

Statement to the Security Council by H.E. Dian Triansyah Djani
1540 Committee Chair
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations
New York, 19 March 2019

I am honoured to have the opportunity to brief the Security Council, as the new Chair of the Committee established pursuant to UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), on the work of the Committee since our last briefing in October 2018. I wish to express my gratitude to Ambassador Llorenty Solíz and his staff for their solid Chairmanship of the Committee, followed by a smooth handover to my team.

Since its adoption on 28 April 2004, significant progress has been made towards the implementation of resolution 1540. Nevertheless, in resolution 2325 of 2016, the Security Council recognised that the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 is a long-term task that will require continuous efforts at national, regional and international levels. To date, 182 countries have submitted initial reports, providing the Committee with information on the measures they have taken, or plan to take, to comply with their obligations under the resolution. In October 2018, two 1540 Experts visited the Republic of Mali in order to support national authorities to draft a first national report on implementation of resolution 1540. Additionally, on behalf of the Committee, I recently sent letters to non-reporting States seeking their first reports as well as notes verbales to reporting States requesting up-to-date information to assist the Committee in preparation for the next Comprehensive Review.

Effectiveness of the practical steps taken at the national level to implement the resolution is also important. One helpful step in this regard is for States to develop voluntary National-Implementation Action Plans (N.A.P.) as encouraged by Operative Paragraph 5 of resolution 2325. It helps to identify actions to close any gaps and vulnerabilities in regulations and national control frameworks, fosters interagency cooperation, and identify areas where assistance may be required. Work on N.A.P.s with Member States at their request will continue this year, including during a recent workshop hosted by Togo and an upcoming one in Madagascar.

Exchanges and sharing of information by Member States constitutes one of the Committee's core activities. The Member States are in the best position to identify effective national

practices and to share them with the 1540 Committee and other partners. During the last few years, an increasing number of States have undertaken peer reviews. The Committee looks forward to an opportunity to hear about the results of their peer review meetings later this year, and will continue to support States that wish to conduct them, where appropriate.

The 1540 Committee recognises the role of the National Points of Contact (P.O.C.) in support of the resolution's implementation. One hundred and five (105) Member States have informed the Committee of their P.O.C. including, updated information from Hungary, India and Turkey. In addition, the Committee has developed regional training courses for POCs and, in co-operation with the African Union, will organise a training for 1540 POCs of English-speaking African States, next week.

In facilitating assistance to foster Member States' capacity to implement their 1540 obligations, the Committee has a matchmaking role and seeks to match assistance requests from States with offers from States or international, regional or subregional organisations. Pending assistance requests are displayed on the 1540 homepage and date back to 2010. Today, 21 assistance requests are still open. However, assistance related to specific elements of 1540 implementation has been provided in the past several months to two of the requesting countries, namely Togo and Zambia on strategic trade control enforcement, both in co-operation with the World Customs Organisation and other organisations. The 1540 Committee webpage also includes lists of States and international, regional and subregional organizations which have offered assistance in general. I can also report that in 2018, nine new requests for assistance were submitted to the Committee by Bahrain, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Madagascar, Mali and Peru. Several requests consisted of invitations to the Committee and its Group of Experts to visit those States to discuss assistance on implementation measures.

To date, 47 States and 16 organisations have informed the Committee about general assistance programmes that could help facilitate implementation of 1540. The Committee stands ready to add new programmes or updated information on available assistance to its website and, to facilitate this process, I have sent letters on behalf of the Committee to Member States and international, regional and subregional organisations soliciting their updated offers of assistance.

The Committee and its Group of Experts have maintained the momentum of outreach events in the course of fulfilling the Committee's Programme of Work, and will continue to do so with the adoption of this year's Programme of Work on 6 February. In 2018, there was a total of 51 events in which the Chair, Committee Members and the Group of Experts participated.

A top priority is direct engagement with States through visits and national roundtables, at their invitation. In the course of this process increased use has been made of the support that can be offered by regional organisations, including the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs' regional centres. For example, the Committee co-operated with UNLIREC during a National Round Table on the Implementation of Resolution 1540 in Peru last November, and more recently with UNREC in Equatorial Guinea and Togo during awareness-raising and national capacity-building workshops in December and January respectively.

We have also intensified our engagement with international organisations whose mandates are directly related to resolution 1540 (2004) such as the IAEA, the OPCW, the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU), the UNODC, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and the WHO. The Committee has encouraged these organisations to highlight obligations of resolution 1540 in their model legislation or guidelines and, in December, during an African Union Comprehensive Model Law on Weapons of Mass Destruction Inception Workshop in Vienna.

Transparency and outreach are vital to the effective implementation of the resolution. With this in mind, the Committee is seeking ways to make better use of its website. For example, we have continued to publish a quarterly message from the Chair that goes out to those of the wider 1540 network who have registered their interest, including civil society.

A special effort is being made to engage parliamentarians through, for example, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). In this regard, my predecessor took the opportunity to deliver a video message in October to the 139th Assembly of the IPU in Geneva. Active engagement between the State and relevant sectors of society, including industry, academia and professional associations could also contribute to full implementation of obligations under resolution 1540 . Further, an effective partnership between States and industry is vital to successful non-proliferation efforts. The Wiesbaden Process conferences foster such a dialogue between States and industry.

In accordance with Operative Paragraph 3 of resolution 1977 (2011), the Security Council, inter alia, decided to conduct a review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 prior to the expiry of the Committee's mandate in April 2021. In this regard the Committee is mandated to include, if necessary, recommendations on adjustments to its mandate, and submit to the Security Council a report on the conclusions of this review. The Committee has begun its preparatory work for the upcoming Comprehensive Review of the implementation of resolution 1540.

I will conclude my remarks by drawing the Council's attention to the work of the Group of Experts supporting the Committee in its implementation of resolution 1540 . The Group is now operating with nine Experts including the Co-ordinator appointed by the Secretary-General last May. I regret to inform the Council that the Experts' contracts for 2019 were issued for only four months due to ongoing financial challenges affecting the United Nations, which is of serious concern. If this situation is not remedied before the end of April, the Committee will face serious challenges in meeting its obligations to the Security Council and realising the activities agreed upon under its current Programme of Work.

I thank you for the opportunity to make this statement to the Security Council.