

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

<b>Event</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> Asian Export Control Seminar
<b>Organiser</b>	<i>Center for Information on Security Trade Control (CISTEC) under the auspices of the Government of Japan (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)</i>
<b>Date and Venue</b>	26-28 February 2013, Tokyo, Japan
<b>Participants</b>	<p><i>States:</i> Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States, Viet Nam</p> <p><i>Special Administrative Regions:</i> Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China</p> <p><i>Organisations:</i> Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, Australia Group (AG), European Union (Joint Research Centre), Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), World Customs Organisation (WCO), UNSCR 1540 Committee Group of Experts, UNSCR 1718 Committee Panel of Experts, UNSCR 1737 Committee Panel of Experts</p> <p><i>Others:</i> Center for Information on Strategic Trade Control (CISTEC), Center for International Trade &amp; Security at the University of Georgia (CITS), Chinese Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), King's College, Korea Strategic Trade Institute (KOSTI), State University of New York (SUNY), Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Takushoku University, Waseda University</p> <p><i>Private Sector:</i> Toshiba, and a number of observers from the Japanese business community</p>

### 1. Conference Objectives

- Provide a forum for speakers from different regions to share their national or regional experiences in implementing effective export control practices.
- Promote regional cooperation and expert level contacts

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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.

## **2. Background**

The Asian Export Control Seminar has been held annually since 1993 and is organised by CISTEC (a non-profit and non-governmental organisation that supports Japanese companies in export control related matters), jointly with the Japanese Government (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Over the last 20 years, this conference series has become an important forum for discussion on WMD-proliferation trends as well as on new developments and challenges in particular with regard to implementing effective non-proliferation export controls in the region and beyond.

The conference attracts the largest number of expert-level export control officials of any event in the region.

## **3. Highlights**

This year marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this important conference, which also was the largest ever, with more than 120 participants from more than 20 countries, a large number of international organizations (including all four major export control arrangements), academia and the private sector.

The seminar featured different themes, including:

- “Current World Situation”, which provided an overview about current global developments in the area of export controls, including with regard to UNSCR 1540 (2004),
- “Export Controls: Countries’ Actions to Export Controls” with a focus on (1) national experiences in implementing national legislation, (2) collaboration with industry and (3) inter-agency cooperation and coordination. These three topics and corresponding challenges and options were also discussed in more interactive breakout groups.
- “Strengthening Non-Proliferation in the Asian Region” with presentations of different sanctions regimes, the approaches of the FATF towards proliferation financing, and overviews about the ASEAN and WCO non-proliferation activities.

As in previous years, the seminar provided an excellent opportunity to discuss current export control related developments, in particular in the Asian-pacific region. With a view to compliance with UNSCR 1540 (2004), a number of States are currently updating their export control or strategic trade control systems. These States are eager to share their practices and innovative approaches as well as their experiences in implementing new legislation. While UNSCR 1540 (2004), but even more so the economic benefits of establishing effective strategic trade systems, were a central and recurrent theme during this year’s seminar, it became apparent, that participants no longer question *why* they should establish these controls. Instead, the seminar clearly focused on the question of *how* this could be best achieved.

All presentations have been published on the seminar’s website: [http://www.simul-conf.com/outreach/2012/asian\\_ec/index.html](http://www.simul-conf.com/outreach/2012/asian_ec/index.html)

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