

Information Note¹

- Event:** 28th Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting (IEM)
- Organizer:** IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
- Date and Venue:** 8-9 May 2025, Vienna, Austria
- Participants:** Representatives from IAEA Division of Nuclear Security of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), European Union (Delegation), European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL), European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP), Africa Cup of Nations (AFCONE), the Arab Networks of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR), the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM), Global Partnership (Canada), Organization of American States (OAS) and an Expert of the UN Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

Background

In a letter dated 17 March 2025, the Director of the Division of Nuclear Security, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, Ms. Elena Buglova, invited the 1540 Committee to nominate a representative to attend the 28th Nuclear Security Information Exchange Meeting in Vienna, Austria, from 8 to 9 May 2025. The purpose of the event 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 avoiding duplication and overlap, and to further strengthen cooperation.

This event was of relevance to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) as follows:

- 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 appropriate effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such items.
- Paragraph 5 of resolution 1810 (2008) encourages States that have requests for assistance to convey them to the 1540 Committee, and also urges States and international, regional and subregional organizations (IROs) to inform the Committee of areas in which they can provide assistance.
- Paragraph 10 of resolution 1977 (2011) urges the 1540 Committee to continue to engage actively with relevant IROs drawing, *inter alia*, on examples of successful assistance, and to liaise on the availability of programs to facilitate implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

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.

Additionally, Operative Paragraph 14 further urges IROs to inform the Committee as appropriate of areas in which they can provide assistance.

- Operative Paragraph 19 of resolution 2325 (2016) urges relevant IROs 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 assistance programs relevant to resolution 1540 (2004). Furthermore, Paragraph 23 encourages relevant IROs to enhance cooperation and information-sharing with the Committee on issues related to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).
- Operative Paragraph 25 of resolution 2663 (2022) encourages relevant IROs 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).

Highlights

The 28th IEM was opened by Ms. Elena Buglova, Director of the Division of Nuclear Security of the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security (NSNS). She informed the audience about continued activities under the current Nuclear Security Plan 2022-2025 and about ongoing consultations with Member States on the upcoming Nuclear Security Plan 2026-2029. She also briefed on the Nuclear Security Review 2025, developed by the Agency, highlighting the global trends and the Agency's activities in 2024 and presenting priorities for 2025 and beyond, as identified by the Agency, for strengthening nuclear security globally. She further highlighted that the Agency has been continuing assisting States in providing, through the Integrated Nuclear Security Sustainability Plan (INSSP), a comprehensive framework for systematically identifying and prioritizing States' nuclear security needs, including through performing nuclear security self-assessments on a voluntary basis. In this regard the Agency has developed a new Nuclear Security Information Portal (NUSIMS) to facilitate countries in self-assessment of their nuclear security regimes and has been working towards the launch of NUSIMS. The Agency also continued to place considerable emphasis on the development and publication of comprehensive guidance as part of the Nuclear Security Series (NSS), with the involvement of Member States. Ms. Buglova mentioned that a new IAEA publication on the security of nuclear and other radioactive material in transport was released in December 2024. Two other new publications: "Regulatory Authorization and Related Inspections for Nuclear Security during the Lifetime of a Nuclear Facility" and "Identification and Categorization of Sabotage Targets, and Identification of Vital Areas at Nuclear Facilities" were issued in January this year. Finally, she informed that the Agency started preparation for two technical conferences planned in 2026: the International Conference on the Safe and Secure Transport of Nuclear and Radioactive Material (23-27 March 2026) and the International Conference on Computer Security in the Nuclear World: Securing the Future (11-15 May 2026).

In the next sessions, the IAEA summarized the last IEM held on 6-7 October 2024 and provided an update on conducted activities in nuclear security since that time.

Representatives from EU Delegation, EC/JRC, EUROPOL, INTERPOL, UNOCT, UNODA, UNODC, Global Partnership (Canada), OAS, VCDNP, VCDNP, AFCONE, ANNuR and ASEANTOM also gave updates on their organizations' activities and projects related to nuclear security.

The participating 1540 Expert provided an update of the Committee's work since the 27th IEM in October 2024. The participants were briefed, among other things, on the 1540 Open Briefing conducted by the Committee on 9-10 October 2024, the outcomes of the 2024 Annual Review Report and the outreach activities that the Committee had attended and was planning to attend.

On the second day, two thematic topics were discussed: “Artificial intelligence (AI) and Nuclear Security: Risks and Opportunities” and “Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Nuclear Security”.

The participants also had active exchanges on areas of potential synergies and opportunities for cooperation, as well as the potential topics for the next IEM.

Additional comments

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