

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

**Event:** Workshop on Capacity-Building for National Authorities established under the Chemical Weapons Convention

**Organizers:** The French Presidency of the European Union in cooperation with the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

**Date and Venue:** 1 December 2008; The Hague, the Netherlands

**Participants:** *States:* over 200 participants including representatives of National Authorities under the OPCW  
*Organizations:* Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), 1540 Committee expert

### 1. Objectives

- raise awareness of the importance of the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);
- highlight the complementarity of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and resolution 1540 (2004);
- build awareness among the attending representatives of National Authorities and the chemical industry about the importance of their role in promoting full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

### 2. Background

The workshop under the sponsorship of the EU was held to promote effective implementation of the CWC and to raise awareness of how resolution 1540 (2004) contributes to that objective. The workshop focused on the following three themes:

- national implementation of the CWC and the complementary nature of the requirements resolution 1540 (2004);
- preparation for and hosting OPCW inspections;
- enhancing capacity-building, industry outreach, and training in cooperation with industry.

### 3. Highlights

The workshop provided a platform for open dialogue between the OPCW Secretariat and the participating States and representatives of the chemical industry. Discussions centered on national implementation progress, capacity-building, and industry engagement. In this context, the 1540 Committee expert made a presentation on CWC related provisions of resolution 1540 (2004). Participants were informed of the requirements of resolution 1540 (2004), particularly domestic security measures and border and export controls. In addition, the expert highlighted the benefits of the complementary efforts of both the OPCW and the 1540 Committee.

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

The presentations made by OPCW experts on preparations for and execution of inspections highlighted the necessity of enacting national legislation and the importance of a timely establishment of a national authority to ensure accounting, securing and protecting CWC related items. In addition, participants were encouraged to identify areas of cooperation with industry and find effective ways to foster increased information sharing.

#### 4. **Additional comments**

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