

Information Note¹

Event	Regional Workshop: Effective Border Control Coordination for Asia Pacific and Middle East Countries
Date and Venue	20-22 February 2013, Manila, Philippines
Organizers	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Philippines and Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI)
Participants	States: Host Country Philippines, Australia, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Yemen Other: IAEA; European Union (EU)-Joint Research Centre (JRC), Nuclear Security Unit; Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); United State, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

1. Objectives for participation

The main purpose for participation of an expert in this workshop was to deliver a presentation on the significance and importance of Border Control in the overall implementation of UNSCR 1540, including highlighting the role of UNSC 1540 Committee and its experts in cooperation with international, regional and subregional organization and assistance/ match making, during the breakout sessions. Other objectives were:

- to exchange views on the status of implementation of resolution 1540 in GCC and ASEAN states for better understanding the existing challenges and problems in this area, including gaps in implementation;
- to continue providing necessary information and expertise to enhance GCC and ASEAN officials and experts work on the legislative base to meet the requirements of the resolution;

2. Background

The IAEA in its efforts to enhance the Nuclear Security awareness and infrastructure in its member states organized this workshop. The main purpose of the workshop was to share information on the status of implementation of border control program for nuclear security in member states. The focus of presentations made and follow up discussions were on: the status of national detection and response strategies; the status of national legislation and regulations supporting the border monitoring programme including criminal and civil instruments; the status of radiation detection measures; key issues and the path forward as part of a harmonized approach to border monitoring and control- including identification of assistance that may be provided by the IAEA as part of its Nuclear Security Plan or by other international assistance programmes.

3. Highlights

The workshop was organized around an opening and five plenary session and three breakout groups. During the workshop the participants were involved into a series of interactive discussions aimed at experience-sharing, exchange of deliberations and good practices and question and answer sessions. Participants from Asia Pacific and GCC Member States had a

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.

good opportunity to get first hand information on the status of implementation of border control and nuclear security programs in each other's countries, on existing achievements and future programs in this regard, on the activities of the 1540 Committee and international bodies assisting in implementation of border controls and nuclear security. The workshop helped to identify some specific areas requiring further focus and thus came up with number of conclusions (Attachment 1). These conclusions could create a solid basis for raising the status of implementation border controls and nuclear security thereby improving the status of implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004) in the States in the region.

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