Meeting of the Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG)
Stockholm, Sweden, 28-29 August 2012

Talking points for Ambassador Baso Sangqu, Chair of the Security Council
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

• Let me first thank Ambassador Jenkins for her consistent engagement with the 1540 Committee of the UN Security Council and its group of experts.

• On 27 July 2012, the UN Secretary General, after consultation with the 1540 Committee, has established a group of 9 experts to assist the 1540 Committee. We expect that the newly appointed experts will soon being arriving in New York and the full scope performance of the group will begin. We will also have a new Co-ordinator to allow for better allocation of tasks, and we have attempted to address the issue of geographical representation in the new group to allow for better dialogue with States.

• The 1540 Committee is always interested in regular information sharing with the Global Partnership, in particular on assistance and capacity building. I look forward to enhancing our collaborative efforts to meet common goals. Since the last meeting of the GPWG in Florida the members of the Committee and the experts have participated in several outreach events including visits to the Republic of the Congo and Madagascar at the invitation of the governments of these states, thus expanding geographic scope of our contacts and deepening dialogue with States.

• The match-making role of the Committee was reiterated and strengthened by resolution 1977. In this regard we would encourage GPWG members and other bodies participating in this meeting to present information on a point of contact through which to channel assistance requests that come to the Committee. Recently we have also been receiving assistance requests from Latin America and Central Asia and expect more to come.

• The Committee has also been informed of an event to be hosted by the Government of South Africa in November 2012. South Africa will host a workshop for African States, with a focus on resolution 1540 (2004) and development. Our objective is to promote submission of first reports by States that have not yet done so, and to encourage them to give more consideration to implementation of resolution 1540, while also taking into account their development needs. It is important that States believe that they have a stake in implementation of the resolution. This approach may assist us in encouraging the submission of first reports, and then allow us to examine implementation with those States that are ready to take the next step.

• We are now in our second year of the renewed 10 year mandate of the Committee. In the upcoming months, the Committee will also look forward to other important 1540-related events, including on assistance in general.
Committee’s work will have to take into account more effective means of working with State on implementation and channelling of assistance, where requested.

- In due course we will be ready to share with you relevant information on this subject. It may facilitate the discussions in depth of ongoing and future projects that GPWG members can coordinate and fund and we may find new opportunities for our collaboration.

- In this regard I would like to remind that the 1540 Committee is interested in constant dialogue with the GPWG on the consolidated list of assistance requests and on all issues related to assistance and capacity building. We call on partners to continue examining the assistance requests and provide feedback to the Committee where possible. This would help our work on matching the requests with offers of assistance. In the future, the 1540 Committee experts will continue to brief the Global Partnership on the status of assistance requests and matchmaking activities, with a view to facilitate delivery of assistance related to resolution 1540 (2004) in a timely and effective manner.

- We have had an increase in cooperation between relevant IROs and the 1540 Committee in recent years. We hope to see further development in this direction as the Committee’s mandate continues and States gain a better awareness of the requirement to implement their obligations under the resolution.

- Ambassador Jenkins, let me seize the opportunity of this meeting to express an interest from the 1540 Committee for further information from the Global Partnership on 1540-related matters.