Information Note¹

Event: Regional workshop on the implementation of United Nations Security

Council resolution 1540 (2004)

Organizers: Governments of the Republic of the Philippines and Canada, through

the Global Partnership against the spread of Weapons and Materials of

Mass Destruction.

Date and venue: 24-25 July 2014, Manila, Philippines

Participants (States): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic

Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam as well as Australia, Canada, Japan, United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, United States.

International organizations: United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and

the Pacific, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

and the European Union.

1. Objectives

The objectives for the participation of the 1540 Committee experts in the Workshop included making presentations on resolution 1540 (2004) and relevant updates; providing an overview of voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NAPs) for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004); cooperation and assistance activities: peer review and 1540 Committee outreach, and; providing an overview of Strategic Trade Controls as a topic of relevance to the resolution.

Furthermore, to discuss with participating States ways to further enhance the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including the development of voluntary NAPs.

2. Background

On 10 June 2014, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations extended an invitation to the 1540 Committee Chair, to nominate 1540 experts to participate as resource persons in a regional workshop on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

The workshop was aimed at bringing together representatives from governments in the ASEAN region as well as other States, intergovernmental organizations and selected non-governmental organizations with a view to exchanging information on resolution 1540 (2004) and how its implementation can be further improved within the ASEAN region. Also, the workshop was designed to serve as a platform to share effective practices on strengthening implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the region and

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facilitating identification of capacity building measures that would be responsive to regional and specific requirements. The workshop also discussed the steps and tools required to develop voluntary NAPs.

3. Overview

The meeting was opened by Mr. Jesus R. S. Domingo, Assistant Secretary of Foreign Affairs and 1540 National Focal point of the Philippines and by Mr. Neil Reeder, Ambassador of Canada to the Philippines. During the opening session the 1540 Experts made an introductory presentation on resolution 1540 (2004), highlighting its continuing relevance and its obligations.

Furthermore, the 1540 experts made three additional presentations on the following topics:

- Cooperation and Assistance;
- 1540 Voluntary National Implementation Action Plans, and;
- Overview of Strategic Trade Controls.

Presentations

Presentations were made by representatives of International Organizations including the IAEA, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, UNICRI and the European Union, as well as by representatives of Australia, Canada and the United States.

The delegation of the Philippines made a presentation on their 1540 relevant activities. The delegations of Malaysia and Singapore briefed participants about the process leading to the adoption of their respective strategic trade acts.

Delegations exchanged views on challenges and the way forward to strengthen the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). A series of actions that States could consider to further implement resolution 1540 (2004) were identified during the closing session.

The workshop was formally closed by Mr. Rafael Seguis, Undersecretary for Civilian Security and Consular Concerns of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines.

4. Additional comments

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