

Information Note¹

Event:	Meeting between the 1540 Committee Experts and the Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
Organizer:	Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
Date and venue:	12 August 2014, Pretoria, South Africa
Participants:	ISS, 1540 Committee Experts

1. Objectives for the participation of 1540 Committee Experts

The objectives for the participation of the 1540 Committee Experts in the meeting included providing information on the interaction of the 1540 Committee with civil society and academia; exchanging views with the ISS on their initiatives to raise awareness of the objectives, mandate, status of implementation, and challenges of implementing resolution 1540 (2004), and; on how former 1540 Experts could be utilised in facilitating the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

2. Background

In terms of the 13th Programme of Work of the Committee, a task identified included to “consider and seize opportunities, as appropriate, for direct interaction, with their States’ consent, with relevant industries and industry groups, academia and civil society. “ The 1540 Experts have been participating in meetings with civil society on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). In particular, such a meeting included the “UNSCR 1540 Civil Society Forum - Opportunities for Engagement” meeting held from 8-10 January 2013 in Vienna, Austria.

The ISS sent an invitation to the Chair of the Committee inviting 1540 Experts to participate in a meeting on 12 August 2014 in Pretoria, South Africa, to discuss future activities of the ISS on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa. The ISS recently contracted a former 1540 expert, Mr. Nicolas Kasprzyk, to undertake 1540-related projects in Africa. In the preparation of these projects, the ISS indicated that they wished to conduct in-depth discussions on the project with the 1540 Committee experts, and obtain their feedback on how it can best serve the objectives of the 1540 Committee, for the benefit of States.

The ISS has been active on 1540 related activities in Africa, and has published numerous papers on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The ISS cooperated with the Government of South Africa to co-organize the first 1540 Workshop for African States and assisted UNREC with organizing the 1540 Workshop for English-speaking non-reporting

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States, held respectively in November 2012 and April 2014 in Pretoria, South Africa. The African Union, also invited the ISS to make a presentation at the second 1540 Workshop for African States, held in December 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

3. **Highlights and discussions**

The 1540 Committee Experts briefed the ISS on the latest developments within the Committee and the ISS provided information on their past and current initiatives on resolution 1540 (2004). Views were exchanged on possible future 1540-related projects of the ISS. A discussion also took place in the context of how to utilise former 1540 experts.

The ISS indicated that their appointment of a former 1540 Committee Expert, is also indicative of their commitment to strengthen their activities on 1540-related projects in Africa. In this regard, they expressed the wish to cooperate with the 1540 Committee and its Experts in this regard.

The discussions focused on possible efforts by the ISS to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by African States, with the consent of their governments, such as; fostering dialogue with relevant industry, private sector and academia; initiating a database of assistance and capacity-building programmes in Africa; developing a training curriculum for African officials; documenting incidents of diversion or illicit trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials in Africa

4. **Additional Comments**

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