

Information Note¹

Event: Peer Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540(2004)
Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan-Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan

Organizer(s): The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE),
Government of Kyrgyzstan

Date and Venue: 28- 30 June 2018, Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan

Background

Peer review has been recognized as an effective way of sharing experience on implementing UNSCR1540. The 2018 Annual Programme of Work (S/2018/340) encourages States, in line with paragraphs 7 and 12 of Security Council resolution 1977 (2011) and paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 2325 (2016), to identify and voluntarily report on effective national practices in implementing Council UNSCR 1540, and continue the practice of sharing compilations of effective best practice periodically (Paragraph 8 (h)). The Programme of Work also requires that the committee continue to promote the sharing of experience through peer review and other means (Paragraph 9(e)). The peer review events conducted by Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in 2014 and the trilateral peer-review meeting between Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in 2016 have demonstrated the effectiveness of peer reviews in the region.

On 17 May 2018, Dr Pierre von Arx, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting 1540 Committee Experts to take part in a peer review meeting between Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, which would take place in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan from 28 to 30 June 2018. The aim of the extended peer review meeting was to review the implementation of UNSCR 1540 by Central Asian countries, particularly strengthening legislation in export control, biological and chemical security and development of recommendations on effective implementation of requirements of UNSCR 1540. It would also focus on the exchange of experiences in the development and implementation of NAPs on UNSCR1540 and developing recommendations for regional cooperation. Two 1540 experts attended.

¹ 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.

Overview

With the support of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, an expert review of the implementation of the UNSCR 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Central Asian states and Belarus was held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan on 28 -30 June 2018.

Taking part in the meeting were delegations from Kyrgyzstan, headed by the State Secretary of the Economy Ministry Aidin Sharsheev, together with delegations from Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. They were joined by international experts from the OSCE Secretariat, the Group of Experts of the UN Security Council 1540 Committee, the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as well as the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction.

With the facilitation of representatives from international organizations and regional organizations, parties of the 2+1 peer review (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan + Belarus) thoroughly examined the status of implementation of final recommendations of the Minsk and Dushanbe rounds of peer reviews conducted in a triparty format earlier. Participating states, also discussed approaches to enhance national legislation in the area of export controls, biological and chemical safety. Participating states proposed to continue cooperation in the framework of the peer review, and expand the existing triparty peer review to a six-party peer review. A proposal was made to develop a regional plan to promote the implementation of UNSCR 1540.

Additional Comments

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