

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

**Event:** Regional Workshop for Central Asian States on UNSCR 1540 Legal / Regulatory Requirements for Strategic Trade Controls.

**Organizers:** Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), with the support of the US.

**Date and Venue:** 24 - 25 April 2018, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** *States:* Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

*Organisations:* Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC), 1540 Committee Group of Experts, US Export Control and Related Border Security Program (EXBS).

### 1. Background

Operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 1540 (2004) decided, respectively, that all States: “in accordance with their national procedures, shall adopt and enforce appropriate effective laws which prohibit any non-State actor to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes, as well as attempts to engage in any of the foregoing activities, participate in them as an accomplice, assist or finance them; and shall take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials.”

Implementation of these obligations requires Member States to develop and maintain the appropriate legislative and regulatory framework. The OSCE, with funds of the US Government has now organized a 2-day workshop on “UNSCR 1540 Legal / Regulatory Requirements for Strategic Trade Controls”. The workshop aimed to:

- Continue discussions on essential components of an effective export control system, including legal framework, licensing procedures and border/customs controls;

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

- Discuss the state of the Strategic Trade Control legislation and the National Control List for controlled items in each country;
- Sharing national experience gained since the previous workshop held in Vienna in 2016 on improvement of the legal and regulatory framework for strategic trade controls and its implementation practice;
- Further discuss common regional challenges and possible common response, as well as country-specific needs and mechanisms in effective implementation of the Resolution 1540 in general, and in strategic trade controls in particular;
- Share effective practices related to implementation of National Action Plans on UNHCR 1540, including provision of assistance;

On 23 March 2018 the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE send a letter to the Chair, inviting him to nominate the 1540 Committee Experts to participate in the event.

## **2. Overview**

The objective of the regional workshop for CAS was to raise awareness on essential components of an effective export control system, including displaying ways for the development of a legal system, including licensing procedures and interagency cooperation and effective related border controls. In this context the workshop also sought to determine areas of regional co-operation in the matters of non–proliferation and strategic trade controls. The workshop focussed on outlining ways of addressing gaps in legal and regulatory frameworks for strategic trade controls, tackling country specific needs and providing for mechanisms to close existing gaps, taking into consideration regional and national priorities.

The workshop was considered very useful by all participants, especially as a valuable opportunity to learn about different models of how to implement relevant laws and to discuss best practices for export and border control implementation.

Information shared by the different CAS delegations suggests that significant efforts were being made by the participating governments for the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). At the same time the discussion demonstrated continuing need for assistance to most of the CAS countries in the development of regulatory frameworks in the field of export control and creation of dual use identification capabilities.

### **Additional Comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org).