

Information Note¹

- Event:** National workshop for Nepal on Countering the Financing of Terrorism and the Financing of the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Organizers:** Nepal, Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB)
- Date and Venue:** 12-13 September 2017, Kathmandu, Nepal
- Participants:** *Nepal:*
- More than 20 participants from the State ministries and agencies:
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
 - Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Nepal Police
 - Ministry of Finance
 - Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
 - Department of Money Laundering Investigation
 - MLA Central Authority
 - Adjudication Authority
- Speakers and others:*
- UNODC Regional Office for South Asia
 - 1540 Committee Group of Experts
 - 1267 Committee Monitoring Team
 - United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) (based in Kathmandu, Nepal)
 - Embassy of Japan in Nepal
 - Western Union Financial Services
 - Individual experts from King's College (London) and Australia (former UNODC consultant)

Background

Resolution 1540 (2004) decides that all States shall adopt and enforce appropriate effective laws to prohibit any non-State actor to finance the activities related to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. The resolution also decides that all States shall establish appropriate effective national controls on providing funds and services related to export of WMD related materials, including financial services. Resolution 2325 (2016), in its operative paragraph 12, notes the need for more attention on proliferation finance measures.

On 8 August 2017, a letter from the Officer-in-Charge of the Terrorism Prevention Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was sent to the Chair, inviting a member of the Group of Experts to participate in the Nepal national workshop, present on relevant obligations under resolution 1540 (2004) and participate in discussions to help to identify areas where Nepal's national measures to prevent WMD proliferation financing can be strengthened.

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.

This national workshop is one of the series national workshops UNODC organised in South and Southeast Asia States (including Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and others) funded by the Japanese Government. The 1540 Group of Experts is invited to the events to highlight resolution 1540 (2004) obligations in proliferation financing area.

Highlights

The representatives of ministries and state agencies of Nepal, that are responsible for implementing the international standards and UN Security Council resolutions obligations in the areas of anti-money laundering, asset freezing and WMD proliferation financing, were engaged in discussions at the workshop. The workshop focused on explaining to the participants all the international standards and UN Security Council resolutions obligations in the areas of anti-money laundering, asset freezing and WMD proliferation financing. The speakers assisted the Nepal authorities in examining the national frameworks, finding gaps and making recommendations for improvements. The 1540 Expert made a presentation and participated in technical discussions on all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), and its implementation in Nepal with a particular focus on the gaps and recommendations for improvements.

Additional Comments

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