

**Briefing to the Security Council by the Chair of the Committee
established pursuant to
resolution 1540 (2004)**

6 August 2025

Mr. President,

As the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), I am honored to address the Security Council on the work of the Committee since the last briefing on 26 March 2024.

Since this is the first time that I address the Council in my capacity as Chair of the 1540 Committee, allow me to express my gratitude to Ecuador for its steady Chairmanship of the Committee during 2023-2024.

Resolution 1540 (2004) remains a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture preventing non-State actors from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction, particularly for terrorist purposes. Member States have made significant progress towards the full implementation of the resolution. Nevertheless, the full and effective implementation of the resolution is a long-term task.

During the reporting period, the Committee continued its activities, in accordance with its mandate, which was extended until the end of November 2032 pursuant to Security Council resolution 2663 (2022), adopted on 30 November 2022.

In accordance with operative paragraph 4 of the same resolution, the Committee continues working towards the adoption of its Programme of Work for the period till January 2026.

The 2024 Annual Review of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) was submitted to the Security Council on 30 December 2024.

The Committee held seven formal and two informal meetings over the course of 2024. Since my appointment as the Chair of the Committee on 29 May 2025, two formal meetings have been held in 2025.

In accordance with paragraph 26 of resolution 2663 (2022), the Committee convened an open briefing for Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations in October 2024. During the briefing, a summary was provided of the activities of the Committee on all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), including on assistance matters. Furthermore, the open briefing provided an opportunity for Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations to present their offers of assistance, and for Member States to voluntarily share their experiences, lessons learned and best practices regarding implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

In 2024, the Committee successfully resumed its practice of co-organizing training courses for national points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004). The points of contact play an important role in promoting and advancing national implementation of the resolution. In recognition of their important role, in its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council urged the Committee to undertake initiatives to strengthen the capacity of national points of contact, including through regional training programmes. After an interruption of four years, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, two training courses were conducted in 2024, one for the Asia-Pacific region and another for Africa. Looking ahead, the Committee is currently considering the possibility of conducting a points of contact training course for the Latin American and the Caribbean region in 2025.

The Committee continued to participate in outreach events on the implementation of the resolution at the national, subregional, regional and international levels. In 2024, the Committee participated in 32 outreach events. Since the beginning of this year, the Committee has participated in 15 outreach events in different regions.

During the reporting period, the Committee sent correspondence to Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations several times and on different matters to maintain effective communication and dialogue on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

In 2024, following extensive efforts by the Committee to emphasize the importance of nominating and updating national points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004), including in the Committee's correspondence and during the outreach events, nine Member States designated their points of contact for the first time. In total, 42 States named or provided updates regarding their points of contact. In 2025, until now, 11 additional States provided updates on their points of contact and one Member State nominated its points of contact for the first time, bringing the total number of Member States with 1540 points of contact to 156.

Mr. President,

In its resolution 2663 (2022), the Security Council called upon all States that had not yet done so to submit a first report on measures to implement resolution 1540 (2004) to the Committee without delay. In 2024, the Committee continued its efforts to facilitate the submission of such reports, including through direct interaction and bilateral meetings. In that regard, in June 2024, the Committee reached out to the remaining eight States that had not yet submitted reports to encourage them to send to the Committee their initial report. The Chair, with the support of the

Committee's Group of Experts, also held bilateral meetings with several non-reporting States during the year. The number of Member States which have submitted first reports remains at 185, leaving eight States still to do so.

Member States are also encouraged by the Security Council, in its resolution 2663 (2022), to provide additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including, on a voluntary basis, on their laws and regulations and effective practices in implementing that resolution. During the reporting period, two States submitted additional information to the Committee. To date, a total of 539 first and additional national reports have been submitted by Member States on steps taken to implement the resolution.

In paragraph 8 of resolution 2663 (2022), the Security Council again encouraged States to prepare, on a voluntary basis, national implementation action plans. These help to identify Member States' priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004). During the reporting period, one additional State submitted such a plan to the Committee, bringing the total number to 48 action plans. The number of States that have submitted voluntary national implementation action plans to the Committee since 2007 stands at 39.

