

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

**Event:** Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Terrorism, established by the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

**Organizer:** OPCW

**Date and Venue:** 10 October 2016, The Hague, Netherlands

### Background

The OEWG was established by the Executive Council of the OPCW in 2001. It provides a forum for representatives of States Parties to the CWC to examine the Organization's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts. The OEWG is currently chaired by H.E. Dr. Joe Tony Aidoo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ghana to the OPCW.

On 6 October 2016, the Director General of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting him to address the meeting of the OEWG on Terrorism to be held on 10 October 2016. He also welcomed participation by a representative of the Group of Experts assisting the Committee.

Taking advantage of the participation of a 1540 Expert in the meeting a bilateral meeting was also arranged with the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW to discuss outcomes and prospects of cooperation between the 1540 Committee and the OPCW in the context of the 1540 Comprehensive Review, as well as ways to intensify cooperation in 2017.

### Overview

#### *Meeting of the OEWG on Terrorism*

The Members of the OEWG on Terrorism watched a video message from the Chair of the 1540 Committee, Ambassador Román Oyarzun Marchesi. The 1540 Committee Expert delivered a Statement by the Chair of the 1540 Committee. The 1540 Expert also gave a presentation on the synergy and complementarity between resolution 1540 (2004) and the CWC and an update on the status of implementation of the resolution.

The Members of the OEWG on Terrorism provided comments regarding cooperation between the OPCW and the 1540 committee. They stressed that while both the 1540 Committee and the OPCW have their own mandates, they could jointly contribute to the fight against terrorism by better supporting States Parties in implementing the obligations that are common to both resolution 1540 (2004) and the CWC.

The Facilitator of the OEWG on Terrorism, Ambassador Maria Teresa Infante, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Chile to the OPCW introduced a draft Report of the Sub-Working Group (SWG) on Non-State Actors followed by the discussion between the Members of the OEWG related to a draft decision of the Executive Council of the OPCW on this matter.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

*Bilateral consultations with the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW*

The 1540 Expert conducted bilateral consultations with representatives of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW on synergies, outcomes and prospects of cooperation between the 1540 Committee and the OPCW in the context of the Comprehensive Review of the implementation of the resolution 1540, with the focus on the intensification of such cooperation in 2017.

**Additional Comments**

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