

## **Opening Remarks at the Workshop on Validation of the National Action Plan and Update Report on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)**

Abuja, Nigeria, 7-8 April 2025

Excellencies, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I would like to thank the Federal Republic of Nigeria for inviting the 1540 Committee to participate in this workshop, which is a follow-up event of the successful national workshop held in October 2023, with the main goal to promoting the implementation of resolution 1540.

As a vital component of the global non-proliferation regime, resolution 1540 obliges Member States to refrain from supporting by any means non-State actors from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. In November 2022, the Security Council unanimously approved resolution 2663 (2022), which extended the mandate of the Committee until 30th November 2032. In that resolution, the Security Council reiterates the requirements of resolution 1540 and re-emphasizes the importance for all Member States to implement fully that resolution.

One of the steps that Member States can take to focus implementation on their key obligations under the resolution is to prepare a voluntary national implementation action plan, to identify any gaps, foster cooperation between national stakeholders, map out their national priorities and implementation requirements.

Although implementation of the resolution is the responsibility of Member States, the resolution also recognizes that some States may require assistance in implementing the resolution and requires the 1540 Committee to continue to strengthen its role in facilitating technical assistance for such effort. It is our sincere hope that this workshop will contribute towards this aim, not only in finalising

Nigeria's draft national implementation action plan, but also in terms of offers to provide the assistance, in accordance with Nigeria's requirements and national priorities.

Full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 remains a long-term and continuing task. It is commendable that the Nigeria authority has already taken actions to strengthen the implementation of the resolution and for the progress made in preparing a draft of an updated national report as well as the national implementation action plan.

On behalf of the 1540 Committee, please be assured of its commitment to support Nigeria's efforts to implement resolution 1540.

I wish you a productive workshop.

Thank you!

## **Closing Remarks at the Workshop on Validation of the National Action Plan and Update Report on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)**

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Excellencies, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), congratulations to all of you for what you have achieved during the workshop. The dedication and active engagement of all the participants in the workshop was impressive.

By unanimously adopting resolution 1540 in 2004, the Security Council addressed the threat posed to international peace and security by non-State actors acquiring, developing, transferring, or using nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes. There is no doubt that the proliferation of these weapons to non-State actors could have catastrophic humanitarian, economic and political consequences, which is why resolution 1540 calls for states to not allow the unregulated transfer of related items and know-how. Whereas full implementation of the resolution does not hamper international cooperation with the trade in materials, equipment and technology destined for peaceful purposes.

Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is a global challenge that concerns all Member States, as all States possess or have access to dual-use related materials, equipment and technologies, therefore every single State has an important role to play in this global effort. This is what makes every State's national performance so crucial for achieving the goals set out in resolution 1540.

Your commitments and their transposition into national legislation, norms and practice, is what makes a genuine difference to your country, to the region and the world's peace and security. You are encouraged to submit your updated national report and national implementation action plan to the 1540 Committee in due course.

I am honoured to have participated in this workshop. Finally, I would like to thank again Nigeria for its invitation to the Committee and the engagement of all participants, the Republic of Korea and EU for supporting this event, and UNODA/Einas for organizing this successful workshop.

Thank you.