

Information Note¹

- Event:** Training for the OSCE 1540 National Points of Contact
- Organisers:** Hosted by the Government of Russian Federation in cooperation with the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts and supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
- Date and Venue:** 28 June -1 July 2016, Kaliningrad, Russian Federation
- Participants:** *National Participants:* Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United States, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Chile participated as an observer.
- Instructors from International/regional organisations:* Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC ISU), International Organization of Migration (IOM), International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL), OSCE, Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (by video conference), United Nations Security Council 1540 Experts and UNODA

Background

The Security Council has urged States to provide the Committee with their Points of Contact on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (1540 PoC).

From 7 to 11 September 2015, the Government of China in cooperation with the 1540 Committee and UNODA organized a training course for national 1540 PoC in the Asia-Pacific Region.

To enhance cooperation and coordination among participating States on issues related to national implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), an OSCE Directory of Points of Contact (PoC) on UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) was established by the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) (Decision No. 19/11 of 2011). The Directory has been shared with the 1540 Committee. Currently, 51 OSCE participating States have appointed an official PoC for resolution 1540 (2004). In addition, the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, together with the

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representatives from the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts and UNODA, held two meetings for PoCs in April 2014 in Vienna, Austria and in May 2015 in Belgrade, Serbia.

On 6 May 2016, Ambassador Vitaly Churkin, the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, Ambassador Roman Oyarzun Marchesi, the Chair of the 1540 Committee and Ambassador Marcel Peško, the Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre co-signed an invitation letter addressed to the OSCE Participating States and international organisations to attend this training course.

Highlights

The course was opened on 28 June with an address by H.E. Sergey Lavrov, the Russian Federation's Minister for Foreign Affairs, delivered by the Deputy Director of the Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Welcome addresses from the 1540 Committee and OSCE were also delivered.

The instructional sessions were composed of four principal sections:

1. The key elements of resolution 1540 (2004) were discussed in the context of the risks of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). This section also included an overview of the non-proliferation regimes and UN global counter-terrorism instruments and how the UN Security Council operates with its subsidiary bodies (such as the 1540 Committee).
2. In the second section the 17 participating government representatives were invited to give national presentations on their experiences gained to date in relation to the implementation of the resolution in their respective countries.
3. The third section in the course programme was instruction and discussion on the key operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 using nuclear, chemical and biological aspects as illustrative examples for the implementation of the obligations. In this element, along with presentations by the 1540 experts, maximum use was made of the experts from international organisations such as the BWC-ISU, the IOM, INTERPOL, the OPCW and the IAEA.
4. The fourth section was composed of interactive sessions that included a discussion in two breakout groups to test the learning of the participants through discussion on key elements of implementation and the role of Points of Contact in this process, as well as the need and nature of inter-agency engagement for effective implementation.

As part of the course, participants visited a customs post at the port of Kaliningrad. Customs officials at the port demonstrated the use of portal radiation monitors at the entrance of the port area, as well as portable technical means to detect radioactive materials and two video films on this matter.

Additional Comments

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