

Information Note¹

- Event:** Workshop for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) for English-speaking Member States
- Organizers:** UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) through its Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), hosted by the Government of South Africa and held with the facilitation of the Institute for Security Studies
- Date and venue:** 10-11 April 2014, Pretoria, South Africa
- Participants:** The Gambia, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe

1. Objectives for the participation of 1540 Committee experts

Raise awareness of resolution 1540 (2004) among participants, highlighting the status of reports submitted to the 1540 Committee so far, and underscoring the importance of formally establishing a dialogue with the 1540 Committee through the submission of a report for States that have not yet done so.

Assist participating States in their preparation of an initial report, with the support of Lesotho and South Africa that shared their experience in this area.

2. Background

Resolution 1977 (2001) *"again calls upon all States that have not yet presented a first report on steps they have taken or intend to take to implement resolution 1540 (2004) to submit such a report to the Committee without delay.*

At the date of the workshop, 172 States had submitted at least one report to the Committee; twenty-one States had not yet done so.

The workshop gathered five English-speaking States that have not submitted a report. A workshop for French speaking States took place in Libreville, Gabon from 21-22 March and another is scheduled to take place for Portuguese-speaking States in Lomé, Togo in June 2014.

3. Highlights and discussions

The UNREC Representative highlighted their role and that of UNODA in supporting the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The 1540 Committee experts presented on resolution 1540 (2004) and the role of the 1540 Committee, including its clearinghouse function for assistance and its mandate to cooperate with international, regional and sub-regional organizations. The 1540 Committee experts described activities by the Committee and its experts to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540

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(2004) by States. They stated the objective of universality in 1540 reporting, promoted by the Chair of the Committee, recalling that States that have not yet submitted a report are encouraged to do so without delay. The 1540 Committee experts shared their views on the elements that usually appear in national reports and on the benefits States get from submitting a report and thus establishing a formal dialogue with the 1540 Committee.

Lesotho and South Africa shared their national experience in preparing an initial report and in implementing resolution 1540 (2004). Furthermore, a presentation was made about the South African Council for the Non-proliferation of WMD. This sharing of experience was particularly welcomed by the participants.

On a bilateral basis, the 1540 Committee experts met participants to discuss the methodology in preparing a 1540 national report and clarify any related issue.

4. **Additional Comments**

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