

Information Note¹

Event	14 th International Export Control Conference
Organiser	The Governments of the United States and the United Arab Emirates under the auspices of the United States Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Program
Date and Venue	16-18 March 2014, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Participants	<i>Representatives from:</i> Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, People's Republic of China, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (US), Viet Nam; Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Kosovo ² ; European Commission, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), UNSCR 1540 Committee, UNSCR 1540 Group of Experts, Australia Group (AG), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), World Customs Organisation (WCO); Abu Dhabi Ports Company, Abu Dhabi Terminals, Aramex, The Boeing Company, Clyde & Co, DHL, DP World, Emirates Airlines, Ericsson AB, FedEx, TNT Express, United Technologies Corporation, UPS, WorldECR; King's College London, Monterey Institute of International Studies (CNS), Research Center of Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, State University of New York (SUNY), University of Liège.

1. Conference Objectives

- Provide a forum for information exchange on best practices, expertise and experiences in implementing and managing effective strategic trade control systems.

¹ 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.

² The reference to Kosovo reflects the invitation extended by the hosts and the participants list as circulated by the organisers, and is without prejudice to the status of Kosovo and should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

- Promote international cooperation and expert level contacts.

2. Background

UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) is one of the key pillars in the international regulatory framework in the area of export controls or strategic trade controls. Within this field, the conference series of the “*International Export Control Conferences*” is the largest international export control event worldwide. The conference is a premier global opportunity for discussions among members and non-members of the international export control regimes to exchange views on a variety of technical issues, such as the status of their border and export control systems, practices and shared experiences, emerging threats, and exploring opportunities for increased cooperation and technical assistance.

For its 14th edition, the US State Department’s EXBS programme teamed up with the Government of the United Arab Emirates and welcomed about 300 export control practitioners from around 70 States, international organisations and civil society. The conference topic for this year was “Strategic Trade Controls: From Foundations to Practice”.

3. Highlights

The conference featured a set of roundtables on:

- “*Cutting-edge export control challenges*” (focussing on catch-all controls and on intangible transfers of technology);
- “*Non-export strategic trade challenges*” (involving presentations on brokering and proliferation financing);
- “*Challenges beyond point-to-point export control*” (featuring presentations on controls of transits, transshipments and re-exports);
- “*Industry engagement*” (focussing on industry compliance programmes and outreach to industry); and
- “*Leveraging interagency resources in strategic trade control implementation and enforcement*” (taking account of international enforcement standards and the implementation of legal authorities for inspection and interdictions).

Presentations also focused on current proliferation threats and also included contributions by representatives from industry and international organisations. In his presentation, the 1540 Committee member discussed options for further engagement with the 1540 Committee with a special emphasis on the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the resolution.

A whole conference day was devoted to a practical exercise that was discussed in concurrent breakout groups. The case scenarios of this interactive practical exercise were based on the topics presented during the roundtables. They were aimed to provide all participants with a global understanding of the export control process – from legal-regulatory foundations to implementation and enforcement practices.

The presentations on national experiences and practices in different export control related areas were useful for identifying effective implementation practices. They also highlighted the need

for political commitment, well-defined legislation, information sharing, inter-agency coordination, engagement with industry, and international cooperation as essential elements of effective control systems.

4. Additional Comments

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