



## **CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION**

### **Cooperative and Security Environment with Focus on Arms Control Pillar**

#### **Seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540**

**29-30 June 2015, Rakitje, Republic of Croatia**

*Organised in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia.*

#### **Introduction**

The Seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540, co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA) was a continuation of the unprecedented pilot project activity in 2013 regarding the nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The Seminar was organized with the aim of focusing on voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NAP) for Resolution 1540 (2004), in particular, to discuss key elements of a voluntary NAP, invite Member States to share their experiences, 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 and enhance cooperation with international and regional organizations.

The participants who attended the Symposium came from the following countries: Albania (2), Belarus (2) Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Republic of Croatia (1), Hungary (1), Kazakhstan (1), Kosovo\*

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the

(2), Kyrgyzstan (2), Moldova (2) Montenegro (2), Republic of Serbia (1), Tajikistan (3), the United States of America (1) and international organisations, such as the IAEA (1), OPCW (1), OSCE (1), UNSC 1540 Committee (2), UNODA (2), UNODC (1), VERTIC (1) and WHO (1). They were both senior and junior military men and civilians dealing with 1540 resolution issues.

#### **The Execution**

During the first day (Monday, 29 June) the following topics were presented:

- In her presentation Ms Xiaodong LV, the 1540 expert of the UN 1540 Committee - one of 9 experts of the UN 1540 Committee - talked about different cases, giving an overview of the efforts and work of the Committee.



*Group photo*

The items of the “1540 toolbox,” the “1540 matrix,” the national reports and the 1540

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ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. (In accordance with Arrangements regarding regional representation and cooperation).

National Implementation Action Plan were also mentioned.



*Seminar participants I*

- *A Comprehensive Approach to Prevent the Proliferation of WMD: The Belarus National Framework Document on UNSCR 1540 Implementation* by Mr Vasily Pavlov, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE. Mr Pavlov talked about the National Framework Document (NFD) on UNSCR 1540 Implementation, providing explanations on the topic and why it is necessary to draft national implementation plans (for example to identify the loopholes in national legislature, improve the national export legislation, etc.), mentioning Belarus' contribution to the international non-proliferation efforts, the importance of the road map, calling it the essence of the NFD.



*Ms Sabrina Pfiffner (UNODA) and BGen Zdravko Jakop*

Ms Neliya Vržina (Second Secretary, International Security Division, Sector for NATO and International Security,

Directorate-General for Multilateral and Global Affairs, MFEA HR) discussed the obligations arising from the UNSCR 1540, the UNSCR 1540, emphasizing the Republic of Croatia's special geographic position and shape and difficult borders. Ms Vržina talked about the institutions that are involved, governmental bodies, the strategy to be followed and the importance of the definition of the aim behind this strategy.

Once the national presentations were given (KG, ME, RS, BA) the following lectures were held:

- *1540 National Implementation Action Plans: Legislative and Regulatory Actions* by Dr Sonia Drobysz, Legal Officer, National Implementation Measures Programme, VERTIC. Ms Drobysz informed the participants about the UNSCR 1540-related legislative and regulatory framework (in bullets), giving National Action Plan examples (AM, BY, HR, KG, MK, ME, RS), talked about the implementing legislative and regulatory actions of NAP, the assistance of VERTIC – a non-profit organisation, established in 1986 in London- to develop and implement a NAP.

- *Legislative and Regulatory Framework: Preparing a NAP under the Current International Legal Environment: Questions and Answers* by Mr Tamás Lattmann JD PhD, Professor, Associate, National University of Public Service, Budapest. In his presentation Mr Lattmann gave an outline of the legislative and preparatory framework in general, provided the participants with information on the international legal background (relevant treaties, UNSC resolutions) and talked about the national reports.

- *The IAEA's Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans (INSSPs)* by Mr Fei Liu, Division of Nuclear Security, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, International Atomic Energy

Agency. The presentation given by Mr Liu dealt with the question of Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans as the main topic. His case study was the case of Afghanistan.



*Seminar participants II*

- *The contribution of OPCW to the implementation of Resolution 1540* by Mr Danilo Campisi, Legal Officer (OPCW).

Mr Campisi first showed a videoclip, then talked about the work of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, the internship programme for legal drafters and national authority representatives (one week, four times a year), organised by OPCW. He informed the participants about OPCW's webpage, where one can find a legislative and support tool and a "reference corner" with documents by year, topics, etc.

- *The OSCE: Facilitating UNSCR 1540 Implementation* by Ms Adriana Volenikova, Associate project officer / UNSCR 1540, OSCE Secretariat. Ms Volenikova talked about the mandate and co-operation framework, the OSCE support in facilitating 1540 implementation and the lessons learned on the part of OSCE.

Ms Maria Lorenzo Sobrado, Programme Officer, Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC, informed the participants about their activity, showing UNODC's webpage, together with the counter-terrorism webpage.

- *Global Health Security* by Ms Antoinette Kaic-Rak, Head of WHO CO in the Republic of Croatia. Ms Kaic-Rak talked about the "Health Security" and the

work of WHO regarding counter-terrorism efforts.

During the second day (Tuesday, 30 June) first Mr Richard Cupitt, US UNSCR 1540 Coordinator's presentation was given. Mr Cupitt talked about president Obama's vision of nuclear security, the nuclear security summit's (NSS) preparation and outcomes, mentioning the NSS2016 website, the role of the non-governmental sector and the role of the industry.

After that national presentations were given (AL, MD, TD), and, finally, after the closing ceremony, bilateral meetings were held with different parties, among others the representatives of RACVIAC and UNODA.

### **Conclusion**

According to the feedback received via the questionnaire, the participants found it useful to hear more about the challenges in regard to implementing the plans, the comparisons of the 1540 plan and EU CBRN action plan, challenges in obtaining and delivering assistance, the identification of effective practices, the sharing of experiences, the regional cooperation, the practice and case studies.

Thanks to the cooperation between RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of the Republic Croatia, the presence of high-level lecturers was ensured once again. Their professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations, were highly appreciated by the participants.

According to the participants the seminar was highly successful, very interesting and well organized. Most of the participants were members of the national authorities and relevant organizations dealing with the UNSCR 1540 issues in their countries and they considered it valuable for their future work.

The lecturers originated from such far away countries as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Thus, the central part of the Asian continent was very well represented.

During the bilateral meetings the co-organisers expressed an interest in organizing next time a course-like training, an event that would be mostly practice-oriented, perhaps a joint site visit, without defining a precise date for this activity.

On the whole, this event proved to be yet another good example of strong cooperation among RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of the Republic of Croatia. As the

UNSCR 1540 requires every state to criminalize the involvement of various forms of non-state actors in weapons of mass destruction and related activities in their national legislation and, once in place, enforce such legislation, RACVIAC stands ready to support this global, universal obligation and, in cooperation with the partners involved in the execution of this successful event, to continue promoting UNSCR 1540 and the NIAPs.

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