

**Seminar on Effective Practices of
the Implementation of UNSCR 1540
26-27 June 2014
Rakitje, Croatia**

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

Dates 26-27 June 2014

Venue RACVIAC, Rakitje, Croatia

Background The proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, including to non-State actors, remains a threat to international peace and security. The international community recognized this as an emerging danger and the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1540 in April 2004. It called for specific measures to prohibit any non-State actor from manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, developing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. Through Resolution 1540, the Security Council established an effective global framework to prevent non-State actors, including terrorists, from acquiring and using weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Resolution 1977 (2011) requests the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004), tasked to report to the Security Council on the implementation of the Resolution, to identify effective practices, templates and guidance, with a view to developing a compilation, as well as to consider preparing a technical reference guide on Resolution 1540, to be used by States on a voluntary basis in implementing the Resolution.

The implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004) has received special attention in the region of South-Eastern Europe (SEE). There have been efforts made by the States in the region, including through the adoption of national laws and regulations, aimed at preparation and submission to the 1540 Committee of voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NIAP), while Croatia and Poland conducted the first 1540 Peer Review in October 2013.

Thus, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs - following the successful execution of a similar event last year - is organizing a seminar aimed at facilitating the identification of effective national practices in the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004), as well as promoting the 1540 implementation amongst its Members and assisting the 1540 Committee in its relevant tasks.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of the seminar, co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia and RACVIAC in cooperation with the UNODA, is to facilitate the identification of effective national practices in the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004) focussing on 1540 Peer Review module.

The objectives of the seminar are to present to the participating Member countries and representatives of the 1540 Committee and international organizations the 1540 Peer Review as an effective practices in the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004).

Participants	<p>Around 30 participants are anticipated. RACVIAC member countries will be invited. Participants from the UN Member States (TBD) as well as representatives of relevant international organizations (1540 Committee, IAEA, OPCW, BWC-ISU, WHO, OSCE) are expected to attend, analogous to the seminar held in September 2013.</p>
Methodology	<p>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 1540 implementation. All seminar materials will be distributed on a CD at the end of the event. The working language will be English.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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