Unless otherwise specified, the opinions presented here are those of the presenter and may not necessarily reflect the views of the 1540 Committee, its Group of Experts, or the UN Security Council.
Resolution 1540 (2004): A Response to Threats to International Peace and Security

Framework

• Resolution 1540 and subsequent resolutions
• Comprehensive Review 2016

Role of the 1540 Committee

Current situation/ looking forward
OP 7 of resolution 1540

Recognizes that some States may require assistance in implementing the provisions of this resolution within their territories and invites States in a position to do so to offer assistance as appropriate in response to specific requests to the States lacking the legal and regulatory infrastructure, implementation experience and/or resources for fulfilling the above provisions.

13. Encourages States that have requests for assistance to convey them to the 1540 Committee, and encourages them to make use of the Committee’s assistance template to that effect;

14. Urges States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to inform the Committee as appropriate of areas in which they are able to provide assistance; and calls upon States and such organizations, if they have not done so previously, to provide the 1540 Committee with a point of contact for assistance by 31 August 2011;

15. Urges the 1540 Committee to continue strengthening the Committee’s role in facilitating technical assistance for implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular by engaging actively, with the support of the group of experts, in matching offers and requests for assistance, through such means as visits to States, at the invitation of the State concerned, assistance templates, action plans or other information submitted to the 1540 Committee;
OP 16-17 of resolution 1977 (2011)

16. Supports the continued efforts of the 1540 Committee to secure a coordinated and transparent assistance process that provides timely and ready availability of information for States seeking assistance and for States prepared to provide assistance;

17. Encourages meetings on assistance issues with the participation of the 1540 Committee, between States prepared to offer assistance, States requesting assistance, other interested States, and relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations;
Comprehensive Review 2016

127. The Committee notes that fulfilling its “matchmaking” role in a comprehensive and timely manner is one of its most challenging functions. The number of positive responses recorded available for the period was 51, meaning that, on average, each State requesting assistance received more than three responses.

128. International organizations have been the main respondents. Of the 16 international organizations registered as assistance providers, 8 have officially responded to specific requests, although cooperation with all of them is ongoing. Only 8 of the 47 States that are registered as assistance providers have responded to assistance requests by States.

129. The Committee and its experts are aware of several ongoing assistance programmes, including in those States that have made requests for assistance to the Committee.

133. [...] it has become evident that there are also challenges arising from the fact that a significant number of requests are not specific or technically sound enough to be properly considered. In 2007, the Committee developed an assistance template to aid States in presenting their assistance request, which was published on the Committee’s website, but which has not been widely used.
OP 18-20 of resolution 1325 (2016)

18. [...]and further directs the Committee to revise its assistance template;

19. Urges States as well as relevant international, regional and subregional organizations […] to provide the Committee with information on their ongoing assistance programmes relevant to resolution 1540 (2004);

20. Urges the Committee to continue strengthening its role in facilitating technical assistance […], inter alia through a regional approach, where appropriate, as well as the holding of regional assistance conferences, which bring together States that request assistance with those offering assistance;
OP 21-22 of resolution 1325 (2016)

21. Encourages States to contribute funds, on a voluntary basis, to finance projects and activities, including through the United Nations Trust Fund for Global and Regional Disarmament Activities, to assist States in implementing their obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), including for implementing projects in response to assistance requests submitted directly by States to the Committee;

22. Encourages the Committee to develop, in collaboration with international, regional and subregional organizations, assistance projects to support States in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) in order to facilitate the prompt and direct response to assistance requests;
Resolution 1540 (2004): A Response to Threats to International Peace and Security

Role of the 1540 Committee

- Assistance requests
- States

Match-making
“1540 tools”
Role of the 1540 Committee

WEBSITE

• a summary of assistance requests, and
• a list of States and international organizations offering assistance.

PROCEDURES

In 2010, the 1540 Committee adopted revised procedures to rationalize, improve and accelerate response to assistance requests and facilitate match-making:

• Authenticating a request; Acknowledging receipt of the request; Distributing the request to potential assistance providers within one week after the request was received by the Committee; Posting a summary of the request on the 1540 Committee website, with the consent of the requesting state; Circulating to the Committee Members offers of assistance regarding a specific request; and Acknowledging such offers.
Resolution 1540 (2004): A Response to Threats to International Peace and Security

Current situation

- Since 2011: requests by 56 States + 2 IO
- Decrease of requests since 2011: 16 total
  - # requests related to export control
  - # requests related to bio safety and security
- CR 2016: Bio-related action is lacking
- Quality of requests – offers
Resolution 1540 (2004): A Response to Threats to International Peace and Security

Looking forward

- Need for international coordination and cooperation in bio detection and response
- Coordination with other assistance programs
- Cooperation with civil society to be enhanced
- Common national focal points for assistance coordination
- Regional assistance efforts:
  - First regional assistance conference April 2016
  - Regional approach to be intensified
- Match-making mechanism enhancements needed
- Funding?