Acknowledging that Member States are in the best position to identify effective national practices, the Committee recognizes the need to promote the sharing of experiences, including through voluntary peer reviews and other means to evaluate and reinforce effective practices. Since the last report to the Security Council, the Committee has registered two new peer reviews and will continue to support States that wish to conduct them, whenever appropriate.

The Security Council, in its resolution 2663 (2022), encouraged the Committee to develop and review, as appropriate, voluntary technical reference guides, including through implementation guidelines or other such appropriate documents, prepared with the assistance of its Group of Experts. In 2024, the Committee discussed formats and topics for voluntary technical reference guides and its Group of Experts started to work on a pilot project for the development of a voluntary technical reference guide based on a concept note agreed by the Committee. The work on this topic is continuing.

The Committee also agreed on conducting a pilot project on possible activities related to paragraph 12 of resolution 2663 (2022) to support the implementation by all Member States of resolution 1540 (2004). The Committee agreed to provide Member States with possible useful examples of legislative measures adopted by States belonging to different regional groups and/or legal systems. In 2025, the Committee is continuing its work in the framework of the agreed pilot project.

In order to ensure that the Committee's support structure is adequately resourced, the Committee underlines the importance of filling the vacancies in its Group of Experts.

Mr. President,

The Security Council, in resolution 2663 (2022), directed the Committee to periodically review, as appropriate, the role, efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee's mechanism for matching offers and requests for assistance, as well as the status of assistance-related matters. The Committee continued to review the assistance mechanism dating from 2018 and adopted in November 2024 a revised document on its assistance mechanism entitled "Assistance mechanism procedures and templates – revision 2024".

Regarding the periodic review of assistance requests, three reports on the status of assistance requests were produced in 2024 and one report in 2025. In its most recent report, from June 2025, the Committee took note of a total of 33 assistance requests for matchmaking by 24 Member States. In addition, the report noted that the Committee had received 10 requests from Member States, about direct assistance from the Committee regarding formal submission of either National Reports or voluntary National Implementation Action Plans. A further request from a Member State has been received by the Committee, bringing the total number of Member States requesting direct assistance from the Committee to 11.

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 international, regional or subregional organizations. In 2024, four requests for assistance requiring matchmaking were submitted to the Committee and to date in 2025 there have been no new matchmaking requests to the Committee.

In order to strengthen the Committee's role in facilitating technical assistance, including in matching offers and requests for assistance, in 2024, the Committee wrote to all Member States, as well as the 39 relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, and other arrangements, inviting them to update, as appropriate, their assistance offers. To date, two Member States and one international organization have provided updates.

The Security Council, in its resolution 2663 (2022), encouraged the Committee to develop, in agreement with the relevant Member States and with the assistance of its Group of Experts, a multi-year programme of outreach to States. In 2024, the Committee considered the development of such a programme for the period 2025 to 2027 and, for the first time,

sent correspondence to all Member States, encouraging each to inform the Committee of any plans to invite the Committee for a visit, as well as any other planned national or regional events related to resolution 1540 (2004).

Mr. President,

Acting under relevant resolutions, the Committee continued to enhance its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations and other UN bodies in the context of resolution 1540 (2004).

In April 2024, the Committee sent correspondence to international, regional and subregional organizations, asking them to provide an update on their points of contact or coordinators for resolution 1540 (2004), and encouraged them to enhance cooperation and information-sharing with the Committee and Member States on assistance. Four international organizations provided updated information on their points of contact in 2024, and one international organization provided an update to the Committee in 2025.

During the reporting period, the Committee, with the assistance of its Group of Experts, engaged in activities organized by international, regional and sub-regional organizations to which it was invited.

The Committee continued to maintain its website as a tool for raising public awareness and serving as a key source of information and resources relating to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). With support from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Committee completed in 2024 a comprehensive update of the website in all six United Nations official languages, which included making appropriate adjustments to text in light of the wording of resolution 2663 (2022) and deleting obsolete information and duplications.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation to my fellow Committee members for their efforts in support of the Committee's work, and to the Group of Experts, officials in UNODA and DPPA for their invaluable support to the Committee.

Thank you.