

Information Note¹

Event:	Second meeting of the Border Monitoring Working Group (BMWG) of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)
Date and Location:	15-16 February 2012, World Customs Organization (WCO) Headquarters, Brussels, Belgium
Organisers:	Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) and WCO (CTITF BMWG Chairs)
Participants:	Representatives from entities involved with the CTITF BMWG: CTITF Office, CTED, International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (as observer), UNICRI, UNODC, WCO, 1540 Committee Expert.

1. Objectives for 1540 participation

- Finalize the compendium of useful measures that the BMWG has compiled from its member entities, including the 1540 Committee experts, since the first meeting of the BMWG in January 2011.
- To contribute to the discussion in developing the next phase of the BMWG's work programme regarding conceptual frameworks on border management systems. This would include identifying areas of common interest in the BMWG related to the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials to terrorists or traffickers, to ensure that the BMWG efforts are complementary and not duplicative to those of the 1540 Committee on border management and assistance issues.
- Continue to identify current and emerging technologies, training materials and best practices to address border management issues related to resolution 1540.
- Update points of contact and cooperation between the 1540 Committee experts and WCO in line with further develop cooperation between the 1540 Committee/experts and the WCO (a co-chair of the BMWG), regarding border management standards and practices related to preventing illicit trafficking in materials related to resolution 1540, and on assistance issues
- Dialogue with representatives of the WCO-UNODC Container Control Program regarding a potential briefing during a forthcoming visit to New York.

2. Background

The mandate of the CTITF BMWG is drawn from pillars II (on measures to prevent terrorism) and III (on capacity building) of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Launched at the July 2010 CTITF annual retreat, the BMWG includes the 1540 Committee Experts among its core entities as WMD-related border management issues is a theme to be addressed by the working group. The BMWG also has an interest in preventing unnecessary overlap in funding of measures to build border management capacity.

The activities of the BMWG overall were developed to have the following key outputs:

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- A comprehensive compendium of international conventions, protocols, standards and recommended practices on border management related to counter-terrorism;
- Models for coordinated border management infrastructure; and,
- A number of regional workshops involving BMWG entities and Member States' border control agencies to promote the implementation of the recommended border management models and to share good practices (including those in the compendium).

The Working Group is led on substantive matters by co-Chair members CTED, INTERPOL and WCO; and is comprised additionally of ICAO, IMO, IOM, ODA, OHCHR, OPCW, UNHCR (as observer), UNICRI, UNODC, the Monitoring Team of the "1267 Committee", the Expert Group of the "1540 Committee" and the CTITF Office. The Working Group's activities are organised and supported by the CTITF Office, under the guidance of the Office's mandate to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system.

3. Highlights

Compendium. In line with the activities of the BMWG outlined above, participants in this second meeting of the BMWG reviewed inputs from the working group's entities to the electronic database from which the compendium is to be derived. It was envisaged that the main texts be finalized in spring 2012.

The database has reference categories in areas which for complementarity of resolution 1540 include on movement and processing of goods; control of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials; and movement of cash and other bearer negotiable instruments.

The Working Group also agreed to seek additional border-management references from regional and subregional organizations request a number of Member States to provide information about instruments, standards, recommendations and practices developed to address the challenges posed by open borders.

Coordinated Border Management "Framework". This meeting of the BMWG also discussed the possibility of development of a Coordinated Border Management "Framework" that might be derived from existing normative and recommended border control frameworks. Such a framework could facilitate identification of technical assistance needs of Member States which may seek to introduce coordinated border management systems and practices and to provide guidance on ways to address those needs.

4. Bilateral consultations

The meeting also provided an opportunity for the 1540 Committee expert to dialogue with the working point of contact in the WCO on resolution 1540 issues, and his colleagues supporting work on the Harmonized System (HS) on possible opportunities and challenges of the HS establishing codes for detecting trade of dual-use items such as chemicals under the Chemical Weapons Convention (eg. www.wcoomd.org/home_hsoverviewboxes_tools_and_instruments_hsrecommendation.htm).

5. Additional comments

Information about the meeting is featured in the CTITF Newsletter *The Beam* (Volume 5, January-May 2012) at www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/thebeam.shtml.

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