

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

Event	International Training Course on Nuclear Security Culture
Organisers	Spain and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Date and Venue	29 February – 4 March 2016; Madrid, Spain
Participants	States: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States Organizations: 1540 Committee; International Atomic Energy Agency;  Others: Center for International Trade and Security, University of Georgia, USA.

### 1. Background

Spain and the IAEA co-hosted an International Training Course on Nuclear Security Culture from 29 February – 4 March 2016. It was held at the Spanish National Research Centre for Science and Technologies for the Environment, Industry and Energy (CIEMAT), Madrid, Spain.

The aim of the meeting was to raise awareness of nuclear security risks and how a nuclear security culture can counteract them; promote understanding of key elements underlying a strong nuclear security culture; familiarize Member States with tools available to achieve this, including through self-assessment; and share effective practices. Ideally, the meeting would contribute to the promotion among decision makers of the importance of ensuring that an appropriate “Nuclear Security Culture” is in place.

### 2. Overview

While there was no rigid separation, the meeting was roughly divided into sections that addressed (1) the IAEA’s formal structure of definition and achievement of an effective nuclear security culture; (2) the experiences of participants in initiating the process using the IAEA’s self-assessment questionnaire; and (3) the experiences of regulators and their interactions with licensees.

Presentations included a discussion on nuclear security performance characteristics with hypothetical cases (IAEA), IAEA’s draft technical guidance on nuclear security culture enhancement (IAEA); and IAEA nuclear security culture self-assessment methodology (Center for International Trade and Security).

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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 organisers or participants in the event.

Several participants described their experiences in applying the IAEA's methodology. Common threads running through these presentations were: the need for careful advance planning; the importance of small-group or individual discussions in addition to questionnaires; and the need to adapt the methodology to national cultures and circumstances.

Presentations were also made from the perspective of those with more experience, including from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; the German Ministry of the Environment, Climate Protection, and Energy Sector; a law enforcement officer from France; and plant operators from Indonesia and Bulgaria.

The 1540 Expert described for the group the background and rationale for adopting resolution 1540 (2004) and noted its continuing relevance. He also provided an overview of the obligations of resolution 1540 (2004) and described the way in which Member States obligations under other legal instruments, for example, the CWC, BWC and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear material, met or complemented obligations of the resolution. What was needed was a comprehensive approach that satisfied all of the obligations of the resolution.

### **3. Observations**

Adoption and enforcement of an effective and appropriate nuclear security culture is not a direct response to meeting the obligations of resolution 1540 (2004). However, it would help to support implementation of the elements of resolution 1540 (2004) that call for securing related materials, of greatest relevance in this case, nuclear material.

### **4. Further Information**

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

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