

Information Note¹

Event: Second meeting of the OSCE Points of Contact (PoCs) on UNSCR 1540

Organiser: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

Date and venue: 26-27 May 2015, Belgrade, Serbia

Participants: Representatives from:

Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, and United States (US)

UNSC 1540 Committee Group of Experts, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), Centre for Security Cooperation RACVIAC, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Objectives for participating 1540 Committee experts

- Discuss ways and means to further increase the efficiency of the OSCE's assistance to OSCE interested participating States in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), to review on-going initiatives and to consider future plans and activities of the OSCE Points of Contact network and the cooperation between OSCE and the Committee.
- Discuss the practice of developing national implementation action plans on resolution 1540 (2004) on a voluntary basis, exchange views on national non-proliferation efforts and share lessons learnt and identify participating States' needs, in particular in connection to capacity building.
- Assess the experience gained in connection with the models of support rendered to OSCE interested participating States in the preparation and adoption of their voluntary NAPs and their further implementation.

Background

- The OSCE region has been very active with regard to regional and national implementation efforts of resolution 1540 (2004) including through a series of OSCE Ministerial Council Decisions, the establishment of a 1540 coordination mechanism

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

within the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) of the OSCE Secretariat, as well as through numerous initiatives of its Participating States at the national level. As part of these initiatives, in 2011, the OSCE's Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) established the "OSCE Directory of Points of Contact (PoC) on United Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)" to enhance cooperation and coordination among participating States on issues related to national implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), to enhance capacity-building and to synchronize any activities in order to prevent the duplication of respective efforts, also by third parties.

- Majority of the OSCE participating States are represented in the Directory with 51 appointing a designated Point of Contact.
- The first meeting of the OSCE PoCs on UNSCR 1540 took place on 10 April 2014, in Vienna, Austria with support of the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE. The participants have proposed to hold the PoC meetings on an annual basis. Therefore the Serbian Chairmanship of the OSCE together with the OSCE/CPC send an invitation to the Chair, on March 2015, requesting the representatives from the Committee to attend the meeting.

Highlights and Assessment

Opening statements were delivered by Ambassador **Branca Latinovitch** from the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador **Dejan Sahovic**, Head of Serbian Task Force for the Serbian OSCE Chairmanship and by Mr. **Mathew Geertsen**, FSC Support Section, Conflict Prevention Centre. In the delivered remarks, they all valued the contribution of the OSCE participating States in the implementation of the UNSCR 1540 and highlighted importance of coordinated activities of the OSCE network of PoCs.

A 1540 expert provided an overview of the implementation of the UNSC resolution 1540 (2004), including in the OSCE region, and of the Concept of regional PoC training. With participation of 23 out of the 51 Participating States that have nominated a PoC, the meeting was a successful continuation of the process of coordination of activities within this network that started with the first PoC meeting held in Vienna in 2014.

Additional comments

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