

Information Note¹

Event: The initial launch meeting of the peer review between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan on UNSCR 1540 implementation

Organizers: Kyrgyzstan and OSCE, with support from UNODA

Date and venue: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 16 – 18 December 2014

Participants: Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, OSCE, 1540 Committee Expert, UNODA

1. Objectives

- To make a presentation on the status of implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004) and existing challenges.
- To participate in discussions on the preparation and launch of a peer review process.
- To participate in the discussion regarding Kyrgyzstan's National Implementation Action Plan (NAP).
- To engage in bilateral consultations with representatives of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan on the resolution 1540(2004) matters including preparation of revised national matrices.
- To expand the network of working contacts with representatives of Central Asian States.

2. Background

- The Committee's 13th Programme of Work (S/2014/369) called for the encouragement of States to share effective practices and to develop National Implementation Action Plans (Paragraphs 7 (e) and (f)). An effective way of doing this was demonstrated by the peer review event conducted by Croatia and Poland in 2013. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested assistance in order to conduct such an event to enhance their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).
- The peer review process will focus on effective national practices for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including the identification of such practices that could be shared with the Committee.

3. Overview

Opening statements were delivered by representatives of the Government of Kyrgyzstan (Ministry of Economy), as host of the workshop, the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre in Vienna, UNODA, and by a 1540 Committee expert. The speakers highlighted the importance of full implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004) in Central Asia as well as the need for enhanced regional coordination and sharing of effective practices in this field and welcomed the launch of the peer review between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

After the welcoming remarks a **1540 committee** expert made a presentation on general aspects of the resolution 1540 (2004) and on the status of its implementation in the region of the OSCE and Central Asia.

A representative of the **UNODA** provided clarifications on the concept and practical aspects of a peer review on the resolution 1540 (2004) implementation.

A representative of the **OSCE** described its capabilities to provide necessary organisational, technical and expert support to national ministries and agencies of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, which are implementing the

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resolution 1540 (2004), through the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre in Vienna and the OSCE missions in Dushanbe and Bishkek.

The representatives of the two States agreed to conduct an extensive and in-depth dialogue and to share practical experiences and effective practices in implementing the resolution, in a non-intrusive manner, among peers. It was agreed that the delegations of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan will proceed with mutual visits. The first visit to Kyrgyzstan will take place in April 2015 and the visit to Tajikistan will be conducted in June 2015.

On the following day a round table took place with Kyrgyz authorities on Kyrgyzstan's National Implementation Action Plan (NAP) adopted on 22 March 2013 and request for assistance from Kyrgyzstan. The representatives of different ministries of Kyrgyzstan participated in the meeting (Ministry of Economy, Border Service, Office of State Epidemiological Oversight, State Agency on Environmental Protection, State Custom Service, State Firefighter Service) and made presentations on measures taken in relation to the resolution 1540 (2004).

In order to implement its international obligations Kyrgyzstan has begun the process of bringing national legislation into line with the provisions of the export control agreements which the country has signed. On 2 April 2014 the national controls, list harmonized with similar European Union lists, was adopted. As a next step in this field a draft law was worked out "On the system of independent identification of goods and technologies in the interests of export control".

Draft Decisions of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and on accession to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), were also developed and another legislative act on biosecurity is now being worked out.

In view of Kyrgyzstan's accession to the Customs Union, Kyrgyz Customs Service is currently experiencing a major restructuring. Starting from 1 January 2015 the control over radiation portal monitors on the border crossings with the Customs Union will be handed over to Kyrgyz Border Service. The State Customs Service is now conducting training for Border Service officers to ensure efficient operating of radiation portal monitors.

Kyrgyz representatives also presented a request for technical and financial assistance for the implementation of measures on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the plan of action of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) that was sent to the 1540 Committee on 25 July 2015. The request contains different kinds of assistance needed including training for custom officers in export control and for laboratory personnel in identification techniques, as well as various types of detection and protective equipment.

In addition, on last day a NGO side event was organised by **OSCE** with the participation and support of **UNODA** and the **1540 Committee** expert with representatives from NGOs of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan in order to discuss a possibility of establishing a Central Asian NGO network to deal with resolution 1540 (2004) implementation matters.

The discussion was focused on possible ways and means to promote the contribution of civil society to resolution 1540 (2004) and to raise awareness on the role of this resolution in the protection of civilians. As a result of the discussion representatives of NGOs expressed an intention to start working together on a concept, possible objectives and terms of reference of a Central Asian NGO network to support the implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004). After the creation of a network one of the first actions

could be to organise a regional civil society event for Central Asia promoting the implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004).

4 Additional Comments

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