

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

- Event:** Visit of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) to the Republic of Uzbekistan
- Organizer:** Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), under the authority of the CTC, and the Government of Uzbekistan
- Date and Venue:** 14-16 April 2015, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- Participants:** *Uzbek Governmental officials:* the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the National Security Service (NSS), the Office of the Prosecutor-General, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the State Customs Committee (SCC), the Central Bank, the Ministry for the Development of Information and Communications Technologies, and the Committee of Religious Affairs

*UN entities, international/regional organizations:* the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al- Qaida and associated individuals and entities, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (RATS SCO), the Eurasian Group on Combating Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism (EAG) and the Anti-Terrorism Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States (ATC-CIS).

### 1. **Objectives of Participation of 1540 expert:**

- Deepening the dialogue with Uzbek national stakeholders regarding resolution 1540 (2004) and receiving updated information regarding the implementation of the resolution.
- Discussing National Implementation Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of resolution 1540 adopted by the Government of Uzbekistan in February 2015
- Discussing a list of assistance needs for implementing resolution 1540
- Discussing future steps by Uzbekistan, including the official submission of a voluntary national implementation action plan and assistance request to the 1540 Committee.

### 2. **Background**

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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 organisers or participants in the event.

- Resolution 1977 (2001) reiterated the need to continue to enhance ongoing cooperation among the 1540 Committee, the 1267 Committee and the 1373 Committee (the CTC) including through, as appropriate, enhanced information sharing, coordination on visits to States, within their respective mandates, technical assistance and other issues of relevance to all three committees.
- The 1540 experts participated previously in visits to States at the invitation of CTC (i.e. to Myanmar in November 2011, Guyana and Suriname in October 2013, Mongolia in May 2014, Malta in October 2014 and Italy in May 2015).
- On 12 March 2015 CTED invited the 1540 Committee to nominate a 1540 expert to participate in a visit to Uzbekistan with a view to monitoring their implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014), as well as discussing the implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004), including recent progress in this field and related technical assistance needs.

### 3. Overview

The follow-up visit of the CTC to Uzbekistan had the objectives of acquiring updates on Uzbekistan's progress in the following areas:

- International and regional cooperation in terrorism-related matters (including amendments to relevant national legislation)
- Measures aimed at countering violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism
- Security and law enforcement
- Border management

During the meeting development and streamlining of penal anti-terrorist legislation relevant to the scope of 1540 resolution was discussed.

The State Customs Committee (SCC) consistently works to implement the newest technologies and equipment at all border posts. In particular, and pursuant to the Concept of Information and Technical Policy of the SCC, a SCC Unified Automated Information System has been developed to automate procedures in most major areas of customs operations.

The delegation conducted an on-site visit to Tashkent International Airport and was briefed on procedures used to process goods and persons through the airport, including customs-control techniques. Uzbekistan is currently working towards the implementation of both an Advanced Passenger Information (API) system and the World Customs Organization SAFE Framework of Standards.

In the meeting, the 1540 Committee expert gave an overview of 1540 obligations in relation to the threats arising from the proliferation of all types of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), related materials and technology, to non-State actors, and drew attention to the synergies between counter-terrorism and counter WMD proliferation.

During the three-day visit, the delegation also met with the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tashkent, the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, and the Director of the RATS SCO Executive Committee.

The 1540 Committee expert had a separate meeting with the representatives of agencies involved in the preparation of Uzbekistan's National Implementation Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of the resolution 1540 adopted by the Government of Uzbekistan in February 2015. Future steps by Uzbekistan, including the official submission of its NAP and assistance request to the 1540 Committee were also discussed.

#### 4. **Additional comments**

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