

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

- Event:** UN Security Council Resolution 1540 Industrial Outreach Conference (Wiesbaden Conference) for the Asia Pacific Region
- Organizers:** Republic of Korea with support from Germany and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
- Date:** 27-28 September 2016, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- Participants:** List attached

### 1. Background

Resolution 1540 (2004) acknowledges that the private sector is an important stakeholder and partner in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors, as they have to implement the laws adopted by Member States. An effective partnership between States and industry is therefore vital for successful non-proliferation efforts.

The “Wiesbaden Process” has become a successful model and integral part of the outreach activities of the 1540 Committee to UN Member States and appropriate industry sectors with participation of relevant international, regional and non-governmental organisations, to support the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Annual Wiesbaden Conferences were hosted by the Government of Germany since 2012. They facilitated a dialogue between the 1540 Committee and industry and are designed to raise awareness of the importance of information-sharing on 1540 related activities between government and industry, as well as to identify and share effective practices for compliance strategies within companies.

The first regional industry conference was hosted by the Republic of Korea on 27 and 28 September 2016, building on the achievements of the series of Wiesbaden conferences. The conference engaged with industry representatives from Korea and other countries to strengthen regional implementation of resolution 1540 in the Asia-Pacific region. The annual “Trade and Security” event, a national export control outreach event, hosted by the Korea Strategic Trade Institute (KOSTI), was incorporated into the conference on 27 September.

### 2. Highlights of discussions

The regional Wiesbaden Conference in Seoul for the Asia-Pacific region facilitated information exchange between governments and industry. An outcome of the conference was the raising of the awareness of resolution 1540 obligations among the participants and the necessity for their effective implementation. In particular it highlighted the importance of the interaction between governments and industry.

The two-day conference allowed for the introduction of the “Wiesbaden” concept to the participants from the Asia-Pacific Region. It was designed to enable a wide variety of presentations. The first day of the conference (a half day) was designed as a seminar on classification and licensing methods for dual use items also taking into account international sanctions regimes. Opening remarks were delivered by a representative from the Korea Strategic Trade Institute (KOSTI). On the second day opening statements were delivered by the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE), a representative of the Germany from the German Embassy in Seoul, and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). This day focussed on the introduction to the Wiesbaden process itself and its application in the Asia-Pacific Region by holding presentations on topics with specific interests of the Asia Pacific region. According to the agenda the issues included: industry’s perspective of effective licensing procedures; ways to effectively implement resolution 1540 (2004)

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and how to provide assistance; challenges for companies in the region regarding the implementation of export controls; the value of industry networks for a better commitment to prevent proliferation. Various presentations covered each of these topics with each being followed by a panel discussion.

At the end of the conference the participants agreed that the exchange of information at a regional level is valuable and of high interest. There was a discussion of the possibility of the continuation of the “Wiesbaden process” in the region.

### **3. Additional Comments**

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