

Information Note¹

Event: *International Workshop on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education and Capacity Building*

Organizers: Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Nonproliferation Education (VCDNP) with the support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom and the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria

Date and venue: 14-15 November, 2013, Vienna, Austria

Participants: *States:* Austria, Japan, Norway, Sweden, UK

International organizations: 1540 Committee Group of Experts (by video); Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS); European Union/ EU Non-Proliferation Consortium; International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC); OPCW; Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO); United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR); United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI); United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

Non-Governmental Organizations, Industry, Academia, and Other Entities: Bradford Disarmament Research Centre (UK); Center for International Trade and Security, University of Georgia (CITS) (US); Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies (CNS) (US); Centre for Science and Security Studies, King's College London (UK); Georgia Tech University (US); Institute for Security Studies (ISS) (South Africa); Landau Network - Centro Volta (Italy); Leiden University (Netherlands); National Academies of Sciences (NAS) (US); NPSGlobal (Argentina); South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) (Pakistan); Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) (Sweden); VCDNP (Austria); World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) (Austria).

1. **Objectives of the workshop**

The *International Workshop on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education and Capacity Building* aimed to bring together practitioners in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education, particularly from international organizations, as well as experts from selected leading academic centers and professional networks, to share experiences and best practices (including with regard to specific tools and methods), explore potential collaboration and synergies between international organizations and other key stakeholders in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation education and training, awareness-raising, as well as outreach to scientific communities.

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.

2. **Background**

The report of the UN Secretary-General (A/57/124), “*United Nations Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education*”, noted that the objectives of contemporary disarmament and non-proliferation education and training are inter alia: “to learn how to think rather than what to think about issues; to develop critical thinking skills in an informed citizenry; to convey relevant information on and to foster a responsive attitude to current and future security challenges ...; and to bridge political, regional and technological divides by bringing together ideas, concepts, people, groups and institutions to promote concerted international efforts towards disarmament, non-proliferation and a peaceful and nonviolent world....

The report also noted that “Education and training remain important but underutilized tools for promoting peace, disarmament and non-proliferation... If it is to retain its relevance to the security requirements of peoples and States, disarmament and nonproliferation education and training must not be viewed in a vacuum but rather integrated into that broad perspective. A global disarmament and non-proliferation culture cannot be accomplished easily or quickly. A sustained effort is required to build communities of disarmament and non-proliferation specialists and concerned individuals. Member States, international organizations, academics and NGOs are essential actors in this long-term effort.”

The five biennial reports of the UN Secretary-General to the General Assembly (pursuant to resolution 65/77) continue to emphasize the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education and training, awareness-raising, as well as outreach to scientific communities

(<http://www.un.org/disarmament/education/2002UNStudy>).

While neither “outreach”, “education”, nor “training” are not mentioned in resolution 1540 (2004), through resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council called upon all States “to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry and the public regarding their obligations under [such] laws...” and through subsequent resolution 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011) the Security Council decided that the 1540 committee should undertake and intensify its own outreach activities. While not specifically mentioned in resolution 1540 (2004) or subsequent resolutions, “education” and “training” may be considered part of the national implementation measures, at each State’s discretion. “Education” and “training” may alternatively be considered part of a complementary, voluntary package to strengthen and reinforce the specific measures mandated by resolution 1540 (2004). Of note, out of the 14 national reports received by the 1540 Committee in 2013 (up to 04 November 2013), seven detailed awareness-raising, outreach and training activities.

In response to the many challenges to improving disarmament and non-proliferation education and training discussed at the workshop, participants offered several recommendations, related to:

- Improving and increasing contacts and communication among relevant organizations, including international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and academia;
- Increasing project cooperation to maximize efficiencies, decreasing duplication of efforts, and avoiding gaps; and
- Raising the profile of disarmament and non-proliferation education.

The workshop report will be posted on the VCDNP website at: <http://www.vcdnp.org>

3. **Highlights of select presentations**

The workshop featured H.E. Lassina Zerbo, Executive Secretary, CTBTO, as the keynote speaker. Introductory remarks were provided by Ms. Elena Sokova, Executive Director, VCDNP; Mr. Attila Zimonyi, Director of Strategy and Policy, OPCW; and Mr. Cornel Feruta, Chief Coordinator, DGOC, IAEA.

The workshop was topically structured in sessions addressing:

- Educational and Training Programs (sub-topics: Policy and science nexus and balance; Preparing for today's activities and foreseeing future needs; On-the-job training programs and opportunities; Preparing specialists for IGOs and for national and regional needs);
- Outreach and Training Programs (sub-topics: Different target audiences for outreach programs and relevant formats for engagement (from high school, to college students, to general public, to diplomats, politicians and parliamentarians); In-house training vs. specialized training organizations (centers of excellence and similar) vs. professional development programs; ; Outreach vs. academic and training programs; Academic and professional training programs: linkages, opportunities, differences);
- Development of outreach, educational and training materials (sub-topics: Curriculum development; Delivery modes, formats, methodology; On-line resources, development, delivery, technology; Language and other considerations);
- Audiences, Partners, and Networks (Understanding your audience; Targeting relevant audiences; Working with academia, think tanks, and NGOs; Networks and their roles (INSEN, centers of excellence, consortia); Industry and other partners (professional associations, private donors); CBRN security, nonproliferation, arms control culture);
- Sustainability and Collaboration (Achieving sustainability of disarmament, nonproliferation and security educational and training activities; incorporation into regular curriculum; funding issues; The role of the media; Further communication and sharing of expertise, best practices, and resources among IGOs, academia, and other stakeholders; Opportunities for future collaboration)

