



# 1540 Committee

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

## QUARTERLY MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

During the period under review in this message, from April to June, the seventeenth programme of work of the Committee, for the period from 1 February 2018 to 31 January 2019, was adopted on 12 April. In addition, four additional 1540 Experts took up their positions bringing the Group of Experts supporting the Committee nearly back to full strength with eight out of nine experts on board. Mr Raphael Prenat was confirmed as the coordinator of the Group of Experts by the Secretary General on 29 May 2018.

In paragraph 3 of resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council called on Member States that had yet to submit a first report on how they are implementing resolution 1540 (2004) to do so without delay. I am delighted to confirm that Guinea-Bissau submitted its first report on 18 April 2018, leaving only twelve States that have yet to meet this important undertaking. In May, I took the opportunity to send letters to the remaining non-reporting Member States – Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, The Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Swaziland – reminding them of the importance of submitting their first report to the Committee without delay, and extended the Committee and Group of Experts’ assistance and guidance towards this objective.

In resolution 1810 (2008), the Security Council encourages the 1540 Committee to engage actively with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to promote the sharing of experience and lessons learned in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004). On 16 May 2018, a Delegation from Germany’s Export Control Authority (BAFA) participated in an informal meeting and briefed the Committee on the outcomes of the last global Wiesbaden Conference. The Delegation also shared national experiences in implementing export controls and especially on controls over intangible technology transfers (ITT) as resolution 2325 (2016) especially encourages States, as appropriate, to control access to ITT, as well as German ongoing assistance programs.

A second informal meeting of the Committee was convened on 7 June. The Committee had an opportunity to hear further about the peer review meetings between Chile and Colombia held in each country in 2017 correspondingly in relation to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The Organization of the American States and other countries of Latin America and Caribbean attended this briefing. This peer review was the third to take place globally and the first in the Western hemisphere. The discussions highlighted the value of the peer review process for promoting Member States’ confidence in sharing information about the challenges of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), and generating ideas about effective national implementation practices. In addition, the Working Group on Assistance had its first informal meeting of the year on 1 June, following adoption of the Committee’s Programme of Work in April.

In paragraph 29 of resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council requested the 1540 Committee to continue organizing and participating in outreach events on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), internationally, regionally and nationally. The Committee and Group of Experts accordingly continued to conduct outreach activities as follows:

- A 1540 Expert participated in a Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Workshop “Ensuring Effective Inter-Agency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in the Event of a Chemical and/or Biological Weapons Attack (Implementation)”, held in the OPCW headquarters in April in The Hague, the Netherlands. A 1540 Committee expert stated during the workshop that the

work of the 1540 Group of Experts is focused on prevention of the proliferation of WMD, and related materials that can be used to manufacture WMD, to non-State actors, including terrorists. He also shared the experience of the 1540 Group of Experts with using its website to share information, training its focal point network, and the various ways it cooperates with international organizations.

- Two 1540 Experts participated to the India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018, hosted by the government of India in April in New Delhi. The topic of this event was “Securing Global Supply Chains Through Government-Industry Partnerships towards Effective Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540”. There were substantive discussions of issues central to implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Several themes cropped up regularly, including the challenge of balancing a system of effective export controls with requirements to promote the trade needed for economic development.
- A 1540 Expert participated in the “Regional Workshop for Central Asian States (CAS) on UNSCR 1540 Legal / Regulatory Requirements for Strategic Trade Controls”, held in April in Vienna, Austria. The workshop raised awareness on essential components of an effective export control system, including displaying ways for the development of a legal system such as licensing procedures and interagency cooperation and effective related border controls. In this context, the workshop also determined areas of regional co-operation in matters of nonproliferation and strategic trade controls focusing on outlining ways of addressing gaps in legal and regulatory frameworks for strategic trade controls, tackling country specific needs and providing for mechanisms to close existing gaps, taking into consideration regional and national priorities. The workshop offered an opportunity for a 1540 Expert to raise the profile of resolution 1540 (2004) among the participants and facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Information shared by the different CAS delegations covered activities being undertaken by the participating governments for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). At the same time, the development of regulatory frameworks in the field of export control and creation of dual-use identification capabilities were identified as potential areas for further assistance.
- A 1540 Expert participated in a “Sub-Regional Stakeholders Forum on Advancing CWC National Implementation and Regional Cooperation in Southeast Asia”, held in April in Bangkok, Thailand and organized by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Government of Thailand. The meeting provided an opportunity for the 1540 Expert to highlight resolution 1540 (2004) to the National Authorities of the CWC in Southeast Asia and to re-emphasize the importance for all States to implement fully and effectively resolution 1540 (2004) to prevent WMD proliferation, especially to prevent the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors.
- A 1540 Expert participated in an International Seminar hosted by the Strategic Export Control Division of Pakistan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs in May in Islamabad. The topic of the event was “Strategic Export Controls: The Present and Future of Strategic Export Controls”.
- A 1540 Expert participated in the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Conference on Countering Chemical Terrorism held at its headquarters in June in The Hague, the Netherlands. A 1540 Expert participated in conference discussions, providing information aimed to raise awareness of OPCW Member States about experience, lessons learned and national effective practices in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and highlighting the complementarity of the implementation of the resolution and the CWC.
- A 1540 Expert participated in the “Sixth International Meeting of the National Focal Points of the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative”, organised in June in Brussels by the EU Commission. There was an exchange of ideas and information with EU partners about different projects funded by the EU, especially in Africa, Central Asia and Southwest Asia, and to foster coordination and cooperation between the 1540 Group of Experts and the EU Centres of Excellence, especially on assistance matters.

- A 1540 expert participated in the “Sixteenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Africa”, organised by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in Marrakesh, Morocco in June.
- Two 1540 Experts participated in a peer review meeting among Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, which was supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and held in July in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan. The meeting is a follow-up to the previous trilateral peer-review meeting among Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in an extended format. Participating states reviewed their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), and discussed ways to strengthen legislation in export control, biological and chemical security and development of recommendations on effective implementation of its requirements. Participating states also exchanged experiences in the development and implementations of NAPs on resolution 1540 (2004) and discussed approaches for regional cooperation.

For more information about the Committee and its activities, and for more detailed information on resolution 1540 (2004) and its successor resolutions, visit <http://www.un.org/en/sc/1540/>.