

Information Note¹

- Event:** **Sub-regional Workshop on Counter-Terrorism, Legislative Initiatives and International Co-operation; and Pacific Island Forum (PIF) Working Group on Counter-Terrorism (WGCT)**
- Organizers:** Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) in coordination with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime/Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB) for the Sub-regional Workshop; and PIF in coordination with the Government of New Zealand for the WGCT meeting.
- Date and Venue:** 1-4 June 2009; Suva, Fiji
- Key Participants:** *Participating States:* Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Indonesia, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu.
International organizations and entities: Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference, Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), UNODC/TPB including legal expert based at PIFS Headquarters, UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) expert, UNSCR 1540 Committee expert.

1. Objectives

- Dialogue with States on their next steps to implement resolution 1540 (2004);
- Promote universal adoption of the main WMD multilateral treaties by participating States and encourage them to consider accession to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC);
- Identify areas for assistance and capacity building in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- Explore synergies and areas of cooperation between UNODC, CTC/CTED, and the 1540 Committee experts that might reduce duplication and streamline implementation of requirements of the relevant UNSC resolutions by participating States.

2. Background

These two events preceded the PIFS annual Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) Meeting all held consecutively, primarily to facilitate travel logistics of participants from across the Pacific and from outside the region. The various meetings were attended by senior officials including from ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, and offices of Attorney Generals/Public Prosecutors, from PIF Member States.

3. Highlights

The event focused on the legislative requirements of the sixteen international conventions and protocols on counter-terrorism and their provisions associated with mutual legal assistance and extradition.

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.

Participating States were also briefed on the mandates of the various UN Security resolutions, including resolution 1540 (2004), and their implementation requirements.

In light of capacity issues, the 1540 Committee expert shared experiences of integrating the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004) in existing legislative initiatives or drafts, sharing an example of adopted legislative text from a country in the region that incorporated OP2 prohibitions of resolution 1540 (2004) in legislation that was also relevant to the mandate of UNODC/TPB.

4. Bilateral consultations

The 1540 Committee expert conducted dialogues with each delegation to discuss their national 1540 Committee matrix, assistance and tools for capacity-building.

5. Additional comments

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