The Secretary-General’s Agenda for Disarmament and UNRCPD Efforts to Promote Implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004)

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UNRCPD
Outline

• UNRCPD – who are we?
• The Secretary-General’s Agenda for Disarmament
  – Implementation of BWC aspects in the Pacific
• UNSCR 1540 implementation
  – Points of Contact; National Actions Plans; UNRCPD contributions
• Requests for Assistance
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD)

• Asia-Pacific regional office for the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

• Assists countries in the region to achieve their peace, security, and disarmament goals, through provision of substantive support; coordination of activities at the sub-regional, regional and international levels; and information sharing on global and regional activities.

• Established in 1987 as part of UN General Assembly resolution A/42/39D
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD)

- Three main thematic areas:

1. Conventional Weapons
   i. UN Programme of Action to Eradicate the Illicit use of SALW (PoA)
   ii. The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

2. Weapons of Mass Destruction
   i. Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
   ii. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)
   iii. UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

3. Peace and Disarmament Education
Secretary General’s Agenda for Disarmament

• Delivered by UN SG Antonio Guterres on May 24 2018 at University of Geneva

• Four Pillars of Disarmament
  1. Disarmament to Save Humanity
  2. Disarmament that Saves Lives
  3. Disarmament for Future Generations
  4. Strengthening Partnerships for Disarmament
The Disarmament Agenda and Biological Weapons

• “With respect to other weapons of mass destruction, the Security Council must exercise its primary responsibility and act to halt further erosion of the norm against chemical weapons by ending impunity and ensuring accountability for any use. We must continue to strengthen our institutions to prevent any use of biological weapons, including by strengthening the implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention, and to ensure that we can mount an adequate response in case prevention fails.”
The Disarmament Agenda, BWs and the Pacific

• Key issues in the sub-region as outlined by the Agenda:
  – SDG 14: Life Below the Sea
  – Dual-use potential of medical/ health-care advances
  – Uneven implementation of the BWC

• Implementation efforts in the Pacific
  – This workshop and the work of the BWC-ISU
UNSCR 1540 and Non-proliferation

Synergies between UNSCR 1540 and other non-proliferation regimes.

- Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
- Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)
- Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)
- Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)
UNSCR 1540 Challenges in the Pacific

Asia-Pacific presents a wide range of 1540-related challenges:

- The expansion of nuclear energy and research
- Production and storage of hazardous chemicals
- Rapidly increasing rate of technological expansion including dual-use technologies
- Disparity in penalties for deliberate use of biological materials may encourage non-state actors/terrorist groups
- Uneven national implementation of the Resolution
- Lack of technical and financial resources to implement parts of the Resolution
UNRCPD and UNSCR 1540

UNRCPD works to increase effective implementation of UNSCR 1540 in the region by:

- Increasing *capacity-building* initiatives
- Facilitation of *technical assistance*
- Identification and dissemination of *effective practices*
- Promoting the establishment of National Points of Contact (PoC)
- Assistance in developing voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NIAP)
1540 Implementation in the Region

- First national report – 41 States
- National Point of Contact – 14 States
- NIAP – 4 States: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

UNRCPD Mandate: 43 States
Solomon Islands’ First Report to the 1540 Committee

- October 29-30 2019 in Honiara, Solomon Islands

- Experts from the 1540 Committee, UNODA and UNRCPD will attend the roundtable together with relevant government agencies responsible for UNSCR 1540 implementation

- Objective: to assist the Government of Solomon Islands to prepare its 1st Report to the 1540 Committee
Overview of a NIAP

- **Voluntary** basis
- Fits **national circumstances**: scope, content and form vary
- Mapping out **priorities and measures**
- Enhancing inter-agency **coordination**, identification of **assistance** needs
- National coordinating mechanism
- Regular overview of **NIAP** fulfilment and update
Central Asia – Case Study

ODA-OSCE Joint Project (2016-2017):

- Sub-regional meeting to promote role of national points of contact and national coordination mechanisms
- National interagency round-tables to facilitate development of a NIAP
- Consultations with participation of 1540 Committee experts and international organizations
Central Asia – Case Study

Outcomes:

- 1540 PoC were established/ trained for all states
- NIAPs were created or updated for: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
  - Mongolia’s is anticipated to be submitted in due course
- Tools to enhance cooperation between Member States and the 1540 Committee were established
- Exchanges of national experience and effective practices related to resolution 1540 implementation
- Principles of trust, openness and cooperation between participating States was expanded
## Sub-regional Implementation (Pacific)

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<th>Pacific Island States</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>NIAP</th>
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Supporting the Regional Implementation of UNSCR 1540 in the Pacific

The Regional Centre is exploring a multi-year project which aims to enhance the implementation of 1540 in the Pacific. This programme will assist States to intensify their efforts to achieve full implementation of resolution 1540 by focusing on:

i. Identifying national PoC
ii. Identifying and developing priority measures through a NIAP
iii. Facilitating sub-regional and national capacity-building workshops
iv. Engaging industry, academia and civil society
v. Increasing regional cooperation towards disarmament and non-proliferation goals
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

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