Opening Remarks by Deputy Director General Li Yang at the Training for the 1540 Points of Contact in the Asia and Pacific Region

(Qingdao, 7 September 2015)

H.E. Ambassador Román Oyarzun Marchesi, H.E. Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi, distinguished Mr. Franz Kolar, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, to welcome you to the Training for the 1540 Points of Contact in the Asia and Pacific Region co-hosted by the Chinese Foreign Ministry and the 1540 Committee. The UNSCR 1540 is a milestone of the important efforts towards non-proliferation issue made by the international community. I hope participants will make full use of the Training to enhance exchanges and broaden consensus, and seek together for approaches to cooperation and solutions for challenge under the the Resolution framework.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the United Nations for its efforts to the Training. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War and the founding of the UN. The significant point of the history arouses us the aspiration and persistence for peace. The UN makes great contribution to safeguard global peace and promote common development. China always highly values its cooperation with the UN and upholds the UN in playing its due role in

international affairs including non-proliferation. It is the first time for the 1540 Committee to co-host a training with a member state. I believe it will help to promote the implementation of the Resolution in a comprehensive, balanced and effective way.

Distinguished Guests,

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery severely threatens the global strategic security and international and regional stability. In the context of globalization, interexchange and interconnection on personnel, commodity, technology and capital become increasingly close. Accordingly, the international non-proliferation situation is more and more challenging. New proliferation practices and methods emerge endlessly, the proliferation activities of non-state actors gain momentum, and some non-proliferation hot-spots remain unresolved. Historical grievance, territorial disputes, national conflicts and security concerns make the settlement of non-proliferation issue more complicated and arduous.

Properly tackling challenges in the non-proliferation field and promoting the international non-proliferation process is in the common interests of the international community and therefore the shared responsibility of all states. To this end, we should underscore the following four aspects:

First, universal security is the fundamental goal of promoting the international non-proliferation process. Conflict and unrest are the breeding ground for the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. We should foster a new concept of security featuring mutual

trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination. We should respect and accommodate each state's security concerns, develop country-to-country relations based on mutual understanding and trust, and build a peaceful and stable international environment. Through universal security the proliferation threat can be eradicated at root.

Second, balance and fairness is the basic principle of promoting the international non-proliferation process. Balance is the approach to guarantee each state's right of peaceful use, and fairness is the soul of the legitimacy of the international non-proliferation mechanism. We should not only strike proliferation activities but also ensure each state's peaceful use of scientific development benefits. We should maintain the validity and authority of the international non-proliferation system in accordance with fairness, discarding unilateralism, double standard and discriminatory practice.

Third, full use of multilateral mechanism's pivotal role is the important driving force for promoting the international non-proliferation process. The multilateral mechanism is a platform needed to coordinate all state's non-proliferation efforts and establish global non-proliferation network. We should give full play to the pivotal role of existing multilateral mechanism such as the UN, NSG and OPCW, and reinforce and improve current international non-proliferation system based on universal participation and democratic consultation of all states.

Forth, enhancing dialogue and cooperation is the best way for promoting the international non-proliferation process. Confrontation and pressure can only aggravate contradiction and broaden estrangement. We should seek for solution to dispute and misunderstanding through dialogue, and increase understanding and mutual trust through cooperation, which would improve global non-proliferation coordination. The comprehensive agreement reached by P5+1 and Iran sets a good example of resolving non-proliferation issue by dialogue and cooperation to the international community.

Distinguished guests,

China firmly opposes to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, and strictly implements its non-proliferation obligation. China also actively participate in international non-proliferation cooperation, and attach high importance to the role of the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts. China is willing to make more contribution to promoting international non-proliferation process and safeguarding world peace and security together with the international community.

In closing, I wish the training a complete success.

Thank you!