Information Note¹

Event: 21st Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting (IEM)

Organizers: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Department of

Nuclear Safety and Security

Date and Venue: 18-19 October 2021, Virtually via Cisco WebEx

Participants: Representatives from the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety

and Security, Euratom/EU, EUROPOL, Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), INTERPOL, International Maritime Organisation (IMO), UN Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP), World Institute for Nuclear Security

(WINS) and 1540 Committee Experts

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, as well as effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such items.

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. OP11 (c) of that resolution urges strengthening the Committee's role in facilitating technical assistance, including by matching offers and requests for assistance.

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.

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. 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.

By means of a letter dated 17 August 2021, the IAEA's Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, invited the Chair of the 1540 Committee to nominate a representative to attend the 21st Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting (IEM) on 18 to 19 October 2021. The purpose of the Meeting was to provide for a systematic and active exchange of information on planned events and activities, to identify areas of cooperation with a view to ensuring effective use of resources and to avoid duplication and overlap, and to further strengthen cooperation.

Highlights

The IEM was opened by Ms Elena Buglova, Director of the Division of Nuclear Security (NSNS) who recalled that the purpose of the meeting was to share information about planned activities to avoid duplication and overlap. The IEM

provides an opportunity for participating organizations and initiatives to strengthen coordination and engagement. Ms Buglova highlighted some of the key elements of the recently adopted Nuclear Security Plan for the period 2022 to 2025, the IAEA's September 2021 General Conference resolutions relevant to nuclear security and preparations for the Conference of States Parties to the Amendment of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM).

Participating organisations provided updates on their respective activities related to nuclear security since the last IEM in April 2021 and upcoming events.

The 1540 Expert presented a brief overview of the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004) related to nuclear security, its complementarity with other international instruments and its provisions on cooperation. An update was provided regarding the Committee's activities since the IEM in April 2021, including assistance requests and outreach events to promote the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), as well as the updated matrix data related to measure to account for, secure and physically protect nuclear weapons "related materials" and the 2021 Comprehensive Review process.

Additional Comments

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