

Information Note¹

- Event:** Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG) meeting
- Organizer:** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in its Presidency of the G-8
- Date and Venue:** 13-14 June 2013, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Participants:** *GP Member States:* Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
- Observer State:* Turkey
- Other:* European Commission
- International organisations:* Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC ISU), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), INTERPOL, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), UN Office for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Customs Organisation (WCO), World Customs Organisation (WCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), 1540 Committee (two 1540 Committee experts)
- Civil society, private sector and other entities:* AT Kearney, Center for International Trade and Security (CITS, University of Georgia), Centre for Biosecurity and Biopreparedness – Statens Serum Institut (Netherlands), Connecting Organisations for Regional Disease Surveillance (CORDS), Dow Chemical Company, International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA), Landau Network-Centro Volta, Verification Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS).

1. Background

¹ 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.

At the Deauville G8 Summit, in May 2011, Heads of State and Government decided to renew the Global Partnership beyond 2012. The then-adopted *Declaration on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament* states that “*We welcome the adoption of resolution 1977 reinforcing resolution 1540 which aims to prevent non-State actors from acquiring WMDs, their means of delivery and related materials and renewing the mandate of the 1540 Committee. We invite all States to contribute to the implementation of resolution 1540 and we reiterate our support to the 1540 Committee in the discharge of its mandate*” (paragraph.14).

The G8 *Global Partnership Assessment and Options for Future Programming* document (Deauville, May 2011) identifies priorities for the future of the Partnership, including facilitation of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and for which Global Partnership (GP) partners can consider providing assistance: “*By providing equipment, expertise and training, GP partners could enhance WMD non-proliferation and counter-terrorism capacities in countries seeking to meet 1540 obligations and lacking the ability to do so, upon their request.*”

The GP operated under a US presidency in 2012 and in 2013 the presidency passed to the UK. This meeting was the second of the GPWG this year.

2. Highlights

The meeting was very successful in continuing the discussions initiated previously, offering the perspective of a wider relationship with the Global Partnership (GP), that can provide effective support to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by States. The meeting also successfully brought in relevant international and regional organizations involved in resolution 1540 (2004) and GP matters. A novel feature of this meeting was the particular focus on “match-making” to bring the attention of the participants to States requesting assistance for support for the implementation of their obligations under resolution 1540 and other binding non-proliferation instruments, which was new in the context of the Global Partnership, and contributed to the success of the meeting by offering the possibility to conduct bilateral meetings among interested partners.

The Philippines was welcomed to the GP bringing the total membership to 26 countries. Turkey attended as an observer. The European Commission is also represented.

The UK presidency announced that the next GPWG meeting will take place in London from 22 to 24 October 2013, and will encompass the themes of “responsible science” as well as ‘match-making’.