

Information Note¹

- Event:** Cooperation meeting on implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Organizer(s):** Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (CICTE-OAS)
- Date and Venue:** 3 May 2019, OAS Headquarters, Washington DC

Background

- In OP 19 of resolution 2325 (2016) the Security Council urged States as well as relevant international, regional and sub regional organizations to inform the 1540 Committee, as appropriate, of areas in which they are able to provide assistance, and called upon States as well as such organizations, if they have not done so previously, to provide the Committee with information on their ongoing assistance programmes relevant to resolution 1540 (2004);
- In OP 20 of the same resolution the Council urged the Committee to continue strengthening its role in facilitating technical assistance for implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), by engaging actively in matching offers and requests for assistance, inter alia through a regional approach, where appropriate, as well as the holding of regional assistance conferences, which bring together States that request assistance with those offering assistance;
- In OP 22 of resolution 2325 (2016) the Committee is encouraged to develop, in collaboration with international, regional and sub regional organizations, assistance projects to support States in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) in order to facilitate the prompt and direct response to assistance requests while in OP 23 the Council encouraged relevant international, regional and sub regional organizations to enhance cooperation and information-sharing with the 1540 Committee, on the issues related to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004); and

On 1 April 2019, the Executive Secretary of the Organization of American States sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the Committee to take part in a cooperation meeting on implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective of the meeting was to define a common strategy for 1540 assistance in the GRULAC region for the coming years, and also discuss assistance programmes for that region with a view to the upcoming Comprehensive Review in 2020-2021. To this end OAS invited relevant implementation assistance partners to inform about their assistance projects and, where appropriate, to assess the state of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Latin America and

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the Caribbean. The meeting aimed at providing a opportunity to identify existing gaps, address pending requests for assistance and current needs and available programs, too.

Highlights

After the opening remarks delivered by the CICTE Executive Secretary and a 1540 Committee Expert, representatives from different organizations provided overviews of their recent and planned resolution 1540 (2004)- related implementation activities in and assistance programmes for Latin American and the Caribbean Region.

Different issues were raised several times throughout the meeting. For example, it became clear that there is an ongoing need to coordinate efforts to reach better results and that donor cooperation is needed to minimize overlap among assistance providers to more effectively use all resources available.

In addition, the need to create a sense of ownership in the States receiving assistance towards national implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) was identified and that this is difficult to reach if pre-baked models are imposed.

Further was it discussed that, it is very helpful to raise awareness among parliamentarians on 1540 implementation issues, as this facilitates the legislative adoption process, while also contributing to an increased sense of ownership.

In conclusion, this was a fruitful meeting which helped facilitate a frank exchange of information among donors, implementers and the 1540 Committee Group of Experts..

Additional Comments

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