

Information Note¹

- Event:** 24th Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting (IEM)
- Organizer:** IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
- Date and Venue:** 17-18 April 2023, Vienna, Austria
- Participants:** Representatives from IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 1540 Committee, European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL), European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONe), Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP), and World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS)

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. OP 11 (c) of that resolution urges strengthening the Committee's role in facilitating technical assistance, including by matching offers and requests for assistance.
- OP 21 of Resolution 2663 (2022) urges the 1540 Committee to promote the facilitation of technical assistance through organizing, co-organizing, participating in or supporting international and regional assistance conferences, which bring together Member States that request assistance with those offering assistance, and further encourages Member States, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in a position to do so, to support such efforts; OP23 of that resolution encourages relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to enhance cooperation and information sharing with the 1540 Committee and Member States on technical assistance and all other issues of relevance for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- By means of a letter dated 21 February 2023, Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, Lydie Evrard invited the Chair of the 1540 Committee

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.

to nominate a representative to attend the 24th Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting to be held in Vienna, Austria on 17 to 18 April 2023.

- The letter noted that 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 24th IEM was opened by Ms Elena Buglova, Director of the Division of Nuclear Security of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security (NSNS). She welcomed AFCONE for joining in the IEM group for the first time and expressed the hope that the growing information exchange could benefit all participating organizations. She informed the audience briefly on several upcoming events that were to take place this year and in 2024 and recalled the purpose of the IEM meeting was to share information on planned activities and expressed hope that the IEMs could serve as the platform for participating organizations to coordinate and work more closely together.

In the next sessions, the IAEA then gave updates on upcoming events, including the International Conference on Computer Security in the Nuclear World (June 2023), the 6th Open-Ended Meeting of Technical and Legal Experts for Sharing Information on States' Implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Supplementary Guidance (29 May -02 June 2023) and the International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS 2024)

Representatives from EURATOM, Joint Research Center of the EU, EuroPOL, UNOCT, UNODA, UNODC, UNICRI and AFCONE also gave updates on their organizations' activities related to nuclear security respectively. Representatives from VCDNP and WINS also introduced their nuclear security related activities.

The participating 1540 Expert provided an update of the Committee's work since the 23rd IEM in October 2022. She briefed the participants on the Comprehensive Review process and its final report, the adoption of resolution 2663 (2022) and its major provisions, the Committee's 2023 Programme of Work and the outreach activities it had participated and was planning to participate in.

Then IAEA gave presentations on its advisory services, including on the background, objective, working method, progress, and planned events of IAEA International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) and IAEA International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ).

Additional comments

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