

Information Note¹

- Event:** UNSCR 1540 Customs Enforcement Workshop
- Organizer:** Chinese Academy of Customs Administration, in coordination with the Department of General Operation of the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC)
- Date and Venue:** 13-14 December (Beijing Time, Virtual,)
- Participants:** Representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Commerce of China, officials from GACC and municipal customs, 1540 Committee

Background

In a letter dated 28 November 2022, Dr. CHEN Hui, President of the Chinese Academy of Customs Administration invited the 1540 Committee to attend and speak at the “UNSCR 1540 Customs Enforcement Workshop” held virtually from 13-14 December 2022. Dr. Chen also invited the Chair to nominate two experts to make presentations on various aspects of resolution 1540 (2004) at the workshop.

The workshop aimed to provide an opportunity for learning, analysis and discussion on the importance of effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), through training provided for frontline officers at China’s Customs Authority on the concepts, tools and international related frameworks, as well discussions of new developments and perspectives. This workshop was of direct relevance to the 1540 Committee regarding the following operative paragraphs (OPs) of resolution 2663 (2022):

1. Reiterates its decisions in and the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), and re-emphasizes the importance for all States to implement fully that resolution;
9. Encourages the 1540 Committee, with the support of relevant expertise, to continue to actively engage in dialogue with Member States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation;
12. Reiterates its decision 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,

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

25. Requests the 1540 Committee to continue to organize and participate in outreach events on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) at the international, regional, subregional, and as appropriate, national level;

Highlights

The workshop was attended by over 70 customs officials from municipal customs. The workshop was opened by Mr Jianwei Gao, vice President of the Chinese Academy of Customs Administration. In his statement, he expressed sincere thanks to the Committee for support provided to the Workshop and introduced the main activities of the Chinese Academy of Customs Administration, which included training for custom officials, scientific research and international cooperation.

Mr Eduardo Alcibíades Sánchez Kiesslich then delivered a statement on behalf of Ambassador Juan Ramón de la Fuente Ramírez, 1540 Committee Chair. He pointed out that resolution 1540 (2004) remained a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture and represents a key instrument in curbing the threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, by non-State actors. He then briefed the audience on the latest comprehensive review and the recent adoption of resolution 2663 (2022) by the Security Council and emphasized the full and effective implementation of the resolution was a long-term task that would require continuous efforts at national, regional and international levels.

The last speaker in the opening session was Ms. Yahan Zhou, Director of Norms and Standards, Department of General Operation of the GACC, who introduced China's export control policy and stated that China firmly stood by the international system centred on the UN and the international order underpinned by international law. China safeguarded the authority of international treaties and mechanisms that uphold true multilateralism, and actively promoted the implementation of fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory international export controls. She also briefly introduced developments in the export control system in China, including an improved organizational structure for a coordinated and effective enforcement mechanism.

Participating 1540 Committee experts gave an overview of resolution 1540 (2004) and its successor resolutions including the latest Comprehensive Review, basic obligations of Op1, 2 and 3 of resolution 1540 (2004), the Committee toolkit and assistance mechanism.

A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China introduced to the participants the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime and a representative of the Ministry of Commerce of China introduced China's export control legislation and practice.

Additional Comments

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