

Summary Report¹

- Event:** **Regional Workshop on the Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004) (14-17 June); bilateral consultations with officials from the Government of Croatia (18 June)**
- Date and Venue:** 14-17, 18 June 2010, Split, Croatia
- Organized by:** United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in cooperation with the Government of Croatia with funding by the European Union and the Governments of Norway and the United States
- Participants:** *Government officials* primarily from Customs Administrations and Ministries of Foreign Affairs, and Interior from: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey.
International Organizations: Caribbean Community (CARICOM), International Atomic Energy Agency, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Regional Cooperation Council, and World Customs Organization.
United Nations: UN CTC/Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTC/CTED), UNDP, UNICRI, UNODA, two 1540 Committee Members and two 1540 Committee experts.
Other participants: The Center for International Trade and Security/University of Georgia, Center for Transnational Crime Prevention, Henry L. Stimson Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency; Verification Research, Training and Information Centre.

1. Objectives

- Promote capacity-building on national and regional levels to advance full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular regarding border and export controls.
- Encourage experience sharing in related areas among the participating Member States identifying practices of interest that can facilitate implementation of the resolution.
- Explore future partnerships for specific technical assistance and enhance cooperation including among States and international organizations that might offer such assistance.
- Identify areas or processes of cooperation at the national level, such as inter-departmental bodies, that could facilitate implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).
- Conduct bilateral consultations with participating States, including updating points of contact, national and/or regional coordinators, on implementation of the resolution.

2. Background

¹ 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.

The workshop was organized to bring together representatives of Member States governmental authorities involved in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and, in particular, officials from export licensing national authorities and customs together with other law enforcement authorities responsible for border controls.

The workshop was hosted by the Republic of Croatia which was also an expression of the involvement and interest that former members of the Security Council continue to place in the implementation of the resolution not only at the national but also regional level to enhance cooperation with neighboring countries.

3. **Highlights**

Participating States presented their national mechanisms to monitor export, transit and transshipment of dual-use items, particularly of nuclear, chemical and biological materials, while also addressing trade facilitation, security risk assessment and detection capabilities. States discussed challenges and tried to identify ways to enhance national capacities for more effective export and border control, also through integrated border management. Most States' presentations showed national legislation as aligned with EU regulations in this area.

The workshop served as a forum for officials from various agencies involved in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) to work together and use communication channels across government departments that could contribute to implementation of the resolution. Several countries highlighted the importance of improved communication between export licensing authorities and customs administrations. Experience was shared on the value in setting up new or adapting existing inter-departmental entities, communications, or processes, whether formal or *ad hoc*, to implement resolution 1540 (2004) as well as address other national priorities.

Additionally, it was emphasized that consultation with the economic private sector can contribute to increase transparency, improve implementation and thus also increase compliance.

In the context of resolution 1810 (2008), international, regional and sub-regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations and professional bodies presented their programmes and expertise that can assist States in their efforts to fully implement resolution 1540 (2004).

In closing remarks, the Vice-Chairman of the 1540 Committee underlined, *inter alia*:

- the need to continue tailored dialogue with countries to facilitate development of implementation plans towards further implementation of the resolution;
- the clearing house role of the 1540 Committee to facilitate match-making between assistance requests and offers, or partnerships;
- the possibility for the European Union legislation and control lists to be a source for other countries which share the Mediterranean Sea.

4. **Bilateral consultations**

The workshop contained a planned section of bilateral discussions, not only between the participating States and 1540 Committee Members and experts but also between the participating States and the international organizations and sponsors. Extended bilateral discussions also took place with Croatian Government officials on 18 June, taking the opportunity of this workshop to have such tailored dialogue. Dialogue after the workshop included a post-workshop briefing hosted by UNODA for respective UN missions in New York.

5. **Additional comments**

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