

Information Note¹

- Event:** Online National Round Table on Implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Panama
- Organizers:** Government of Panama and UNSC 1540 Committee
- Date and Venue:** 11 December 2020, on a Zoom platform
- Participants:** Representatives from Government of Panama Ministries, including Ministry of Health, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Public Ministry, National Security Council, National Customs Authority, 1540 Experts.

Background

On 25 November and 1 December 2020, the Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations sent two letters to the Chair of the 1540 Committee requesting the support of the Group of Experts in order to conduct a review of its matrix through a virtual national round table to be held on 11 December 2020. The objectives of the workshop were to improve the understanding of the national stakeholders about the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), to analyse Panama's matrix in order to consider potential ways to better implement resolution 1540 (2004) and to identify any further assistance that might be needed to fully implement the resolution 1540.

Highlights

The meeting was opened by Mr Otto Escartín, Director of International Organizations and Conferences from Panama's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who stated that Panama is a State that promotes peace and cooperation in a framework of a world free of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). He made reference to

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the fact that even though Panama never produced WMDs, they are aware that they still have gaps regarding resolution 1540 (2004) implementation.

The 1540 Experts described the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, means of delivery and related materials by non-State actors. The Experts also discussed Panama's matrix with the authorities, and proposals to submit the 1540 Committee an updated national report, as well as a review of Panama's National Implementation Action Plan, which was sent to the Committee on 13 October 2017.

Additional Comments

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