“Effective Practices in Implementation of UNSCR 1540”

Voluntary National Implementation Action Plans for

29 - 30 June 2015
Rakitje, Republic of Croatia

Organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation
in cooperation with
the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
using funds from the UN Trust Fund for Global and Regional Disarmament Activities donated by the
Governments of the Republic of Korea, the United States of America and the European Union

Draft Concept Note

Dates: 29 – 30 June 2015

Location: Rakitje, Republic of Croatia

Working language: English

Organizers:
The workshop is organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in cooperation with
the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and supported with voluntary financial
contributions from the United States of America, the Republic of Korea and the European Union.

Background:
Resolution 1540 (2004) stipulates that all States shall refrain from providing any form of support to
non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use
nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. The resolution also obliges all
States, in accordance with their national procedures, to adopt and enforce appropriate effective
laws, which prohibit any non-State actor to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular
for terrorist purposes, as well as attempts to engage in any of the foregoing activities, participate in
them as an accomplice, assist or finance them. It also requires States to take and enforce effective
measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of WMD and their means of
delivery and related materials deterring non-State actors from accessing or illicit trafficking in such
items.
On 20 April 2011, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1977 which extended the mandate of the 1540 Committee for a period of ten years to 2021. In Resolution 1977 (2011), Operative Paragraph 8, the Security Council 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.

Furthermore, through Resolution 1977 (2011) the Security Council requests that the 1540 Committee, with the support of a group of experts, identifies effective practices, templates and guidance, with a view to developing a compilation of such documents.

**Voluntary National Implementation Action Plans:**
In practical terms, a voluntary National Implementation Action Plan (NAP) should be drafted by a State mapping out national priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of Resolution 1540 (2004).

So far, [14] States have submitted voluntarily the NAP to the 1540 Committee.¹

Possible content of a NAP may include:
- Status of the national implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004);
- Identification of national priorities and future areas of enhanced implementation;
- Implementation plans and timelines for relevant measures;
- Assistance requirements;
- Designation of a National Point of Contact.

**Workshop objectives:**
The workshop will focus on voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NAP) for Resolution 1540 (2004).

In particular it will:
- Discuss key elements of a voluntary NAP;
- Invite Member States to share their experience, lessons learned and national effective practices on the development, adoption and implementation of their NAPs;
- Focus on national assistance needs;
- Raise awareness of available regional activities in relation to voluntary NAPs;
- Enhance cooperation with international and regional organizations.

**Participants:**
*The workshop is designed for nominated national officials who are directly dealing with the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004).*

Around 30 participants are anticipated. From the part of RACVIAC, three participants will be invited from each of the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro and Republic of Serbia and one from Romania and Republic of Turkey (each). In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other associate members, observers and participants are invited to attend the seminar.


*Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
**UN Member States (apart from the countries mentioned above):** Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

**International Organizations and entities:** International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), World Customs Organization (WCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Biological Weapons Convention- Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU).

**Regional organizations:** Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), RACVIAC.

**Donors:** Representatives of the United States of America, Republic of Korea and the European Union.

**United Nations:** 1540 Committee Members, 1540 Committee Experts, UNODA.

**Methodology**

The event will take place in the form of a seminar. It will last for two working days. The seminar will provide an opportunity for national officials and representatives of intergovernmental organizations to discuss and share practices in the Resolution 1540 implementation. All seminar materials will be distributed on a CD at the end of the event. The working language will be English.

Member States are kindly informed that RACVIAC encourages all lecturers to submit written essays on their area of expertise to be referred to during their presentation at the RACVIAC activity. Most prominent and current essays will then be published in the “RACVIAC Compendium – Assortment of RACVIAC Prominent Lecturers’ Insights” that will be issued at least once a year, preferably at the beginning of the year for the previous year but with an option and aim to become semi-annual if input and interest of the targeted audience is satisfactory.

Understanding the additional effort and time needed to be put into the writing of this essay, RACVIAC will stimulate it with an amount of 100 euros per essay.

The essays should comprise at least 1500 words and should be submitted electronically and in the hard copy version to RACVIAC before the actual lecture or presentation is given. The author of the submitted essay should give his/her written permission to RACVIAC to publish the essay in the “RACVIAC Compendium” waiving future claims or compensations towards RACVIAC.

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