

Programme of Work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

(1 January - 28 April 2006)

The fourth programme of work of the 1540 Committee covers the period from 1 January to 28 April 2006.

Examination of first reports to be submitted by States and of additional information provided by reporting States

In October 2005 the Committee completed the examination of first reports submitted pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) from 124 States and one organization. Based on the examination of these reports the Committee requested from all reporting States additional information or clarifications regarding their efforts to implement resolution 1540.

By 1 January 2006, 45 States submitted additional information upon the request of the Committee. To help fulfil its mandate to report to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), the Committee will continue to examine both first reports which will be received from States and additional information to be provided by reporting States.

On 13 October 2005, the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland sent a letter to the President of the Security Council with the "Highlights of conclusions" of the Seminar held in Buenos Aires from 26 to 28 September 2005 (S/2005/647). On that occasion, the Latin American and Caribbean States participating in the Seminar requested that „the 1540 Committee helps Member States of the region to identify priorities in the process of national implementation of resolution 1540.“ Consequently, in examining States' first reports and/or, as applicable, the additional information States have submitted to the Committee, the Committee will pay due attention to such requests.

Establishment of legislative database

The Committee will complete the work on the establishment of a database containing links to public sources of relevant information about States' national legislative and other regulatory measures. The database will continue be used by the Committee in the process of further examination of reports submitted by States.

Assistance

In further examining the first reports and additional information from States, the Committee will, through its experts, collect up-to-date information on the issue of assistance in order to contribute to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The Committee may, through its experts, informally contact relevant States to inquire whether they might be interested in receiving such information.

The Committee will continue to request States that have yet to do so to designate Points of Contact on assistance and to inform the Committee in this regard.

Pursuing further reporting under relevant provisions of resolution 1540 (2004)

The Committee will continue to seek further reporting through interaction with the States that have yet to submit their first national report in accordance with the provisions of resolution 1540 (2004).

Transparency

Transparency will be maintained as an important objective of the work of the Committee. The Committee will further interact on a regular basis with the United Nations Member States through briefings by the Chair and the Vice-Chairmen, as well as through common briefings with the Chairmen of the CTC and the Al Qaeda/Taliban Sanctions Committee.

The Committee will update regularly its website (<http://disarmament2.un.org/Committee1540>) as a source of additional information on issues related to resolution 1540 (2004).

The Committee will continue to inform organizations outside the United Nations about the Committee's work through attendance at regional and subregional meetings and conferences.

States are encouraged to make direct contact with the Committee's members and its experts to seek any necessary clarification on the issues covered in their correspondence with the Committee or on other related matters: (phone: +1 212 457 1296; fax: +1 212 457 4045; and/or e-mail: 1540experts@un.org). In addition, the 1540 Committee, with the support of its experts, may, when deemed appropriate, contact States to seek further clarification from them on issues arising from their reports.

Cooperation between 1540 Committee and international, regional and subregional organizations, other Security Council subsidiary bodies and outreach

The Committee will continue to cooperate, as appropriate, with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations in order to seek support for its work, as well as to promote and facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

The Committee will continue to maintain cooperation with the CTC and the Al Qaeda/Taliban Sanctions Committee. The Committee's experts will work closely with the experts of the other Committees, seeking to maximize the synergies between and among the other expert groups.

The Committee and its experts will conduct further outreach with interested States to explain the provisions of resolution 1540 and the activities of the Committee with a view to raising awareness and seeking further support for the implementation of the resolution. The Committee will reflect on the findings and conclusions reached at the regional seminars, workshops and conferences, in order to advance further dialog and cooperation with States of different regions to facilitate the fulfillment of resolution 1540.

Reporting to the Security Council

By 28 April 2006 the Committee will submit to the Security Council for its examination a report on the implementation of resolution 1540.

Mandate of the 1540 Committee

Full implementation of resolution 1540 by all States is a long-term objective. Since the current mandate of the Committee will expire on 28 April 2006, a discussion on the future of the Committee will be held during the period covered by the current programme of work.
