

**Briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee
established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
(30 May 2006)**

I have the honour to brief the Security Council on the most recent activities undertaken by the 1540 Committee and to outline its future efforts to promote compliance by all states with resolution 1540 (2004) through the achievement of the implementation of its requirements.

As you are aware, on 27 April 2006, the Security Council examined the report of the Committee which addressed the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) as of April 2006. The same day, the Council adopted unanimously resolution 1673 (2006) and emphasized the importance for all States to implement fully resolution 1540 (2004).

With resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council adopted the first international instrument that deals with weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials in an integrated and comprehensive manner. **The main objective of the resolution is preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials and deterring non-State actors from accessing or illicit trafficking in such items.** It establishes binding obligations for all States regarding non-proliferation and is aimed at preventing and deterring illicit access to such weapons, their means of delivery and weapon-related materials. The resolution requests all States to report on measures they have taken or intend to take to implement the obligations under the resolution.

Continuous monitoring of and support to the efforts by all states to implement fully the provisions of that resolution requires a lasting effort by the Council. It therefore decided to extend the mandate of the Committee for a period of two years, until 27 April 2008. It also decided that the Committee shall intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through a work programme which shall include the compilation of information on the status of States' implementation of all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation. The Council also decided that the Committee's work program shall address in particular all aspects of paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of resolution 1540 (2004).

As of 30 May 2006 129 States Members of the United Nations and one organization have submitted first national reports to the Committee. 62 Member States have yet to submit their first report. In response to the examination of the first national reports by the Committee, 83 States provided additional information.

Facilitation of reporting and conduct of outreach activities to promote states' reporting and implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) will remain among the top priorities of our future work. With respect to reporting, the Committee intends to approach again all UN Member States that have yet to submit a first report. Based on its previous experience of examining national reports submitted by States, the Committee decided to assist national authorities of those States in the preparation of a first report on the implementation of the resolution. I will also continue the practice of reaching out to the members of all regional

groups in New York to discuss issues relating to reporting, as well as implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) generally.

The Committee, with the support of Member States and the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs, will continue its other outreach activities to promote States' implementation of resolution 1540, consistent with resolution 1673. Three regional seminars aimed at raising the awareness of proliferation problems worldwide, facilitating further reporting, and advancing the implementation process will be organized in the second part of this year in China, Ghana and Peru. Within existing resources, the Committee also will continue its practice of informing organizations outside the UN about its work at relevant meetings and conferences. I will make full use of these opportunities to address, in particular, issues of reporting and implementation.

.As part of the Committee's efforts to promote information sharing concerning States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), I also am pleased to announce that on 19 May 2006, the Committee decided to publish on its official website a legislative database. This database contains links to public sources of relevant information about national legislative and other regulatory measures of States that have submitted reports on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

The Committee developed the database to provide additional information on the laws, regulations and other measures related to States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and to facilitate the exchange of information on the implementation efforts of States. The Committee will update regularly the database.

The Committee will encourage States to make appropriate use of the background information provided through this database as well as legislative advice provided by international organizations, when enacting national implementation laws and measures.

The Committee will interact and cooperate with relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations, in order to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540.

The 1540 Committee will maintain close cooperation with the CTC and the 1267 Committee. The Committee's experts will continue to work closely with their colleagues, making every effort to maximize synergies between and among the experts of these three Committees. As part of these efforts, the Committee's experts have been working with CTED and the 1267 Monitoring Team to develop proposals for improving reporting and addressing the problem of late submission of reports in a coordinated manner. We also are making use of country visits by the CTC and the 1267 Committee in order to raise the issue of reporting.

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The Committee will continue, through its experts, to act as a clearing house on assistance, including by collecting up-to-date information on this issue and by informally contacting States to enquire whether they might be interested in receiving information on offers and requests for assistance.

In its future work on examination of the national reports, the Committee, through its experts, will identify national practices in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) that might be used in providing further general and specific guidance upon request, to States seeking legislative assistance in implementing the resolution. The Committee will also invite both States making offers of assistance and States requesting assistance to take a proactive approach on a bilateral basis, including making use of offers by international organizations, in order to contribute to capacity-building. In this regard, the Committee looks forward to the results of the donors' Conference on assistance for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) which will be organized by SIPRI, a Stockholm research institute that addresses questions of conflict and cooperation important to international peace and security, in Geneva, on 6-7 June 2006.

A draft programme of work, which will cover a 12-month period, is currently under consideration by the members of the Committee. It will be based on the provisions of resolution 1540 (2004) and resolution 1673 (2006). It also will reflect the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee to the Council of 25 April 2006 (S/2006/257).

On behalf of the Committee, I look forward to the cooperation of all States as the Committee goes forward with its future work.