

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

<b>Event:</b>	Regional Workshop on Monitoring and Securing Movement of Goods and Individuals from Terrorist Threats
<b>Date and Location:</b>	6-8 June 2011, Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
<b>Organizers:</b>	League of Arab States
<b>Participants</b>	<i>States:</i> Officials primarily from ministries and departments of Interior, Customs, Justice and Foreign Affairs of Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Emirates. <i>Other entities and organizations:</i> Palestine; World Customs Organization (WCO), League of Arab States (LAS), Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS), UNODC/TPB, CTC/CTED expert, 1540 Committee Expert.

### 1. Objectives

- Deliver a presentation on experiences, guidelines and technologies used for transportation security from the point of view of resolution 1540, with a focus on bio-security.
- Continue bilateral consultations and dialogues with participating States regarding implementation of resolution 1540, including practices of interest and future implementation.
- Continue dialogue with the World Customs Organization on cooperation regarding its assistance and related programmes to assist States' implementation of resolution 1540.
- Explore roles of the LAS and GCC to facilitate implementation of resolution 1540 by their member States.

### 2. Background

This workshop provided an opportunity to continue addressing the implementation of resolution 1540 by member States of the League of Arab States (LAS), building on dialogues with officials at previous outreach activities in the region and their respective UN missions in New York. These outreach activities included a joint LAS and UNODC/TPB workshop, November 2008, Cairo; LAS Regional Workshop on "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction", 20-21 October 2009, Cairo; UNODC/TPB Arab regional States workshop on the three Security Council Resolutions, 28-30 June 2009, Abu Dhabi; (Arab) Regional seminar on resolution 1540, co-organized by the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR) and the Fondation pour la Recherche Strategique (FRS), 4-5 October 2009, Abu Dhabi, as well as more recent workshops focusing on GCC States at which resolution 1540 featured prominently, in Riyadh, December 2010, organized by the government of Saudi Arabia, and in Doha, May 2011, organized by the Government of Qatar and UNODC/TPB.

The League of Arab States has in place two resolutions of relevance to resolution 1540: resolution 788 (November 2009) adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice; and

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resolution 525 (March 2010) adopted by Council of the League at summit level. Both call for continued dialogue and enhanced cooperation with the 1540 Committee. Additionally, the League's Legal Advisor of the Secretary General made a presentation at the open meetings from 30 September-2 October 2009 of the 1540 Committee's comprehensive review on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004); and the LAS participated in the meeting of relevant international, regional, and sub-regional organizations on cooperation with the 1540 Committee, held in Vienna, December 2010.

### **3. Highlights**

Many presentations focused on the structures of national transportation systems and/or related terrorism and counter-terrorism issues in the region. Regarding resolution 1540 and related issues, the following are highlights of particular relevance:

- An Arab State provided a scientific/technical presentation on the composition of different radiological and nuclear sources and measures to protect people from adverse effects.
- The World Customs Organization (WCO) made a presentation on the Container Control Programme (CCP), conducted jointly with the UNODC, to enhance surveillance of ports to minimize maritime containers being used for illicit trafficking, including in future, of WMD-related materials. The CCP includes training that focuses on secure information exchange systems, nationally and internationally, and risk assessment processes to facilitate potential detection.
- The UNODC/TPB made presentations on the 16 universal counter-terrorism instruments (plus the 2010 Beijing Convention), and on the 2006 UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, various requirements of which are also relevant for implementation of resolution 1540.
- The 1540 Committee expert made a presentation on resolution 1540 (2004), including on resolution 1977 (2011), focusing especially on the biological aspects of transportation security. The latter included reference to prohibitions of transport and use of WMD in the maritime and air contexts with respect to relevant international instruments of the International Maritime Organization (regarding the 2005 Protocols to the SUA Convention and Protocol) and of the International Civil Aviation Organization (regarding the 2010 Beijing Convention), and border control and bio-security related measures of the International Health Regulations of the World Health Organization, and packaging guidelines for the transportation of sensitive biological items developed by the World Organisation for Animal Health.
- A representative from the U.S. Embassy, Riyadh, made a presentation on *The role of UNSCR 1540 in preventing nuclear terrorism: A Regional Approach – League of Arab States*.

### **4. Bilateral consultations**

The 1540 Committee expert met informally with various State delegations maintaining points of contact across-government, the communication between which as a practice contributes to implementation of resolution 1540. The expert also participated in a meeting at the headquarters of the GCC, following up on discussion from a previous outreach event regarding its role to facilitate implementation of resolution 1540. Additionally, discussion took place with the LAS on its proposed efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMD among its member States.

### **5. Additional comments**

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