

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

- Event:** Workshop on Customs Procedures and Licensing Issuance: Integrating the National Processing of Dual Use and Conventional Weapons through Information Sharing
- Organizers:** Government of Ukraine and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
- Date and Venue:** 9-11 October 2012, Kiev, Ukraine
- Participants:** The interagency delegations of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova, Poland, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, representatives of the OSCE, World Customs Organization (WCO), Federal Office for Economics and Export Controls (BAFA), US Embassy in Ukraine, independent researchers, 1540 Committee expert

### 1. **Objectives for a 1540 Committee expert participation**

Provide a follow-up to the January 2011 and March 2012 workshops on OSCE efforts to facilitate the implementation of UNSCR 1540 by offering the participants the possibility to exchange effective practices and share experiences on implementation of the resolution. Enhance cooperation and information sharing on all levels of the strategic trade corridors including inter agency and international cooperation.

### 2. **Background**

The workshop in Ukraine was one in a series of events aimed at enhancing capability of States of Eastern Europe to fight the illicit trafficking in dual use materials and goods including WMD related materials. The previous workshops involved mainly states of the Balkans, the Mediterranean and Central Asia.

### 3. **Highlights**

The opening remarks were made by the representative of the Ukrainian government and by the OSCE Customs Adviser. They noted that the focus of the workshop was primarily on the main elements of export controls, customs and capacity building measures that are essential for enhancing the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). By inviting the customs services and licensing officers from different states of the region the organizers of the workshop stressed their intent to involve them into interactive dialogue and information sharing to facilitate inter-agency and international cooperation in the field of export control and licensing.

The participants of the workshop pointed out that measures taken by States for strengthening border and export controls are essential for lowering the risk of leakage of WMD related materials into illicit circulation. The experts also provided additional information on national achievements in methods and

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procedures applied by the enforcement agencies for identifying illegal flows of dual-use goods and materials.

The discussions at the workshop confirmed that even if legislative framework looks adequate further law enforcement, border and export/import controls remain the most challenging areas in the region. In this regard the need for upgrading the capacities of law enforcement agencies is still a major issue that could be resolved by additional efforts at the national level and with technical assistance and training programs provided by donor states and international organizations.

4. **Additional comments**

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