

Information Note¹

- Event:** Sub-Regional Workshop on the Implementation on the United Nations Security Council Resolutions against Terrorism and their Implementation Mechanisms
- Organized by:** Qatari National Committee on Combating Terrorism with the support of the UN Office of Drugs and Crime/Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB)
- Date and Venue:** 17-18 May 2011; Doha, Qatar
- Participants** *States:* Officials primarily from ministries of Interior and of Justice of Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates;
Organizations: Gulf Cooperation Council; League of Arab States' Chairman of Arab Expert Group on Terrorism; UNODC/TPB; 1267 Monitoring Team; CTC/CTED expert; 1540 Committee Expert.

1. Objectives of 1540 participation

- Identify from national information updates new data, practices of interest and future implementation plans, possible capacity building and assistance partnerships.
- In the context of the workshop title, continue bilateral consultations with participating States regarding implementation of resolution 1540.
- Note opportunities to share experiences on implementation on resolution 1540 arising from previous related outreach activities in the region.
- Explore what roles participating (sub)regional organizations can have to facilitate its member States' implementation of resolution 1540.

2. Background

This workshop provided an opportunity to continue addressing the implementation of resolution 1540 by member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), building on dialogues with officials from the respective UN missions in New York and at previous outreach activities in the region. The latter outreach focusing on GCC States included: UNODC/TPB and Government of Qatar workshop in Doha, April 2008; UNODA-organized regional workshop on implementation of resolution 1540, Doha, March 2009; and the Regional Workshop (for GCC States) on UNSCR 1540 concerning preventing terrorists from gaining access to WMD, 11-12 December 2010, Riyadh.

This particular workshop format was similar to that organized for the Arab regional States by UNODC/TPB in Abu Dhabi, June 2009, whereby the expert groups to the three Security Council Committees dealing with counter-terrorism and non-proliferation (arising from resolutions 1267, 1373 and 1540), presented their respective Committee mandates, resolution requirements and processes to facilitate implementation.

3. Highlights

Among the speaker presentations, the UNODC/TPB highlighted the 16 universal counter-terrorism conventions most of which States in the region had ratified but were still implementing;

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and spoke on the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy with its four pillars of measures that States could adopt, including those of pillars II (on preventive measures) and III (capacity building) relevant for implementation of resolution 1540. Two members of Qatar's National Counter-Terrorism Committee spoke of their experiences in implementing these treaty instruments, among which they mentioned areas on counter-terrorism financing complementary to implementation of resolution 1540.

In line with the workshop title, the 1540 Committee expert shared experiences and practical steps that States have found useful or otherwise reported to facilitate implementation of resolution 1540, reinforced by resolution 1977 (2011). These included:

- the preamble of resolution 1977 recognizing that progress towards achieving the goals of the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit contributes to implementation of resolution 1540, and calling on States to prevent nuclear terrorism including through full implementation of relevant conventions.
- about half of the 16 universal counter-terrorism conventions containing prohibitions that could also contribute to implementation of resolution 1540, particularly in the nuclear field: for example, in the area of OP2, against use and/or transport of WMD and of financing or assisting prohibited activities (eg, 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, 2005 Protocol to the SUA Convention); and in the area of OP3 regarding physical protection (eg, 2005 Amendment to the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material).
- guidelines and assistance delivery programmes of relevant international governmental organizations facilitating implementation of resolution 1540, including those of the IAEA; OPCW (eg, workshop for National Authorities for Asian States, including GCC members, November 2010, in Kuwait); BWC-Implementation Support Unit (eg, workshop for BWC implementation, including on resolution 1540, October 2009, in Riyadh); World Health Organization whose International Health Regulations (IHRs) have aspects that can complement requirements of resolution 1540 (eg, MESIS workshop on Regional Bio-Security and the Role of the BWC, January 2011, in Jordan); and International Maritime Organization codes on ship and port facility security, and secure movement of hazardous materials.
- possible consideration by the GCC in the context of its Customs Union to become a platform to share practices and lessons learned on improving border and related controls that could contribute to implementation of resolution 1540 among its Members.

The GCC representative spoke on activities of its International Security Division. A list of concluding Recommendations was drawn up by the organizers.

4. Bilateral Consultations

The 1540 Committee expert dialogued with participating delegations to update points of contact and note new developments or practices taken by States on implementation. An extended bilateral consultation took place with the workshop host country.

5. Additional Comments

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