime, regular meetings were taking place on Integrated Nuclear Safety and Security Plans (INSSPs). Programmes for promoting sustainability of human resources and e-learning were being implemented. Challenges faced by the IAEA in the nuclear security field included fund-raising and measuring effectiveness and impact of IAEA support programmes. To date 61 States were members of IAEA's network of Nuclear Security Support Centres (NSSCs) and of these 25 had implemented operational Centres.

During subsequent discussions the representative of the Global Initiative for Combating Nuclear Terrorism described results of exercises to test effectiveness of States' nuclear detection and forensic procedures, technical and scientific support to investigations of incidents, and national capabilities more generally. The representative of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime described support provided to States to implement the two international conventions relevant to OP 3 (a) and (b) of resolution 1540 (2004): CPPNM and its amendment, and the International Convention on Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) and its amendment. The representative from INTERPOL described support to law

enforcement agencies on WMD issues in cooperation with the other organisations represented at this meeting. INTERPOL was working to improve sustainability of its programmes by implementing enhanced assessments of requirements and risks, new metrics and follow-up. While describing assistance programmes provided by the EU Commission, the representative of the Joint Research Centre highlighted the EU's focus was on building long-term relationships between regions and recipient countries, including links with European facilities, in order to promote sustainability.

The UN Office on Counter-Terrorism's work on WMD is centred on Pillars II and III of the UN CT Strategy. Improving interagency coordination was a key objective. The 1540 Group Expert described the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004) relating to nuclear security and the role of the Committee in facilitating support to States to implement resolution 1540 (2004). He noted the important role of IAEA Nuclear Security Division in this respect.

IAEA described work to promote universalisation of the CPPNM and its 2005 amendment, and ICSANT and its 2005 amendment, including organisation of workshops and e-learning courses on border management and security, legislation, building prosecutorial capacity, and developing websites with guidance and examples of good practices. IAEA also initiated a discussion of challenges encountered by donors in coordinating their nuclear security assistance programmes, and measuring impact.

Additional Comments

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