

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

- Event:** National Roundtable Meeting on the Implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)
- Organizer:** Government of Solomon Islands with the support of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament (UNRCPD) and financial support of the Government of Japan
- Date and Venue:** 29-30 October 2019, Honiara, Solomon Islands

### Background

- UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) requires States to refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. All States are obliged to adopt and enforce appropriate and effective laws prohibiting such activities by non-State actors on their territories. States must also take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of these weapons and their means of delivery and establish controls over related material.
- Resolution 1540 (2004) also calls upon States to submit a first report on the steps they have taken, or intend to take, to implement the resolution. In resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council once again called upon all non-reporting States to submit their first national report without delay. To date, 10 Member States have yet to submit their first national report, including Solomon Islands.
- In a letter dated 24 September 2019, Ms. Fiona Indu, Head of UN & Americas Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade invited Experts from the 1540 Committee's Group of Experts to a workshop dedicated to helping officials draft Solomon Islands' first national report. Dates for this workshop have been confirmed for 29-30 September 2019.

### Overview

The programme was opened by Ambassador Collin Beck, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade (MFAET). Ambassador Beck, noting that resolution 1540 (2004), as a Chapter VII resolution, imposed binding obligations on UN Member States, emphasised its Government's utmost support towards international initiatives to reduce the threat

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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.

posed by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, and stated his Government's continued contribution to ensure that the Pacific region is free from such threats.

The 1540 Experts made introductory presentations on the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), the role of the 1540 Committee, 1540 country matrices, and the 2016 Comprehensive Review. A representative of UNODA also made a presentation providing an overview of the non-proliferation regimes and links between resolution 1540 and other non-proliferation instruments as well as on available assistance mechanisms.

The discussions following these presentations focused on the draft first report prepared by the Solomon Islands MFAET. The draft report was at the final stage of drafting and had been circulated among the relevant government agencies. Comments had been received. The discussion was thus mainly focused on find missing elements and finalising the wording of the report.

Following a thorough discussion on the draft first report, and during the last session of the workshop, a 1540 Expert presented on the tools available to the Committee to promote full implementation of the resolution including voluntary national implementation action plans, the assistance mechanism and sharing of effective practices.

### **Additional Comments**

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