

Information Note¹

- Event:** Visit to Togo, at the request of its Government, to assist with the drafting of a voluntary National Implementation Action Plan
- Organizer:** Government of Togo in cooperation with the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC)
- Date and venue:** 15-16 June 2015, Lomé, Togo
- Participants:** Government of Togo, 1540 Committee Experts, UNREC

1. Objectives for the participation of 1540 Committee Experts

The objectives of the participation of the 1540 Committee Experts in the meeting included supporting Togo's drafting of its voluntary National Implementation Action Plan, raising awareness of resolution 1540 (2004) among relevant national stakeholders, analysing the implementation of the resolution in Togo, and to facilitate a gap analysis and follow-up on its assistance requests.

2. Background

Resolution 1977 (2011) encourages the 1540 Committee, with the support of necessary relevant expertise, to actively engage in dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation. Also, the resolution encourages all States to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans (NAP), with the assistance of the 1540 Committee as appropriate. Since the adoption of resolution 1977 (2011), the 1540 Group of Experts have interacted with States to assist them with the drafting of such plans, including Montenegro, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Niger.

Through a *Note Verbale* from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Togo, to the Chair of the Committee, dated 22 April 2015, a formal request was made to the Committee to assist Togo to develop a NAP. On behalf of the Committee the Chair responded positively in a letter, dated 12 May 2015, to this request.

3. Highlights and discussions

The meeting was moderated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, whilst the 1540 Committee Experts acted as facilitators of the discussions and the drafting of the NAP.

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.

Besides drafting a NAP, the objectives of the workshop included informing the national stakeholders of the 1540 obligations, conducting a dialogue on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) that included an analysis of Togo's 1540 matrix, and, where possible, updating the information in this matrix and discussing follow-up to the 1540 assistance offered to Togo.

National governmental stakeholders included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Office of Prime Minister, Joint Chief of Staff, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economics and Finances, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, Ministry of Environment, Financial Intelligence Unit, National Commission on Small and Light Weapons, and Medical and Chemical Colleges of the University of Lomé.

The Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ms Abra Afetcheté, made an opening statement, wherein she referred to the challenges of Togo's implementation efforts, including porous borders, absence of comprehensive legislation on terrorism, and human and technical capacity needs. She also referred to the NAP as a crucial element for national implementation of the resolution that is indicative of Togo's commitment to its full implementation.

The 1540 Committee Experts made the following presentations:

- Briefing on 1540 obligations
- Analysis of the 1540 matrix of Togo
- Overview of 1540 voluntary National Implementation Action Plans

An in-depth analysis was undertaken of Togo's 1540 matrix which informed the identification of actions Malawi wish to consider in the next five years to enhance its implementation of the resolution.

The draft NAP identifies a number of actions to be undertaken in the period up to 2022 in terms of identified priority areas in operative paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 7 of resolution 1540 (2004).

4. **Additional Comments**

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