



1540 Committee

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

**Statement by Ambassador Kim Sook, Chair of the 1540 Committee,
at the United Nations Security Council Joint Briefing of the
Committee Established Pursuant to Resolutions 1267 and 1989 and the
Committees Established Pursuant to Resolutions 1373 and 1540
10 May 2013**

Mr. President,

I will take this opportunity to give an overview of the main developments in the work of the 1540 Committee since our last joint meeting on 14 November 2012. At the outset, I would like to inform you that the Committee's group of experts is now at its full complement of nine, as envisaged in resolution 2055 (2012).

On 27 December 2012, the 1540 Committee transmitted to the Security Council the review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for 2012. Building on the status and experience of implementation, the Committee set out a list of tasks in the "Looking Ahead" section of this review. I am pleased to report that good progress has been made in fulfilling these tasks.

We will soon transmit to the Council our Twelfth Program of Work which is now under discussion within the Committee. I believe that the Program of Work will optimize the efficiency of the Committee, map out specific priorities to promote the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and set up the guidance for the work of the Committee over the next 12 months.

Guided by the principles of transparency, equal treatment, cooperation and consistency in its approach, the Committee has continued to focus its attention on raising the global awareness of resolution 1540, facilitating assistance to States to help them strengthen national capabilities to implement its requirements, and to lay the foundation for improved mechanisms for sharing effective practices for national implementation and promoting collaboration with other international organizations.

Resolution 1977 (2011) calls upon all States that have not yet presented a first report to submit such a report to the Committee without delay. There appears to be a better understanding of the challenges of national implementation and the development of tailored strategies to facilitate assistance for overcoming challenges, and assistance that also supports

implementation of relevant international obligations and national security and development priorities. In this regard, the Committee has developed an approach to the twenty-four non-reporting States in an effort to achieve universal reporting, if possible, by the end of 2014, the tenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004).

In accordance with its mandate, the Committee continued to further facilitate the “matchmaking” between assistance requests and offers. Since the last briefing, the Committee received an additional official request for assistance from the Central American Integration System (SICA) Secretariat on 15 January 2013 which requests funding for the continuation of the SICA 1540 programme of work, including the position of the 1540 regional coordinator within the SICA Secretariat to assist SICA Member States. In accordance with the established procedures, the Committee has passed the request to those States and international, regional and subregional organizations which have offered to provide assistance, for their consideration, and first responses have been received. The group of experts is now working on identifying and analyzing assistance needs and continued consultations with officials from states, in facilitating existing and new assistance requests.

Operative paragraph 8 of Resolution 1977 (2011) encourages all States to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans, with the assistance of the 1540 Committee, as appropriate, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit those plans to the 1540 Committee. We are pleased to report that since our last briefing, Kyrgyzstan submitted its National Implementation Action Plan (NAP) to the Committee. We noted that in Kyrgyzstan’s NAP also contains a request for technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the specific measures of their NAP. A good example is the National Implementation Action Plan drafting session with representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s ministries and agencies held in April. According to the information received by the Committee, a number of other States, supported by the Group of Experts, are in the process of updating or preparing their initial NAPs.

Operative paragraph 11 of Resolution 1977 (2011) encourages the 1540 Committee to actively engage in dialogue with States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation. From 17 to 19 April 2013, I personally led a visit to Trinidad and Tobago, accompanied by the members of the Group of experts. During the visit I had the opportunity to hear first hand from the acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Trinidad and Tobago of their efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004). The discussions demonstrated the high level of

commitment and determination by the government of Trinidad and Tobago towards the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). This is the first visit to a State of the Latin American and Caribbean region and the first one to be led by the Chair of the 1540 Committee. Since the last briefing the 1540 Committee has also received invitations to carry out similar visits from Grenada, Mozambique and the Republic of Moldova.

In accordance with resolution 1977 (2011) and within its mandate, the 1540 Committee has continued to engage in various outreach activities to serve its objectives. Since 14 November last year, the 1540 Committee and its Experts participated in thirty-three outreach events organized by various international, regional and subregional organizations in collaboration with various governments and in many cases with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).

From a thematic point of view, these outreach events promoted the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) through direct action with States by Committee members and the group of experts to help enhance their national implementation arrangements. Also visits have been conducted specifically to review particular issues such as export and border controls, nuclear security, biosecurity, industry outreach, and proliferation financing. In the spirit of transparency required by Resolution 1977 (2011), information about these outreach events is posted on the 1540 Committee website. While some of these activities have been conducted directly with States we have found regional organisations particularly helpful as key players in the facilitation and the successful conduct of these events. For example I will take part in the OSCE's Forum for Security Cooperation in Vienna on May 15 to further cooperation between the Committee and the OSCE.

Operative paragraphs 14 and 18 of Resolution 1977 (2011) call upon relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to designate and provide the 1540 Committee with a point of contact (PoC) or coordinator for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and for assistance. I would like to note that since the last briefing, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, the United States, the Republic of Korea and Austria have either submitted or updated their PoC information. For IGOs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has revised its PoC information and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) has designated its PoC. This will further facilitate the cooperation with the Committee to implement the resolution. On February 27, the Committee sent out letters requesting all Member States to submit information on their 1540 implementation status as well as on PoCs. Such a

living network of contacts could serve to improve communication and interaction with States and between States. I would take this opportunity to request the cooperation of all Member States in this regard.

It also continued its interaction in that area with academic institutions, civil society and representatives of industry as appropriate. Let me note that in February 2013, I had a meeting with Mrs. Mireille Ballestrazzi, the President of the INTERPOL, to discuss the future cooperation which indicated that the 1540 obligations could be incorporated into INTERPOL's law enforcement capacity-building programmes. INTERPOL will also join the list of potential assistance providers in that regard.

Transparency is an essential principle guiding the work and activities of the Committee. In accordance with resolution 1977 (2011), the Committee continued to institute transparency measures and activities, including by making the fullest possible use of its website. The Committee's Working Group on Transparency and Media Outreach is currently discussing the future media strategy of the Committee, including with regard to the upcoming 10th anniversary of the resolution. From 22 to 24 April this year, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia organized a workshop, focused on the League of Arab States, on *Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors: the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the Arab World*, in New York. This event was a good example of a State promoting awareness of the obligations under resolution 1540 (2004) and in the practical implementation of its provisions within its region. This event was one in a series that also included training for customs officials in collaboration with the WCO.

Mr. President,

I would like to conclude by reiterating my commitment to the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of this resolution next year, we will work at full throttle to fully consolidate the universal political will towards WMD non-proliferation by non-State actors. At the same time, the Committee will continue to address all aspects of the resolution so as not to leave any stone unturned. In this regard, we particularly look forward to closer and practical cooperation with the Committees and look forward to hearing new ideas to improve our joint efforts to counter the scourge of terrorism. For our part we believe that closer collaboration between us is vital and in particular we should make every effort to support each other's outreach activities consistent with our respective mandates.

Thank you, Mr. President.