

Information Note¹

- Event:** Wilton Park Session: Meeting the Emerging Challenge of Illicit Nuclear Procurement
- Organizer:** Wilton Park Centre (UK), in association with CNS James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies (USA) and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- Venue and Date:** 20-21 September 2013, West Sussex, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Participants:** *States:* France, Germany, Malaysia, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and United States of America

UN, International and regional organizations: United Nations Security Council 1737 Committee Panel of Experts, EU European External Action Service (EEAS), 1540 Committee Group of experts

Civil society, private sector and other entities: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Arizona State University, British Bankers' Association, Bryan Cave International Consulting (Asia Pacific) Pte Ltd, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Carol A Kalinoski and Associates, Centre for Science and Security Studies King's College London, DHL Americas/ Deutsche Post DHL, Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (India), Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS), Institute for Strategic Dialogue, 11 King's Bench Walk, Lloyd's of London, Nonproliferation Policy and Law Federation of American Scientists, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Perles Law Firm PC, Rolls-Royce plc, Skadden, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), United Against Nuclear Iran and Institute for Strategic Dialogue, Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, and independent consultants

1. Objectives of expert participation

- Bring to the attention of the participants the key role of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of the topic of the conference and in particular the obligations on all States to adopt, inter alia, legislation to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, their means of delivery, and related materials, and establish appropriate domestic controls over related materials to prevent their illicit trafficking by non-State actors.
- Support the organizers in their mission of highlighting the key issues in the area of illicit nuclear trafficking, giving views from the perspective of resolution 1540 (2004) and participating in discussions, also with a view to get a better picture of the current trends and to identify possible new challenges or possible areas for further work for the Committee.
- Network with representatives from governments, private sectors, academia, and others.

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.

2. **Background**

- Illicit nuclear trafficking has been an international concern for years. Resolution 1540 (2004) and resolution 1977 (2011) call for international cooperation between States, in accordance with international law, to counter the illicit trafficking by non-State actors in nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials.
- A wide array of international, multi-State, and national efforts are now in place to address this challenge. These include intensified export controls, measures to prevent the financing of proliferation-related activities, to control access to intangible transfers of technology and to information that could be used for weapons of mass destruction, and to secure sensitive materials. By effectively implementing resolution 1540 (2004), States would have more capacity to address the challenge of illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials by non-State actors.

3. **Highlights of discussions**

During this Conference, speakers defined illicit nuclear procurement and discussed examples of dual-use materials, how they can be used for proper purposes and how they are licensed. Speakers assessed the most salient issues, covering the full range of combating illicit nuclear material procurement, such as the procurement patterns, middle men and brokers, financial measures in curbing illegal nuclear commerce, prosecutions or designations², insurance and transport, importance of catch-all clauses in defeating sophisticated procurement schemes, and the role of the private sector as the first line of defence. The conference also triggered discussions on pre and post export interdiction, and innovative approaches to countering nuclear commodity smuggling. The emphasis was on engagement across sectors (government, industry, law enforcement) and on practical and implementable actions. How to manage intellectual knowledge was also discussed.

4. **Additional comments**

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

² The expert is understanding that the term is used for “blacklisting the transactions of concern”.