

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

<b>Event</b>	Seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)
<b>Organiser</b>	RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation in cooperation with the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
<b>Date and Venue</b>	26 - 27 June 2014, Zagreb, Croatia
<b>Participants</b>	<p><i>States:</i> Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, France, Jamaica, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Montenegro, Philippines, Poland, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, and U.S.A.</p> <p><i>Organisations:</i> Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), European Commission, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Organization of American States (OAS), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), RACVIAC, UNODA, United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and 1540 Committee group of experts</p>

### **1.Conference Objectives**

- Facilitation of the identification of effective national practices in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) focusing on the 1540 peer review model;
- Presentation of the 1540 Peer Review as an effective practice in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- Discussion and presentation of other similar peer-focused mechanisms.

### **2.Background**

Following a joint seminar on effective practices in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) held in September 2013, the organisers again collaborated on a second seminar at the RACVIAC

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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 organizers or participants in the event.

Centre in Croatia with the aim of facilitating the identification of such effective practices. Following the UNODA-supported peer review of national implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (“1540 peer review”) and Poland and Croatia’s joint initiative on conducting such a peer review in 2013, this seminar focused on this specific implementation tool. The 1540 peer review provides a forum for interested Member States to share their practical experience with a view to improving their relevant national implementation measures. It also aims to assist the 1540 Committee, through this process, to identify effective implementation practices as required by resolution 1977 (2011).

Representatives from selected Member States that had shown a particular interest in the 1540 peer review process were invited. The workshop also explored similar practices within the framework of international and regional organisations.

### **3. Highlights**

The presentation of the experiences of the bilateral peer review on the implementation of resolution 1540(2004), conducted by Croatia and Poland and supported by UNODA and the experts of the 1540 Committee, were at the centre of the workshop. The agreed principles of this voluntary peer review process were presented as an example for subsequent 1540 peer reviews by other States. The 1540 peer review mechanism allows for jointly comparing and examining national implementation practices and experiences. In comparison to other already well-known review practices, the 1540 peer review - as pioneered by Poland and Croatia – does not involve a delegation of external experts to discuss established implementation standards. The process is also intended to support the identification of effective implementation practices.

Representatives from the Croatian and Polish Ministries of Foreign Affairs gave detailed accounts of both the Croatian and the Polish leg of their peer review. They also shared an overview of the effective practices identified during the peer review. More detailed information on this process as well as a set of identified effective implementation practices can be found in the Joint Report of Poland and Croatia to the 1540 Committee<sup>2</sup>.

Representatives of different organisations and States which participated in the seminar shared their experiences with peer review processes, or other similar exercises or tools that they have developed. The discussion of different peer review experiences provided a useful input for future 1540 peer reviews. The presentations by the representatives from international organisations also provided useful overviews and updates on their 1540-related activities and the relationship between other non-proliferation or counter-terrorism instruments and resolution 1540 (2004). The seminar also offered the opportunity for participating States to provide information and updates on national implementation efforts.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.un.org/en/sc/1540/transparency-and-outreach/outreach-events/pdf/Croatia-Poland%202013%20Peer%20Review%20Report.pdf>

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