

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

- Event:** Participation of Messrs. Gennady Lutay and Raphael Prenat, 1540 Committee Experts, in the conduct of a visit to Mauritania, at the request of its Government, to assist with the drafting of the first national report.
- Organizer:** Government of Mauritania in cooperation with the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC).
- Date and venue:** 4-6 July 2017, Nouakchott, Mauritania.

### **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 and effective laws prohibiting such activities by non-State actors on their territories. State must adopt and enforce effective measure to establish domestic controls on these weapons, their means of delivery and their related material.

Resolution 1540 (2004) also calls upon States to submit a first report on the steps they have taken, or intend to take, to implement the resolution.

In resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council once again calls non reporting States to present their first national report without delay. To date, 16 Members State have not yet submitted their first national report, including Mauritania.

In 2014, Mauritania attended to a special workshop at Libreville (Gabon) dedicated to the non-reporting African (French speaking) States.

By a letter of 16 May 2017, the Mauritanian authorities requested the support of the 1540 Committee in organising a workshop dedicated to help them draft a national report. This workshop was took place in Nouakchott from 5 to 6 July 2017.

### **Highlights and overview:**

On 4 June 2014, meetings were held with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Ministry of Interior and Security Affairs and with Secretariat of G5 Sahel.

Besides drafting a first report, the objectives of the workshop included informing the national stakeholders of the 1540 obligations, conducting a dialogue on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) that included an analysis of Mauritania's 1540 matrix, and, where possible, updating the information in this matrix.

National governmental stakeholders included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and Security, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economics and Finances, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Mining, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Custom Service, National Police and Financial Intelligence Unit.

---

<sup>1</sup> For information - not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organizers or participants in the event.

The UNREC representative outlined their role in supporting 1540 related outreach events in Africa, while the 1540 Committee Experts expressed their appreciation for the invitation of the Government of Mauritania, outlined the purpose of the resolution. The 1540 Committee Experts made the following presentations:

- Briefing on 1540 obligations
- Analysis of the 1540 matrix of Mauritania
- Overview of the potential content for a 1540 first report

The second day of the meeting was devoted to the drafting of Mauritania's first report. In this regard, the analysis of the matrix informed the actions Mauritania wishes to consider in the coming years to enhance its implementation of the resolution.

#### **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee Experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org)