

Information Note¹

- Event:** Regional Workshop on the Cooperation between Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations in implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions
- Date and Location:** 20-21 February 2012, Cairo, Egypt
- Organizers:** League of Arab States (LAS) with the support of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime/Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB)
- Participants:** *Participating Arab League Members:* Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
Other: European Union (EU).
International organizations and other entities: African Union (AU), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), UNODC/TPB, 1267 Monitoring Team, CTED, and 1540 Committee expert.

1. Objectives of 1540 participation

- Deliver a presentation on the role of regional and sub-regional organizations in promoting UNSCR 1540, including as forums for sharing experiences and lessons learned on implementing resolution 1540 by member States of the LAS;
- Continue bilateral consultations and dialogues with participating States regarding implementation of resolution 1540, including practices of interest they might share in accordance with resolution 1977;
- Explore opportunity to enhance further cooperation between the 1540 Committee and experts with the participating international, regional and sub-regional organizations to facilitate further implementation of resolution 1540.
- Identify the status of proposed LAS efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMD within its member States, and explore further cooperation between the 1540 Committee/experts with the LAS on their further developing the programme with regard to facilitating implementation of resolution 1540 by its member States;
- Identify relevant assistance and related programmes of the AU and EU contributing to implementation of resolution 1540 among LAS member States;
- Identify linkages and networks not only between the 1540 Committee/experts and the participating organizations, but also among the organizations to note complementarities and minimize duplication.

2. Background

This workshop provided an opportunity for the 1540 Committee experts to continue cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations in the region to facilitate their member States' implementation of resolution 1540. In the context of the workshop theme, this was conducted

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alongside, *inter alia*, UNSC resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the more than 16 universal counter-terrorism conventions, several of which complement resolution 1540 requirements, which UNODC/TPB is mandated to provide legislative and related enforcement assistance. The workshop also enabled dialogue with several member States of the LAS, following dialogues with officials at previous outreach activities in the region and their respective UN missions and other meetings in New York.

3. Highlights

The presentations of the workshop focused on the role that various international, regional and sub-regional organizations could contribute to their respective States' implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions, including resolution 1540. Representatives of the LAS, UNODC/TPB and the expert groups to the three Security Council resolutions made presentations on their respective mandates, requirements of the conventions (UNODC/TPB) or respective resolutions, and the role that international, regional and sub-regional organizations can play to facilitate these international instruments. Some State participants commented that due to changing circumstances in many Arab countries over the past year, there has not been an opportunity for LAS members to discuss and decide upon previous proposals complementary to implementation of resolution 1540.

The different regional organizations or entities made presentations and with whom further cooperation can be developed with the 1540 Committee. The participants also agreed a "Report and Recommendations of the Regional Workshop on Cooperation between Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations in Implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the UN Security Council Resolutions".

4. Bilateral consultations

In addition to bilateral consultations with organizations at the workshop, the 1540 Committee expert conducted individual country dialogues which included discussion of their 1540 matrix.

5. Additional comment

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