

**Briefing to the Security Council by the Chair of the Security Council Committee
established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on 15 November 2023
(stand-alone brief to accompany Joint Briefing by three Committees)**

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I am honored to report on progress made since our last joint briefing on 23 November 2022. As far as our mandate is concerned, we fully endorse the joint statement delivered on behalf of the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee.

Resolution 1540 remains a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture to prevent non-State actors, which includes but is not limited to those identified in the United Nations list established and maintained by the Committee established under Security Council resolution 1267 and those to whom resolution 1373 applies, from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. The devastating and potentially catastrophic consequences that could arise from the use of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons by such actors remain a matter of serious concern to the international community.

States have made significant progress towards the full implementation of the resolution, as the 1540 Committee has identified through the 2022 Comprehensive Review process. Nevertheless, more work should be done and the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 remains a long-term task.

While the mandate of the 1540 Committee differs from the other two Committees, the 1540 Committee has continued to carry out its mandate in the framework of Operative Paragraph 22 of resolution 2663 (2022), including enhanced information-sharing and considering of opportunities to coordinate on visits to States, within the three Committees' respective mandates, and has briefed the Security Council jointly with these two Committees accordingly every year, as is the present case.

Subsequent to renewal of the Committee's mandate for ten years, until 30 November 2032, under resolution 2663 (2022), the Committee has continued to conduct activities to promote the full and effective implementation of the resolution and to assist States, upon request, in strengthening national capacity. The Committee has participated in 34 outreach events organized by States and international, regional and subregional organizations and relevant civil society.

To date, 185 countries have submitted initial reports to the Committee with information on the measures they have taken, or plan to take, to implement resolution 1540 (2004).

The effectiveness of the practical steps taken by States to implement the resolution is important, and one of the measures States can consider in this respect is to develop voluntary National

Implementation Action Plans (NAPs), as again encouraged by resolution 2663 (2022). These help to map out States' priorities and their plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), including by identifying actions to take in regard to regulations and national control frameworks, foster interagency cooperation, and identify areas where assistance may be required. 38 States have now submitted a total of 47 such plans to the Committee since 2007.

The Committee plays an important role in facilitating assistance to Member States to fulfil their 1540 obligations, by matching assistance requests from States with offers of assistance, from States or from international, regional or subregional organizations. In addition to facilitating assistance requests, the Committee continued to engage with States at their invitation to discuss national reporting, vNAPs, Committee matrices and assistance on implementation measures. The Committee continues to use its website for outreach to the public.

As requested by resolution 2663 (2022), the Committee has undertaken diverse activities under the 20th Programme of Work on Implementation, Assistance to Member States, Cooperation with IROs and Transparency & Outreach purviews.

I would like to underline that a cooperative approach and dialogue with the Member States continue to be cornerstones of the 1540 Committee's activities. In that context, in May, I sent correspondence to Member States to emphasize the importance for all States to implement fully resolution 1540 (2004) and to reaffirm that the Committee remains ready to provide assistance. In accordance with Operative Paragraph 6 of resolution 2663 (2022), I reached out to non-reporting States to encourage them to continue to undertake efforts to submit a report on implementation of the resolution to the 1540 Committee without delay.

In conclusion, I wish to express that a cooperative approach and dialogue with Member States continues.

I thank you for the opportunity to provide this briefing.