

Information Note¹

- Event:** Summer School on Disarmament and Non Proliferation
- Organizers:** Government of Mexico, The Diplomatic Academy of Mexico "Instituto Matías Romero" in coordination with the James Martin Center for Non-proliferation Studies (CNS) of the Monterey Institute for International Studies.
- Date and venue:** 7-8 July 2016, Mexico City, Mexico.
- Participants:** *Government of Mexico:* Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Diplomats from:* Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Uruguay and Venezuela.
- Government speakers: Chile, Jamaica and United States.
- International Organizations:* Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and Preparatory Commission for Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.
- Others:* International Committee of the Red Cross, James Martin Center for Non-proliferation Studies (CNS) of the Monterey Institute for International Studies, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Survivor of the Nagasaki atomic bomb.

1. Background

The Government of Mexico, through the *Instituto Matías Romero* invited diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean to the third session of the Summer School on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

The Director General for the United Nations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, sent a letter, dated 8 June 2016, to the 1540 Chair requesting him to appoint a 1540 Committee expert to make a presentation during this course.

A 1540 expert participated in the first and second sessions of this Summer School project.

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.

2. Overview

This was the third edition of a Summer School aimed at diplomats of Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs was to provide an academic space to discuss the importance of nuclear disarmament and to support the United Nations efforts in promoting nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education.

The programme included a series of sessions devoted to disarmament and non-proliferation topics and a specific session on the study of resolution 1540 (2004) and its implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The 1540 expert made a presentation about resolution 1540 (2004), its current challenges and the international non-proliferation environment. He also briefed the students about the main obligations derived from resolution 1540 (2004), highlighting the results derived from the analysis of the recent updates of the 1540 matrices, including in particular, the increase in measures in accordance with operative paragraph 2 of the resolution, taken by States of Latin America and the Caribbean. He also referred to initiatives by States in the regions such as the development of 1540 voluntary National Implementation Action Plans.

Questions raised by the students included the following:

- The functioning of the 1540 assistance mechanism.
- The interaction between the Committee and other international regional and subregional organizations.

In the framework of bilateral meetings, the 1540 met diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean and explored possibilities for future activities related to assistance and the development and implementation of voluntary National Implementation Action Plans.

Additional Comments

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