

Information Note¹

Event: Regional workshop on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)

Organisers: Belarus and OSCE, with support from the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

Date and venue: Minsk, Belarus, 3-4 April 2019

Participants: *States:* Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Organisations: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), 1540 Committee Group of Experts, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), INTERPOL, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Implementation Support Unit for the Biological Weapons Convention (ISU BWC).

Event: Consultations with the Russian Federation on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)

Date and Venue: 1 April 2019, Moscow, Russian Federation

Organizer: MFA of the Russian Federation

Background

UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004) decides that all States shall take and enforce, inter alia, effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials. It requires, in particular, that they shall develop and maintain effective physical protection and accounting measures, develop and maintain appropriate effective border controls and law enforcement efforts to detect, deter, prevent and combat, including through international cooperation when necessary, the illicit trafficking of such items in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law.

The objective of the two-day workshop, with the participation of States from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and donor countries, was to exchange

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national experiences and effective practices in the area of practical implementation of the resolution with a view to evaluate progress achieved, identify further measures and promote capacity-building for implementation of specific provisions of the UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004) as well as related resolutions, namely the UNSCR 1977 (2011) and 2325 (2016), at the national and, where appropriate, regional levels.

On 31 January 2019 Ambassador Marcel Pesko, Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting a 1540 Committee Experts to take part in the Workshop on the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), which will take place in Minsk, Belarus on 3-4 April 2019. The workshop was supported by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and the UNODA.

On 1 March 2019 the Russian Federation sent a letter to the Chair of the 1540 Committee inviting 1540 Committee Experts to a bilateral meeting to be held in Moscow in April 2019 to discuss the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and to exchange views on the preparations for the next Comprehensive Review of the resolution 1540 (2004) to be completed by 25 April 2021

Regional workshop on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)

Overview

The workshop on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), regarding the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors, was hosted by the Belarus' Foreign Ministry for representatives of countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The workshop was organized in co-operation with the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts and supported by the OSCE and the UNODA, with funding from the European Union. The workshop gathered more than 60 participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, together with representatives of the Belarusian industrial sector and experts from international and regional organizations, such as the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the CIS Executive Committee, INTERPOL, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Implementation Support Unit for the Biological Weapons Convention (ISU BWC).

The event was intended to share advanced national practices in the area of implementation of resolution 1540, to assess the progress made, identify further measures and promote capacity-building for the implementation of the resolution and related resolutions at the national and regional levels.

A 1540 Committee Expert, made a presentation on general aspects of the resolution 1540 (2004), including the status of its implementation in the region.

Discussion during the workshop was focused on national approaches to the implementation of the operative paragraphs of the resolution 1540 (2004), including at the policy level, legislative developments, enforcement procedures, and effective practices. As a matter of priority for their States, the delegations considered export control legislation, including control lists, licensing system and identification of dual use goods. They also discussed biological security issues, including possible ways to improve national legislation and regulatory framework.

Consultations with the Russian Federation on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)

In the framework of the Group of experts consultations with the Committee Members on the preparations to the 2021 Comprehensive Review, to be conducted both in New York and in capitals, 1540 Committee Experts had a bilateral meeting in Moscow, Russian Federation on 1 April 2019 to discuss the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and to exchange views on the preparations for the next Comprehensive Review of the resolution 1540 (2004) to be completed by 25 April 2021. The mission was carried out back to back with the participation of experts in the Workshop on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), held in Minsk on 3-4 April 2019.

Additional Comments

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