

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 29 April 2020 from the Chair of the Security Council  
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)  
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual briefing to the Security Council, prepared in accordance with paragraph 2 of Council resolution 2325 (2016) (see annex).

Because I was unable to deliver my briefing to the Security Council in March 2020, as planned, owing to current precautionary measures in effect to mitigate the risk of COVID-19, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were issued as a document of the Council.

For the sake of transparency, I encourage members of the Security Council who wish to submit their statements on the briefing to forward them to the President of the Council.

(Signed) Dian Triansyah **Djani**  
Chair  
Security Council Committee established  
pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)



## Annex

### **Briefing of the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) to the Security Council on 29 April 2020**

I am honoured to again have the opportunity to brief the Security Council, as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1540 (2004), on the work of the Committee since the previous briefing, in May 2019, and to give a brief overview of the work performed this year on the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) before the end of the Committee's mandate, 25 April 2021.

Resolution 1540 (2004) remains a vital component of the global non-proliferation architecture to prevent non-State actors, including terrorists, from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction.

States have made significant progress in the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Nevertheless, many gaps remain, and the Security Council recognizes that the full and effective implementation of the resolution is a long-term task.

In the past year, the Committee has focused its attention on the latest information on the status of national implementation, including with regard to States that have yet to submit their first report. In my capacity as Chair, I met with the permanent representatives of Member States to encourage them to submit updated reports or, in the case of those that have not done so, to submit a first report. In 2019, the Committee received 2 first reports, bringing the number of States that have submitted first reports to 184. The Committee also received 28 updated reports, the highest annual number since 2015.

Facilitating assistance to Member States is one of the most important tools. The Committee plays a matchmaking role: it matches requests from States with offers of assistance from other States or international, regional or subregional organizations. Requests and offers for assistance are displayed on the web page of the Committee, which was updated recently, after I sent letters to States and organizations in which I requested them to update their requests or assistance programmes.

In 2019, 12 new requests for assistance were submitted to the Committee, and assistance has been provided to eight countries thus far. To date, 46 States and 14 international, regional and subregional organizations have informed the Committee of assistance programmes.

National points of contact are important to facilitate communications between the Committee and States. In some cases, they are also utilized by Member States to foster inter-agency collaboration and coordination within States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), although it is not a requirement under the relevant resolutions. After I sent such a letter in 2019, the Committee received updated information on their points of contact from 36 countries. To date, 119 Member States have nominated points of contact.

The Committee organized three regional point of contact training courses: one in cooperation with the African Union, a second one in cooperation with the Caribbean Community and a third one in cooperation with the Government of China.

In operative paragraph 5 of resolution 2325 (2016), States were encouraged to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans. The plans help to identify actions necessary to close gaps and vulnerabilities in regulations and national control frameworks, foster inter-agency cooperation and identify areas where

assistance may be required. To date, 40 plans have been submitted by States and published on the Committee website. Four were submitted in 2019.

Awareness-raising is a priority, and the Committee participated in 59 events related to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). States are encouraged to provide reports for publication on the Committee website on effective national implementation practices, and an increasing number of States are also providing reports on peer reviews. Peer reviews enable the States concerned to examine the scope and effectiveness of measures that they have each taken to implement resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). In 2019, peer reviews were conducted by the Dominican Republic, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The Committee, upon invitation, undertook visits to Chile, Kuwait, Madagascar and Togo. It has worked closely with regional organizations, including the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The Committee has continued to work closely with Office for Disarmament Affairs regional centres. The Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific organized a national roundtable meeting with the Solomon Islands, which led to the submission of its first report on resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean organized a meeting in Lima in November in order to help the State to better implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and controls of materials related to biological weapons.

The Committee enhanced its engagement with international organizations including, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. The Committee has encouraged those organizations to highlight obligations under resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) in their model legislation or guidelines.

Parliamentarians play an important role in the elaboration of legislation relevant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). The Committee engaged with parliamentarians in several events, including a regional parliamentary seminar for the Pacific region organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of New Zealand, with the support of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

Engagement by States with relevant sectors of civil society, including industry, academia and professional associations, can be important to the effective implementation of obligations under resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). The Committee participated in two such conferences in the framework of the Wiesbaden process in 2019: one regional conference held in Wiesbaden, Germany, and another held in Zambia, organized by Zambia for the Southern African Development Community.

The Committee also participated in several meetings devoted to proliferation financing and contributed to work carried out on that subject by the Financial Action Task Force.

Lastly, activities in connection with the comprehensive review of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) are very important. As stipulated in resolution [1977 \(2011\)](#), the Committee is conducting a comprehensive review of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) prior to the renewal of its mandate, in April 2021.

A central theme of the comprehensive review is the status of the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) by Member States. The Committee will address three other

themes during the review, namely, the Committee's role in facilitating assistance matchmaking; collaboration with relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations and other United Nations bodies; and outreach.

The review is an inclusive process. Contributions by Member States are particularly important. In March this year, the Committee requested updates on national implementation and country matrices. The Committee will invite States to participate in open consultations, but, given the current pandemic, it is still considering when to conduct them.

In addition, Member States can submit written comments to the comprehensive review of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). The comments could be sent throughout the year, but it would be helpful to receive them as early as possible to ensure that the Committee has sufficient time for consideration and discussion.

I have given briefings to the Chairs of the regional groups and offered opportunities for further discussion.

International, regional and subregional organizations, as well as relevant civil society will also be invited to contribute to the open consultations. The Committee looks forward to including their contributions in such important consultations.

A report on the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) will be submitted to the Security Council.

I thank you for the opportunity to give the present briefing to the Security Council.

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