

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

Event:	Antigua and Barbuda 1540 National Roundtable
Organizer:	Government of Antigua and Barbuda, CARICOM 1540 Coordinator
Date and venue:	12-14 August 2015, St John's, Antigua and Barbuda
Participants:	Government of Antigua and Barbuda, 1540 Committee Experts

### 1. **Background**

Resolution 1977 (2011) encourages the 1540 Committee, with the support of necessary relevant expertise, to actively engage in dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda requested legislative support from the 1540 Group of Experts on issues related to strategic trade legislation and the development of a comprehensive export control infrastructure. In this context, the 1540 Committee experts participated in a national roundtable on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), which was held from 12-14 August 2015 in St John's, Antigua and Barbuda.

### 2. **Highlights and discussions**

The objectives of the national roundtable included informing the national stakeholders of the 1540 obligations, conducting a dialogue on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) that included an analysis of Antigua and Barbuda's 1540 matrix, and, where possible, updating the information in this matrix, analysing a draft strategic trade law and discussing possible assistance.

National governmental stakeholders included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Health, Social Transformation and Consumer Affairs; Ministry of Legal Affairs; Ministry of Finance (Customs), Ministry of Tourism; Royal Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force; Office of National Drug and Money Laundering Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Department of Analytical Services (Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and the Environment).

In his remarks, the Hon. Steadroy Benjamin, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs and Public Safety of Antigua and Barbuda, welcomed the 1540 Committee experts and expressed his appreciation for the visit and stated that the convening of the roundtable is an example of how serious the government takes its obligation to fully implement the resolution. He emphasised that his country is not immune to the threat of terrorism and recalled that following the attacks in the United States on 11 September 2001, Antigua and Barbuda was

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<sup>1</sup> For information - not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organizers or participants in the event.

among the first countries that enacted anti-terrorism legislation. He indicated that since then the legislation has evolved, in particular to take into account FATF recommendations in the field of combating the terrorism financing. He also referred to their draft Chemical Weapons Bill.

The 1540 Committee Experts made presentations on the 1540 obligations, assistance and the 1540 matrix of Antigua and Barbuda.

The national roundtable undertook an in-depth analysis of Antigua and Barbuda's 1540 matrix, discussed relevant legislation implementing aspects of the resolution, and national stakeholders discussed a way forward in strengthening the implementation of the resolution by Antigua and Barbuda.

### 3. **Additional Comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org).