

Information Note¹

Event: Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG) meeting

Organizers: United States of America, Presidency of the G-8

Date and Venue: 28-29 August 2012, Stockholm, Sweden

Participants: *States:* Belgium, Canada, Chile (observer), Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Mexico (observer), Russian Federation, Spain (observer), Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and the United States

Other: European Union

International organizations and other international entities (IOs): Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), INTERPOL, Organization of American States (OAS), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), UN Counter Terrorist Implementation Task Force (CTITF), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), UN Office for Drugs and Crime (ODC), World Customs Organization (WCO), World Health Organization (WHO), 1540 Committee (Ambassador Baso Sangqu, the Chairman of the Committee, and a 1540 Committee expert).

1. **Objectives**

- Make a presentation on current activity of the 1540 Committee and the experts with a stress on recent developments including on assistance issues and country specific activities (the Republic of the Congo, Madagascar and Kyrgyzstan);
- Work directly with the more than twenty states of the GPWG and other invited participants on match-making using the consolidated list of assistance requests, which the 1540 Committee has approved for sharing with the GPWG, including by briefing the GPWG of new assistance requests;
- Liaise with Global Partnership States on the ways to facilitate communication between the 1540 Committee and relevant International Organizations and GP members;
- Discuss actions taken, trends in assistance, and exchange lessons learned;
- Continue to encourage GPWG participants to submit points of contact as well as any other relevant information to the 1540 Committee;
- Discuss visits to states, voluntary national action plans, and other new tools and practices for facilitating assistance.

2. **Background**

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.

- At the Deauville G8 Summit, in May 2011, Heads of State and Government decided to renew the Global Partnership beyond 2012. The then-adopted *Declaration on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament* states that “We welcome the adoption of resolution 1977 reinforcing resolution 1540 which aims to prevent non-State actors from acquiring WMDs, their means of delivery and related materials and renewing the mandate of the 1540 Committee. We invite all States to contribute to the implementation of resolution 1540 and we reiterate our support to the 1540 Committee in the discharge of its mandate” (paragraph 14).
- Moreover, the *G8 Global Partnership Assessment and Options for Future Programming* document (Deauville, May 2011) identifies four priorities for the future of the Partnership, including facilitation of implementation of resolution 1540 and for which Global Partnership partners can consider providing assistance: “By providing equipment, expertise and training, GP partners could enhance WMD non-proliferation and counter-terrorism capacities in countries seeking to meet 1540 obligations and lacking the ability to do so, upon their request.”
- A 1540 Committee member and two 1540 Committee experts participated in the 24-25 January 2012 GPWG meeting in Washington, DC - the first one held under the current US Presidency of the G-8. A 1540 Committee member and two 1540 Committee experts participated in the 13-14 March 2012 GPWG meeting in Cambridge, Massachusetts. A 1540 Committee expert participated in the 17-18 April 2012 GPWG meeting in Doral, Florida. The meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, 28-29 August 2012 was attended by the Chairman of the 1540 Committee and an expert. The last GPWG meeting is planned to be held in October 2012.
- The consolidated list of assistance requests approved by the Committee and shared with the G-8 partners is to be discussed in a substantive and pro-active dialogue with the G-8 partners.

3. Highlights and discussions

International Organizations (IOs) meeting

The event started with the IOs session which continued work and discussions that have taken place at the previous GPWG meetings. This session focused on the need for developing new areas for cooperation and preparing relevant papers on opportunities for collaboration between GP and IROs. Progress was noted in this area.

Plenary session, Chair updates and 1540 discussion

Ambassador Bonnie Jenkins, Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs (US Department of State), emphasized the need for further coordination, among GPWG partners and with international organizations, as the Global Partnership expanded its work with more partners. She thanked the 1540 Committee Chairman for having accepted the invitation to go to Stockholm meeting, and expressed the wish that it would give a new impetus for further cooperation between the GP and the Committee. The Ambassador also expressed her hope that the meeting would focus on present and future collaborative opportunities with GP members, and the discussions will be continued on ways to improve coordination and responsiveness to States assistance requests submitted to the 1540 Committee. In this regard she called on participants to go on working on their proposals and new ideas, including relevant papers on collaboration between IOs and GP members.

A considerable amount of information was shared by GP members and international organizations, which is useful for the work of the 1540 Committee and the experts to facilitate further assistance match making and coordination of efforts in a Global Partnership context.

4. **Additional comments**

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