Briefing to the Security Council by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on 23 November 2022 (stand-alone brief to accompany Joint Briefing by three Committees)

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I am honored to report on progress made since our last joint briefing on 2 December 2021. As far as our mandate is concerned, we fully endorse the joint statement delivered on behalf of the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee.

Resolution 1540 remains a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture to prevent non-State actors, such as those identified in the United Nations list established and maintained by the Committee established under Security Council resolution 1267 and those to whom resolution 1373 applies, from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. The devastating and potentially catastrophic consequences that could arise from the use of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons by such actors remain a matter of serious concern to the international community.

States have made significant progress towards the full implementation of the resolution. Nevertheless, more work should be done and the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 remains a long-term task.

While the mandate of the 1540 Committee differs from the other two Committees, there are important areas of complementarity and resolution 2325 of 2016 reiterates the need to enhance cooperation among the three Committees. The 1540 Committee has continued to enhance information-sharing, coordination on visits to States, technical assistance and other issues of relevance to the Committee and the 1267 Committee and CTC, as appropriate, and has also briefed the Security Council jointly with these two Committees accordingly every year, as is the present case.

While owing to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee had to postpone a number of planned activities in 2021 on Comprehensive Review on the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), this year the Committee continued to conduct the Comprehensive Review, including the holding of open consultations from 31 May to 2 June.

In line with the inclusive process of the review, Member States and international and regional organizations participated in the Committee's open consultations. Participants from non-governmental organizations, academia, professional associations, and industry also delivered statements in an informal segment.

Subsequent to renewal of the Committee's mandate under resolution 2622 (2022) in February, the Committee has also continued to conduct activities to promote the full and effective implementation of the resolution and to assist States, upon request, in strengthening national capacity. The Committee has participated in [19] outreach events organized by States and international, regional and subregional organizations and relevant civil society.

To date, [185] countries have submitted initial reports to the Committee with information on the measures they have taken, or plan to take, to implement resolution 1540 (2004).

The effectiveness of the practical steps taken by States to implement the resolution is important, and one of the measures States can consider in this respect is to develop voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NAPs), as encouraged by resolution 2325 (2016). These help to identify actions to take in regard to regulations and national control frameworks, foster interagency cooperation, and identify areas where assistance may be required. [38] States have now submitted a total of [46] such plans to the Committee since 2007.

The Committee plays an important role in facilitating assistance to Member States to fulfil their 1540 obligations, by matching assistance requests from States with offers of assistance, from States or from international, regional or subregional organizations. In addition to facilitating assistance requests, the Committee continued to engage with States at their invitation to discuss national reporting, NAPs, Committee matrices and assistance on implementation measures. The Committee continues to use its website for outreach to the public.

I would like to underline that a cooperative approach and dialogue with the Member States continue to be cornerstones of the 1540 Committee's activities.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation to everybody for their efforts in support of the Committee's work.