

**Joint Briefing by the Chairmen of the Security Council Committees  
established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004)**

**Briefing by Ambassador Jorge Urbina  
Chairman of the Security Council Committee established  
pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)  
6 May 2008**

1. This briefing covers the six month-period since the last joint briefing to the Security Council held on 14 November 2007. It summarizes the activities leading to the adoption of Security Council resolution 1810 (2008) on continued implementation of the provisions of resolutions 1540 (2004) and 1673 (2006).

**Reporting on the implementation of Resolution 1540**

2. Resolution 1673 had called upon States that had not yet reported to do so without delay and also encouraged all previously reporting States to submit additional information on progress made to implement resolution 1540.

3. Six months before the deadline for submitting its biennial report to the Security Council, the Committee decided to make a special effort to encourage States to meet the reporting requirements. By mid-November 2007, the matrices of all Member States, based on previously submitted information or, in the case of non-reporting States, compiled from official websites of governments and international organizations, were sent to all Member States for them to check for accuracy and to provide a first report or additional information on relevant measures taken or planned to be taken.

4. As of 27 April 2008, more than half of the Member States have responded to the Committee's request for more information, bringing the number of States that have submitted at least one report since 2004 to over 150. Within this group, the number of States submitting additional information at least once has now reached 100.

5. The Committee takes this opportunity to thank all States that have responded promptly and to encourage the remaining States that have not yet reported to do so as soon as possible.

**Outreach activities**

6. The Committee has continued to rely on outreach activities to promote full implementation of resolution 1540. Since mid-November 2007, the Chairman or some members of the Committee, officially representing the Committee, and its experts participated in eleven outreach conferences, seminars and workshops. The purpose of such participation ranged from raising awareness about the requirements to achieve full implementation of the resolution and encouraging States to submit reports on the status of

their implementation efforts to sharing experiences and lessons learned and engaging in a dialogue with participating officials from governments and organizations particularly interested in the work of the Committee.

7. The Committee has been engaged in three types of outreach activities:
  - (a) UNODA workshops on the implementation of resolution 1540: A workshop on the reporting requirements and assistance needs was organized in Botswana from 27-28 November 2007 for participants from 22 African countries.
  - (b) Common-strategy workshops to encourage non-responding States to submit reports: With sponsorship by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), another workshop was held in Botswana from 29-30 November 2007 as an event organized jointly with the 1540 Committee's Experts, the Counter-Terrorism Committee's Executive Directorate (CTED) and the 1267 Committee's Monitoring Team. The Committee appreciates the cooperation extended by the UNODC in this regard.
  - (c) Other outreach events: Upon invitation by other bodies, the Committee's Chairman or some of its members, officially representing the Committee, and several of its experts participated in relevant meetings on subjects ranging from the implementation of the universal conventions against terrorism and of the UN global counter-terrorism strategy to the legal aspects of international instruments countering terrorist acts in the nuclear, chemical or biological fields and other specific subjects such as proliferation financing and illicit trafficking in the nuclear materials.
8. The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Andorra, Belarus Botswana, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Norway, Slovakia and the United States, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and UNODA for the sponsorship and organization of the different activities and the European Union for its ongoing support to the Committee's outreach activities.

### **Assistance**

9. The Committee continued to act as a clearing house for information on the issues of assistance through formal and informal contacts and dialogue with States that might be interested in requesting assistance and those that might offer the required assistance. Its efforts in this regard included dialogue with participants in outreach activities. A template for requesting relevant assistance was finalized in December 2007, and sent to all Member States to facilitate the identification of their needs in specific areas as a basis for matching requests with offers of assistance in the context of the Committee's clearing house function.

### **Cooperation**

10. Since the November 2007 Joint Briefing to the Security Council, the 1540 Committee has maintained close cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the 1267 Committee. Moreover, the expert groups assisting the three Committees have intensified their

collaboration as manifested at the sub-regional workshop in Africa mentioned earlier. An important feature of their joint effort is interaction with the delegations of national officials representing two or three relevant ministries of each participating country in order to promote coordination and alleviate the task of responding to multiple requests for information.

11. Efforts to further develop cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations and arrangements are continuing. Exchange of information and reciprocal participation in outreach activities have facilitated progress in this respect. In December 2007, the Committee addressed letters to the heads of over 30 international, regional and sub-regional organizations, export control regimes and other arrangements, with a request to bring to the attention of their Member States the relevance of implementing resolution 1540 to the objectives of their respective institutions. As of April 2008, the Committee has received twelve positive responses from the organizations.

### **1540 Committee Report to the Security Council**

12. Since January 2008, the Sub-Committees of the 1540 Committee have concentrated on reviewing the information contained in the matrices of Member States as revised by the experts on the basis of new information received from States and data collected from other official sources. The information was used as a factual basis in the preparation of the report of the 1540 Committee to the Security Council, covering the period since 28 April 2006. The report is to be submitted to the Council as soon as possible but no later than 31 July 2008.

### **Further extension of the Committee's mandate**

13. On 25 April 2008, the Security Council adopted resolution 1810 (2008) extending the mandate of the 1540 Committee for a period of three years and decided, inter alia, that the Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote full implementation of resolution 1540 by all States.