

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

- Events:** Training Course for 1540 Points of Contact from Countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) region
- Organizers:** Hosted by the Government of Barbados and CARICOM, in cooperation with the 1540 Committee, with the support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) from a voluntary contribution by the Government of Canada
- Date and Venue:** 10-12 September 2019, Bridgetown, Barbados
- Participants:** Representatives of the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Haiti, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago
- Representatives from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Latin America (UNLIREC), the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
- Representatives from the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the Stimson Centre
- The 1540 Group of Experts

### **Background**

- Resolution 1540 (2004) and its follow-up resolutions emphasize the importance of assisting States with their implementation of the obligations contained in the resolution. In particular, the 1540 Committee, through its Programmes of Work, has promoted outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation with States and relevant international, regional and sub-regional organisations.
- Resolution 1673 (2006) and follow-up resolutions recognize that “the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all States, including the adoption of national laws and measures to ensure the implementation of these laws is a long-term task that will require continuous efforts at national, regional and international levels”.
- To facilitate implementation of the obligations contained in resolution 1540 (2004), States are encouraged to inform the Committee of their Points of Contact for implementation (1540 Points of Contact), both in their capitals and in their Permanent Missions in New

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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.

York. Resolution 2325 (2016) “encourages all States that have not yet done so to provide the 1540 Committee with a Point of Contact for Resolution 1540 (2004), and urges the Committee to continue to undertake initiatives to strengthen the capacity of such Points of Contact to assist on the implementation of the resolution, upon request of States, including through the continuation on a regional basis of the Committee’s Point of Contact Training Programme.” To date, 116 States have nominated national Points of Contact. These Points of Contact act as a link between the Committee and their government officials. Some also fulfil the role of national coordinator for 1540 implementation.

- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) training course for 1540 Points of Contact is intended to enhance the understanding of states in the region of resolution 1540 (2004), its background and effective practices in meeting implementation challenges. It may benefit especially those Points of Contact who have been newly appointed or encourage the nomination of Points of Contact by States that have yet to do so.
- On 5 July 2019, the CARICOM Regional Implementation Coordinator for resolution 1540 sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee requesting assistance to host and conduct a training course for the 1540 Points of Contact of the CARICOM Member States on the implementation of resolution 1540 in Bridgetown, Barbados, from 10 to 12 September 2019, and invited the Chair and the Group of Experts to participate.

### **Highlights**

This PoC training course was the eighth of its kind globally. The course achieved its objectives in enhancing understanding of the main obligations and supporting provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), the threat posed by non-State actor proliferation, as well as the tools available to support national implementation. The participation by several international organisations contributed to the understanding of the differences, complementarities and synergies between resolution 1540 and other related international instruments and the mandates of respective international organisations, as well as the types and sources of assistance available to States.

The breakout sessions allowed participants to apply their knowledge of the obligations under resolution 1540 and understanding of their domestic and regional circumstances to the possible development of voluntary national implementation action plans, as well as the drafting of assistance requests.

Participants were keen to maintain close contact between 1540 Points of Contact in the CARICOM region and encouraged follow-up activities, confirming the usefulness of a regional approach in terms of training. The discussions highlighted challenges to the Committee’s objective of the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all States.

### **Additional Comments**

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