

Information Note¹

- Event:** Round-Table to discuss the Implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and provide assistance to prepare Timor-Leste's First National Report to the 1540 Committee
- Organizer(s):** Timor-Leste and UNODA Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) with the financial support of Japan
- Date and Venue:** Dili, Timor-Leste, 11-13 October
- Participants:**
- Timor-Leste:*
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MoFAC)
 - Prime Minister's Office
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Ministry of Defence and Security
 - Defence Force
 - Ministry of Finance
 - Financial Information Unit
 - Scientific and Criminal Investigation Police
 - Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice
 - National Police
 - Central Bank
 - Timor-Leste Red Cross
- Organisations:*
- 1540 Committee Group of Experts, UNODA and UNRCPD
- Supporting Country:*
- Embassy of Japan in Timor-Leste

Background

Resolution 1540 (2004) requires States to refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. All States are obliged to adopt and enforce appropriate effective laws which prohibit any non-State actor to enact such activities. States shall take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of these weapons and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials.

In its Operative Paragraph 4, resolution 1540 (2004) calls upon States to present a first report to the Committee on steps they have taken or intend to take to implement this resolution.

Resolution 2325 (2016) once again calls non-reporting States to present their first national report without delay. To date, 16 Member States have not yet submitted their first national report, including Timor-Leste.

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

By a letter of 7 September 2017, Timor-Leste accepted UNRCPD's proposal to hold a national round-table on 1540 reporting on 11-13 October 2017. With the support of the 1540 Group of Experts, a concept paper and draft programme were prepared. On 21 September 2017, a *Note Verbale* was sent by Timor-Leste to the Chair with a letter requesting the participation of members of the 1540 Group of Experts in a national round table to support Timor-Leste in the process of drafting a national 1540 report.

Highlights

A preparatory meeting was held on 11 October with authorities of the MoFAC. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Timor-Leste, H.E. Professor Dr. Aurelio Guterres, held a courtesy meeting with the 1540 Experts, during which he expressed the commitment of his Government to implement resolution 1540 (2004) and referred to ongoing challenges in particular terrorism.

During the next two days, the representatives of ministries and State agencies identified by the government of Timor-Leste to be responsible for implementing resolution 1540 (2004) engaged in discussions on the implementation of the resolution. Presentations were provided on the full scope of 1540 obligations and relevant requirements under resolution 1540 (2004), in particular on all the elements of a national report. Timor-Leste showed its strong political commitment to this event by the participation of senior officials in the event.

The 1540 Experts made presentations, lead technical discussions on all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), its links with other disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and conventions, and on the measures identified in Timor-Leste's 1540 matrix. A large amount of time was allocated for discussions with the various national stakeholders to identify the elements to be included in the first Timor-Leste national report. During the last day a drafting session took place, during which an outline of Timor-Leste national report was developed and the main elements to be included in the report were identified.

Additional Comments

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