

Information Note¹

- Event:** Brainstorming Session on the Implementation of Hybrid Control Lists in the Context of resolution 1540 (2004)
- Organizer:** Government of the Republic of South Africa in cooperation with the Government of the United States of America (US)
- Venue and Date:** Washington, D.C., US, 22-23 May 2013
- Participants:** South Africa, US, 1540 Committee experts

1. Objectives of the meeting

To analyze the challenges being faced, especially by developing States, in the implementation of export control lists, and to exchange views on how best to further facilitate the full implementation of resolution 1540 in the context of the implementation of national control lists.

2. Background

At the successful *Workshop for African States on the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)*, held from 21-22 November 2012 in Pretoria, South Africa, a presentation was made by a representative of the Secretariat of the South African Council for the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction on their experience in the implementation of control lists in the context of resolution 1540 (2004). In this presentation proposals were made on how countries with relative small industrial activities could be assisted to develop national export controls lists adapted to their specific needs. Resolution 1540 (2004) in its operative paragraph 6 “recognized the utility in implementing this resolution of effective national control lists and calls upon all Member States, when necessary, to pursue at the earliest opportunity the development of such lists”. Information from the 2009 Comprehensive Review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) indicated, for example, that 118 States took no measures regarding national control lists for export control measures of nuclear weapons related materials. The brainstorming session brought together export controls practitioners from South Africa and the US as well as 1540 experts supporting the work of the 1540 Committee, to analyze the issue of export control lists as highlighted by the above-mentioned presentation.

3. Highlights of discussions

The session highlighted the difficulties of managing export controls, especially the adoption and implementation of national control lists, and the need for a licensing/national authority to implement such control lists. Options on adopting a hybrid control list, including challenges to correlate the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS), as developed and managed by the World Customs Organization (WCO), with an export control list, were analyzed. The role of customs officers was discussed, including the need for obtaining the political and legal authority to deal with issues emanating from national control lists, including training. The utility of establishing a regional structure to provide technical analytical assistance in the implementation of national control lists was also discussed.

4. Additional comments

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

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.