

36. Items relating to non-proliferation

A. Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council considered the item entitled “Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction” at two meetings in 2008: at one, the Council adopted a resolution to extend the mandate of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for three years⁶⁷⁴ and at the other it heard a briefing on the activities of the Committee.

25 April and 18 August 2008: extension of the mandate of the Committee and briefing by the Chairman

On 25 April 2008, the Council adopted resolution 1810 (2008), by which, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, it extended the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for a period of three years, with the continued assistance of experts, until 25 April 2011. Moreover, the Council modified the Committee’s mandate, requesting it to consider a comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

18 August 2008: briefing by the Chairman

On 18 August 2008, the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) provided a briefing on the work of the Committee, in line with its report on the implementation

of resolution 1540 (2004).⁶⁷⁵ He reported that since the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), the Committee had made considerable progress through its intensive work programmes, particularly by assisting the Council in monitoring the implementation of that resolution by the Member States, organizing outreach activities, developing deeper and mutually beneficial cooperation with other counter-terrorism bodies of the Council and with global, regional and subregional organizations, creating new tools to facilitate assistance and transparency, and enhancing its dialogue with individual States. Notwithstanding that progress, the Committee concluded that further attention by the Council and more intensive action, particularly in regard to capacity-building and the sharing of lessons learned, were required to achieve the goals of resolution 1540 (2004). Among other recommendations, the Committee believed that it should strengthen its clearing-house role for channelling assistance to States in need, increase tailored dialogue with and among States to identify assistance needs and consider options for developing existing financial mechanisms to build capacity to implement resolution 1540 (2004). While acknowledging that the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all States would take time, he emphasized the need to nurture a sense of urgency, given the gravity of the threat facing the international community.⁶⁷⁶

⁶⁷⁴ For more information, see part IX, sect. I, with regard to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

⁶⁷⁵ The report (S/2008/493, annex) was submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1810 (2008).

⁶⁷⁶ S/PV.5955, pp. 2-3. The Chairman also briefed the Council on the activities of the Committee under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”. See sect. 41 in the present part.

Meetings: non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5877th 25 April 2008		Draft resolution submitted by 7 States ^a (S/2008/273)			Resolution 1810 (2008) 15-0-0
5955th 18 August 2008	Letter dated 8 July 2008 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/493)			Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)	

^a China, Croatia, France, Italy, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

B. Non-proliferation

Overview

During the period under review, the Council considered the item entitled “Non-proliferation”, in regard to the nuclear programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at nine meetings, hearing quarterly briefings on the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) at seven of those meetings.⁶⁷⁷ By resolution 1803 (2008) of 3 March 2008, the Council strengthened the sanctions regime imposed earlier against the Islamic Republic of Iran as a result of non-compliance with Council resolutions, and by resolution 1835 (2008) of 27 September 2008, the Council called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to comply with its obligations under Council resolutions and to meet the requirements of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).⁶⁷⁸

⁶⁷⁷ For more information, see part IX, sect. I, with regard to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006).

⁶⁷⁸ For more information, see part VII, sect. III, with regard to Article 41 of the Charter.

**3 March 2008: strengthening of the
sanctions regime**

By resolution 1803 (2008) of 3 March 2008, noting with serious concern that, as confirmed in the reports of the Director General of IAEA,⁶⁷⁹ the Islamic Republic of Iran had not established full and sustained suspension of all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities and heavy water-related projects as set out in resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 (2006), and 1747 (2007), nor resumed its cooperation with IAEA under the Additional Protocol, nor taken the other steps required by the Board of Governors, nor complied with the provisions of the aforementioned resolutions, which were essential to build confidence, and, deploring the refusal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to take those steps, and acting under Article 41 of Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council, while welcoming the agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and IAEA to resolve all outstanding issues concerning that country’s nuclear programme and progress made in that regard, as set out in the Director General’s report of 22 February 2008, decided to impose further sanctions measures on

⁶⁷⁹ Reports of 23 May 2007 (GOV/2007/22; see also S/2007/303, annex), 30 August 2007 (GOV/2007/48), 15 November 2007 (GOV/2007/58) and 22 February 2008 (GOV/2008/4).