

Information Note to the UNSC 1540 Committee

Prepared by Edith Valles
1540 Committee Expert

- Event:** Train the Trainer Workshop under the World Customs Organisation Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE) Programme
- Organiser(s):** World Customs Organisation (WCO)
- Date and Venue:** 5 to 14 July 2022, Mexico City, Mexico. The 1540 Expert participated virtually on 6 July
- Participants:** National Customs representatives from the GRULAC region and the 1540 Expert

Background

On 21 June 2022, the Director of Compliance and Facilitation of the WCO, sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting the 1540 Committee Group of Experts to participate in a hybrid Train the Trainer Workshop under the framework of the World Customs Organisation Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE) Programme in Mexico City.

The focus of the workshop was to provide Customs representatives with best international practices in relation to the control of weapons of mass destruction, and related items.

This meeting is 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;
- 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;
- 23. Encourages relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to enhance cooperation and information-sharing with the 1540 Committee, on the issues related to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- 29. 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, including, as appropriate, inviting parliamentarians, as well as representatives of civil society, including industry and academia and promote the refinement of these outreach efforts to focus on specific thematic and regional issues related to implementation.

Objectives of Participation of the 1540 Expert

- Raise awareness of resolution 1540 (2004) among relevant national stakeholders through an introduction of the obligations and key elements of the resolution;
- Make a presentation on how resolution 1540 (2004) addresses domestic and export controls over related materials, drawing attention to OP 3 (c) & (d).

Highlights and Discussions

Once the 1540 Expert was granted access to join the workshop to deliver her presentation, she described the requirements under resolution 1540 (2004) for States to implement measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and their means of delivery by non-State actors. She also described the domestic control measures to prevent the proliferation of such weapons, their means of delivery, and related materials, emphasizing the measures related to the implementation of OP 3 c and d. The Expert also showed the level of implementation of resolution 1540 in the GRULAC region. She finished her presentation by briefly mentioning the Committee's tools and its assistance mechanism to help States in their 1540 resolution implementation process.

The participation of the 1540 Committee in this workshop allowed to enhance awareness among Customs officials from Latin America about the obligations and significance of implementing resolution 1540 (2004), particularly regarding strategic trade controls.

Additional Comments

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