

Information Note¹

Event: Preparatory meeting for the Nuclear Security Summit 12-13 April 2010

Date and Venue: 9-10 February 2010; The Hague, Netherlands

Organized by: The Government of the United States and hosted by the Government of The Netherlands

Participants: 1540 Committee Chairman Ambassador Claude Heller and two 1540 Committee experts; approx. 40 countries invited to the Nuclear Security Summit in April 2010

1. Objectives

- Presentation by the Chairman of 1540 Committee on UNSC resolution 1540 and its complementarity with the objectives of the Nuclear Security Summit.
- Informal discussion dialogues with participating States on aspects of resolution 1540.

2. Background

The Chairman of the 1540 Committee was invited to make a presentation on resolution 1540 (2004) at this preparatory meeting of the Nuclear Security Summit, the latter due to take place in Washington, D.C., 12-13 April 2010.

The 1540 Committee Members and experts had participated in previous events that involved awareness raising, sharing of experiences and lessons learned, and cooperation with international and regional organizations on issues of nuclear security and which facilitate States' implementation of the related requirements in resolution 1540 (2004). These events included:

- the IAEA's International Symposium on Nuclear Security, Vienna (March-April 2009);
- workshops of the UNODC/TPB on nuclear terrorism and related instruments including in Vienna (December 2007), Doha (April 2008), Cairo (November 2008), and Buenos Aires (June 2009);
- workshops sponsored and co-organised by States, such as New Zealand, for Pacific Island States under the auspices of the GICNT (April 2009), and France on nuclear security for States in the region of the Middle East (October 2009);
- workshops organised by civil society and academia in preparation for the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit such as:
 - *Legal Framework for Strengthening Nuclear Security and Combating Nuclear Terrorism*, co-organized by the Center for International Trade and Security (University of Georgia, USA) and the Institute of World Economy and International Relations (Russian Academy of Sciences) (January 2010);
 - Fourth Annual Workshop on Reducing the Risk from Radioactive and Nuclear Materials, organised by the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM), in Arlington, Virginia (February 2010).

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.

3. **Highlights**

Given the nuclear security requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular in operative paragraph (OP) 3, complementarity between the goals of the Summit and implementation of the resolution were a focus of the 1540 Committee Chairman's presentation. OP 3 requires States to implement (a) accounting/securing and (b) physical protection measures to prevent illicit trafficking or diversion of related materials that might be used for terrorist purposes. The July 2008 Report of the 1540 Committee to the UN Security Council included data on these measures taken by States, noting too, a high correlation between States' implementation of accounting measures for OP 3(a) and the adoption of IAEA Safeguards Agreements.

The 1540 Committee Chairman was accompanied by 1540 Committee experts to attend a part of the preparatory meeting during which they conducted informal dialogues with delegations. General discussions with senior decision makers, who were present in addition to more technically-oriented delegates, included consideration of the role of resolution 1540 (2004) in national security planning, noting that implementation of the wide range of the resolution's requirements might be facilitated through inter-ministerial communications, inter-departmental committees or other similar across-government processes. Such discussions with decision makers also reflect the objectives of a recommendation in the Final Document of the 2009 Comprehensive Review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004):

As a part of the outreach activities, the Comprehensive Review recognized that additional efforts need to be made by the Committee to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high level decision makers of the obligations derived from resolution 1540 (2004)... (para 25)

4. **Bilateral Dialogues**

Many high level officials had extensive non-proliferation experience in the chemical and biological as well as the nuclear fields, and comprehended the scope of requirements of resolution 1540 (2004). Dialogues with several countries included on topics clustered around the following:

- obtaining copies of draft or recently adopted legislation relevant for implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular related to nuclear security;
- identifying inter-ministerial or inter-agency processes to facilitate communications across government relevant for implementation of the resolution;
- liaising on development of future workshops on implementation of the resolution.

5. **Additional Comments**

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