

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

- Event:** EU CBRN CoE African Atlantic Facade regional webinar on dual-use controls
- Organizers:** European Union CBRN Centres of Excellence (EU CBRN CoE), Government of United Kingdom of Morocco, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- Date and Venue:** 15 December 2021, Virtually via Zoom
- Participants:** EU Delegation to the International Organisations in Vienna, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA/SCAD), French Ministry for the Economy and Finance, University of Lomé (Togo) and 1540 Committee Expert

### **Background**

On 22 September 2021, the head of the African Atlantic Façade Regional Secretariat of the European Union CBRN Centres of Excellence, sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in a virtual regional webinar on the activities of multilateral export control regimes.

The webinar took place on 15 December 2021. The focus of the event was to provide representatives of participating countries with the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge of resolution 1540 (2004) and its obligations, as well as share experiences and effective practices in export controls.

This meeting was of direct relevance to the 1540 Committee with regard to the following operative paragraphs (OPs) of resolution 2325 (2016):

- 1. Reiterates its decisions in and the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), and re-emphasizes the importance for all States to implement fully and effectively that resolution;
- 12. Decides that the 1540 Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004), through its Programme of Work, which includes the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and addresses all aspects of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of that resolution, particularly noting the need for more attention on: enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear

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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 organizers or participants in the event.

weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and transshipment controls;

- 14. Recalls its decision that all States 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 control over related materials, and calls upon States that have not done so to start developing effective national control lists at the earliest opportunity for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- 22. Encourages the Committee to develop, in collaboration with international, regional and subregional organizations, assistance projects to support States in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) in order to facilitate the prompt and direct response to assistance requests.

## **Highlights**

The webinar was opened by Stefania Micucci, UNICRI's Programme Management Officer and CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator at Rabat (Morocco). She observed that dual-use goods are commonly used in civilian and peaceful activities but can also be diverted to proliferation of WMD activities. Fighting proliferation risks requires member States to establish border controls and appropriate control lists. She referred to resolution 1540 (2004), among other counter-proliferation instruments and regimes, and promoted the support to States provided by the EU CBRN CoE's regional offices to establish such lists, including on the basis of the European Union's control regime.

M. Mohamed Salami, Head of the African Atlantic Façade CBRN Regional Secretariat in Rabat, highlighted the high importance of the issue in terms of risk and threat to international security. He underlined that Rabat has been constituting a regional platform since 2012, developing, inter alia, capacities of prevention of accidental or malicious WMD-related incidents. He promoted cooperation with Regional Organizations through outreach events and information-sharing in the framework of resolution 1540 (2004). He noted that awareness among stakeholders is increasing, including encouraging outcomes in terms of import/export controls in the framework of EU CBRN CoE's projects 5, 24 and 70 that aim at supporting States in such goal. This initiative should be continuing helpfully through a regional approach. He finally raised the challenge posed by the identification of dual-use materials and related border controls and congratulated Morocco for promulgating in December 2020 a national law dedicated to Import/Export<sup>2</sup>.

The training was delivered in French with real-time translation in English. It brought together up to 41 participants and attendees from various countries, especially all the countries of the African Atlantic Facade's CoE network and some others identified in East-Africa, Middle East and Asia. All program managers of EU CBRN Risk Mitigation CoE Initiative implemented jointly by UNICRI and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), representing

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<sup>2</sup> In fact Law n° 1-20-83 of 19 November 2020 addressing promulgation of Law n° 42-18 related to Import/Export control of dual-use goods and related services.

8 regions worldwide, participated. The participation of the 1540 expert was an opportunity to contribute to the workshop to enhance awareness of resolution 1540 in particular its OP3 c&d on export control measures.

Outreach has been identified as a key challenge in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by Member States, requiring continuous assistance, ideally in an international/regional format.

### **Additional Comments**

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