Information Note[1]

Event: *The 44th United Nations Issues Conference on UNSCR 1540: Fostering Regional Momentum*

Organizer(s):   The Stanley Foundation.

Date and Venue: 21-23 February 2013, Tarrytown, NY, USA

Participants: Representatives of 12 Member States (Argentina, Australia, Germany, Guatemala, Japan, Kenya, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Turkey, and USA); two regional organizations (CARICOM and OAS); one international organization (IAEA); four UN entities (UNODA, CTED, UNITAR, 1540 Committee); and five non-governmental organizations (Stanley Foundation, Stimson Center, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Middle East Scientific Institute for Security, The National University of Malaysia)

1.   Objectives of the workshop

The 44th United Nations Issues Conference on UNSCR 1540: Fostering Regional Momentum aimed to foster fresh perspectives, analysis, and policy recommendations to assist Member States, the United Nations, and the larger international community with implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

This conference was part of the annual series of conferences organized by the Stanley Foundation on United Nations Issues and the fifth in that series with a focus on resolution 1540 (2004). The summary report of last year's meeting on *UN Security Council Resolution 1540: Identity, Extension, and Implementation* is available online at:
http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/preview.cfm?ContentType=Publication&ID=451

In accordance with the established practice, the Stanley Foundation posted the conference report online as a "Policy Memo", at: http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/resources.cfm?id=509

A 1540 Committee expert and several 1540 Committee members participated in this event to discuss the objectives, mandate, status of implementation and challenges of resolution 1540 (2004) in various regions of the world as well as the role of civil society;

2.   Background

Since 2005, two nongovernmental organizations, the Stimson Center and the Stanley Foundation, have worked closely with the 1540 Committee, with donor governments, and with governments across six regions—the Caribbean, Central America, the Andean region, Eastern Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia—to pioneer the "dual benefit model" as an innovative approach to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). This model seeks to bridge the divide between the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and related materials, and the perceived higher priority human security and development issues.

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[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.

3.   **Highlights**

Participants discussed six papers reviewing the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of the "dual benefit model", as follows:

- The Caribbean - O'Neal Hamilton (CARICOM 1540 regional coordinator), "*Furthering Non-Proliferation Goals in the Caribbean: Evaluating the Past and Assessing the Way Forward*"
- Central America - Alexander Chacón (former SICA 1540 regional coordinator), "*Insecurity and Organized Crime in Central America*"
- The Andean region - Ana Maria Cerini (former 1540 expert), "*International Security and Peace – The Foundation for Harmony Among Nations*"
- Eastern Africa - Ambassador Ochieng Adala (Acting Executive Director – Africa Peace Forum), "*UNSCR1540: Fostering Regional Momentum - Impact of the dual-benefit model in Eastern Africa*"
- Middle East - Al-Sharif Nasser bin Nasser (Managing Director, Jordanian Middle East Scientific Institute for Security), "*At the Cross Roads: 1540 in the Middle East*"
- Southeast Asia: Noramly bin Muslim (Professor Emeritus, National University of Malaysia), "*ASEAN's Vision 2020 and Resolution 1540*"

In an era of fiscal constraints, participants outlined their views on potential pragmatic and implementable ways forward for the successful implementation and continued relevance of resolution 1540 (2004) worldwide, including:
- options for changing the perception that resolution 1540 (2004) is only a mandated objective but in addition it also constitutes an opportunity for governments to fulfill their pressing obligations to citizens;
- tailoring the dual benefit approach by country and also leveraging regional/subregional organizations and encourage intraregional coordination to act as a force multiplier;
- identifying countries in key regions that can be regional champions for the dual benefit model;
- encouragement of greater inter-ministerial coordination;
- greater outreach emphasis to Member States on the value-added of 1540-related reporting;
- increased support to the 1540 regional coordinators (including by creating new such positions);
- coordination and leveraging assistance beyond traditional paradigms in order to stretch increasingly limited funding, avoid duplication of efforts;
- encouragement of greater focus on industry engagement based on enlightened self-interest;
- encouragement of an increasing media and Member State outreach by making dual benefit success stories available and accessible and countering myths of 1540 implementation having a negative impact on economic growth and development;
- encouragement of civil society efforts to map areas and topics of overlap between not only international security mandates and higher priority national security and development concerns, but also overlaps between the operating spaces of various existing security programming instruments.

4.   **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee's Group of Experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org.