

Information Note¹

- Event:** Training for the 1540 Points of Contact in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Organisers:** Hosted by the Government of China in cooperation with the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts and supported by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) with a voluntary contribution from the European Union
- Date and Venue:** 21-25 October 2019, Xiamen, China
- Participants:** *National Participants:* Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu
- Instructors from International organisations and export control regimes:* International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), World Customs Organisation (WCO) and United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC, via video), United Nations Security Council 1540 Committee, UNODA.

Background

- Resolution 1540 (2004) and its follow-up resolutions emphasize the importance of assisting States with their implementation of the obligations contained in the resolution. In particular, the 1540 Committee, through its Programmes of Work, has promoted outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation with States and relevant international, regional and sub-regional organisations.
- Resolution 1673 (2006) and follow-up resolutions recognize that “the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all States, including the adoption of national laws and measures to ensure the implementation of these laws is a long-term task that will require continuous efforts at national, regional and international levels”.
- To facilitate implementation of the obligations contained in resolution 1540 (2004), States are encouraged to inform the Committee of their points of contact on the implementation of resolution 1540 (1540 PoCs), both in their capitals and in their Permanent Missions in New York. Resolution 2325 (2016) again “encourages all States that have not yet done so to provide the 1540 Committee with a Point of Contact for Resolution 1540 (2004), and urges the Committee to continue to undertake initiatives to strengthen the capacity of such Points of Contact to assist on the implementation of the resolution, upon request of States, including through the continuation on a regional basis of the Committee’s Point of Contact Training Programme.” To date, 119 States have nominated national Points of Contact,

¹ 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.

mainly from Ministries of Foreign Affairs and other relevant national authorities. These Points of Contact act as a link between the Committee and their government officials. Some also fulfil the role of national coordinator for 1540 implementation.

- This training course was the ninth one held globally and the third in the Asia-Pacific region. The first Asia-Pacific region workshop took place in Qingdao, China, from 7-11 September 2015 and the second in Xi'an, China, from 7-11 August 2017.
- On 19 May 2019, the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations sent a *Note Verbale* to the Chair of the 1540 Committee offering to host a training course in China for 1540 Points of Contact in the Asia and Pacific Region.

Highlights

The course was opened with a keynote speech by Fu Cong, Director General of the Arms Control Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China. Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations and Chair of the 1540 Committee, delivered a video message at the opening session. These statements are available on the 1540 Committee website ([with links](#))

This PoC training course was the ninth of its kind globally. It provided instruction and opportunities for discussion on the following topics: proliferation risks in relation to non-State actors as a context for the implementation of the principal obligations of resolution 1540 (2004); resolution 1540 (2004), the 1540 Committee and mechanisms such as reporting, voluntary national implementation action plans and assistance; briefings on the implementation of operative paragraphs 2 and 3 by both the 1540 Experts and invited representatives from international organizations and national presentations by the government representatives on their implementation experiences.

Participants also took part in several breakout sessions which allowed participants to apply their knowledge of the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), as well as in an interactive discussion and sharing of experience among the government representatives on means to achieve effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

A site visit was organized by the government of China to the Customs Office of Xiamen. The visit was very important for the participants to make a direct connection between the resolution's obligations and the implications and challenges for action on the ground.

Additional Comments

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