QUARTERLY MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

First Quarter 2022/Issue No. 25

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This message covers activities undertaken by the 1540 Committee during the first quarter of 2022.

The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2622 (2022) on 25 February to extend the mandate of the 1540 Committee until 30 November 2022.

Arrangements were made by the Committee to hold the open consultations on the Comprehensive Review in New York at United Nations Headquarters on 31 May, 1 and 2 June 2022.

On 3 February the Committee held its 90th meeting to discuss working papers on outreach to Member States, as well as with appropriate civil society organisations, industry, academia, and parliamentarians, and the use of the Committee's website, in the context of the Comprehensive Review. The Committee also discussed the structure in support of the Committee.

On 14 March I briefed the UN Security Council on the key role of resolution 1540 (2004) as a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture, as well as on the Comprehensive Review as one of the Committee's main priorities. I also discussed the Committee's activities in 2021 as well as its role in facilitating assistance to Member States to fulfil their obligations; international cooperation and outreach matters. I further noted that the Committee's mandate had been extended through 30 November 2022 to allow for completion of the Comprehensive Review.

On 29 March the Committee held informal consultations to discuss a revised concept paper and agenda for the open consultations that will form part of the Comprehensive Review on the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

The Committee has continued to promote full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all UN Member States and conducted a number of informal virtual and hybrid meetings. The Committee held three meetings with representatives from States, as well as one meeting with international, regional and sub-regional organisations (IROs), and one meeting with a relevant UN body. Subjects covered during these discussions included implementation of the resolution, the Committee's assistance mechanism as well as cooperation and coordination.

On 3 March Kyrgyzstan submitted to the Committee a voluntary National Implementation Action Plan for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). In addition, the Committee received updated Point of Contact details from Hungary, India, Malaysia, Norway, Singapore and Syria.

On 7 January a summary of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' request for assistance was published on the Committee website. The request covers drafting of national reports and implementation plans; legislative review; training; and technical support.

The BWC Implementation Support Unit's assistance offer was also updated this quarter and posted on the Committee website.

The Committee participated in a number of meetings and workshops relevant to resolution 1540 (2004):

- 10 February and 7 March Meetings with IROs including OAS and UNIDIR.
- 31 January to 3 February Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE) programme. Organized by the World Customs Organization francophone Africa.
- 8 to 9 February Workshop on Botswana's 1540 National Implementation Action Plan. Organized by the Government of Botswana, 1540 Committee, UNODA, the United States and the European Union.
- 15 to 17 February 28th Asian Export Control Seminar. Organized by the Center for Information on Security Trade Control (CISTEC) Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
- 16 to 17 March Workshop on Enhancing the Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention and Improving Biosafety and Biosecurity Frameworks in Suriname. Organized by the BWC Implementation Support Unit and the United Kingdom.
- 21 to 22 March Regional Capacity Building and Operational Plan Development Workshop on Counter-Proliferation Financing in West Africa. Organized by GIABA.
- 22 to 23 March Workshop on the implementation of the BWC and resolution 1540 (2004) in the Dominican Republic. Organized by the BWC Implementation Support Unit and the United Kingdom.

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