The presentation on “Education, Outreach and Training for IAEA Safeguards” emphasizing the IAEA approach of recruiting candidates with potential and building capacities upon identified potential through an organized training path and a career management strategy that meets both the individual's expectations and the IAEA's needs. Training for safeguards implementation involves about 90- 100 courses /year for a total of about 5000 person-days/year as conducted by Safeguards Staff (75%) and Member States 25%. With regard to the IAEA approach to global education and training on safeguards, the presented noted that such activities involve three levels:

Technical/Working level (Collecting/Processing/Reporting information); Managerial level (Organization, Allotment of resources, Regulations, Control); Policy makers (Reference and Objective, Law, Resources, Vision). The speaker also emphasized that the changing nature of global security affects safeguards and non-proliferation therefore a "single culture" approach will not be effective. There is a need for flexibility and understanding complexity while respecting a clear legal framework and maintaining existing competencies (e.g. nuclear material accountancy).

A presentation by CTBTO (PrepCom), External Relations and International Cooperation Section, highlighted the outreach and education activities of the CTBTO, including their “solid investment in the future of the Treaty by raising awareness of the CTBT and its associated security, civil and scientific benefits”. The CTBTO PrepCom's Capacity Development Initiative 2010-2013 included three main components: Live lecture courses (location irrespective; 6 courses so far plus annual UN Disarmament Fellows Seminar); E-learning (live-streaming, video archives, quizzes, peer-assessed assignment; courses can be taken via live-streaming or through tailored courses for partner institutions); and Partnerships (promotion of CTBT education beyond the live lecture courses; outreach to universities (events held in June 2012 and March 2013) . Simulations are also used, with real technical and political scenarios applied in controlled environments. Six simulation exercises have been conducted since 2010 which combined technical expertise with diplomatic skills. Scenarios include OSI point of entry negotiations and Executive Council deliberations on OSI request. Online participants supported in-person participants through built-in collaboration tools on the E-Learning Platform. CTBTO PrepCom also developed four new interactive modules in-house, using

Adobe Captivate E-Learning Authoring Software for CTBT Diplomacy and Public Policy Course including: The CTBT, NPT and History of Nuclear Testing; The International Monitoring System (IMS); The International Data Centre (IDC); Civil and Scientific Applications of the Verification Regime.

The presentation from Bradford Disarmament Research Centre, University of Bradford (UK) called “Towards Biosecurity Competence: What Needs to Be Done?” emphasized an integrated model approach to education informed by the nuclear security education experience but holistically comprising nuclear/chemical/bio security education) which is to be developed with the goal of sustainability (development of educational material followed by training trainers and supporting alumni in promoting education activities) while utilizing cutting-edge pedagogy (i.e. expert-level scenarios based on real-life cases; group presentations; team-based learning at undergraduate and post-graduate level). To undertake such a model approach to biosecurity education and training, the presenter emphasized there is a need for State-level leadership, commitment and support; international coordination and consolidation of effort among various stakeholders; improved mechanisms for channeling resources, monitoring progress and evaluating effectiveness/results; support for the establishment and maintenance of networks for sharing of expertise, lessons learned and best practices; setting objectives and defining milestones; provision of financial support; and strategic planning.

The Bradford Disarmament Research Centre along with the National Defence Medical College in Japan and the Landau Network Centro Volta in Italy have developed an Educational Module Resources (EMR) designed to support life scientists and educators in learning about biosecurity and dual-use issues but also in building educational material for teaching of students (available online in several languages at: <http://www.brad.ac.uk/bioethics/educationalmoduleresource>). As a recent development, the English version of the EMR includes Lecture 20a on the “United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540”, the first such educational module available online. (http://www.brad.ac.uk/bioethics/media/assis/bioethics/emr/englishemr/Lecture_No_20a_UNSCR-1540_DRAFT.pdf).

The 1540 expert delivered a presentation by video on “*United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540: Outreach, Education, and Training*”, emphasizing that promoting concerted outreach, education and training activities in the areas covered by resolution 1540 will strengthen international non-proliferation efforts and enhance capacity-building. She addressed outreach, education and training by focusing on the “why, what, who, where, when” of these areas and shared personal opinions on why collaborations and synergies between international organizations and other key stakeholders in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation outreach, are important in the context of resolution 1540 (2004) implementation.

The video presentation is available online at:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B5y3f4J7qPBIU2N2ZDNZTXJJVHM/edit?usp=sharing&pli=1>

4. **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee’s Group of Experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org