

International Symposium on Nuclear Security

by

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International Initiatives and Efforts:

UNSCR 1540

UNSCR 1540 – Some Observations

- There is widespread agreement with the intent
- Joint regional efforts are a good example for the international community of how to coordinate further 1540 implementation
- There is value in having a transparent reporting process
- Overall though, universal praise rhetorically
- Words of the resolution need to be turned into practical action to implement its requirements

1540 Committee 2008 Report: Qualitative Measures of Success

- States have:
 - Forged new working relationships across government bureaucracies;
 - Enhanced legal and regulatory frameworks;
 - Expanded international cooperation on their efforts to address the nexus between non-state actors and WMD; and
 - Provided more information to the 1540 Committee

Thoughts Behind a Robust Renewal

- Limited number of Experts (8) cannot provide direct technical assistance
- Matrices still not posted publicly but new working group to facilitate
- Consensus-based working methods mean that some issues cannot be resolved quickly – not an open-ended working group of experts from capitals
- States, regional organizations, and others can pursue practical, action-oriented activities outside New York to promote 1540 implementation and augment the 1540 Committee's message
- Coordination with the 1540 Committee is important since the Committee enjoys growing international legitimacy

What About Regional & Functional Organizations?

- The 1540 Committee in and of itself cannot easily oversee the wide variety of regional and subregional efforts
- The Committee seeks to cooperate with Regional & Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), such as IAEA, OPCW, BWC, OSCE, UNODC, NATO, ARF, OAS, AU, CARICOM, and others in its outreach efforts
- Ministerial endorsements or actions by OSCE, NATO, OAS, ARF, and others comprise over 110 States – this is a positive accomplishment politically
- UNSCR 1810 recognizes the important role such organizations can play in promoting implementation of UNSCR 1540
- They can usefully multiply the efforts and message of the 1540 Committee; they also can complement the regional and functional outreach efforts

Implementation – UNSCR 1810

- Meeting all national obligations under UNSC Resolution 1540 is a long-term undertaking, and all can benefit from improved implementation
- Resolution 1810, as follow up to UNSCR 1540, underscores:
 - The mandate of the 1540 committee was extended until April 2011
 - Forward-looking guidance for the Committee on technical assistance programs – and use of the request template
 - A shift in emphasis from reporting to implementation (national implementation plans) -- with working groups in the Program of Work (POW)
 - Promotion of voluntary financial contributions to enhance overall technical assistance efforts
- Resolution 1810 and its new POW provides the foundation for a Committee approach that can prompt other organizations to encourage bilateral dialogue and broader implementation of UNSCR 1540 – with access to the analysis of the Committee products

Key Points – 2009 Value-Added Useful Ideas to Explore

- For 2009 there are questions we could consider – these are designed to prompt our discussion. Some possible questions for consideration during the question period include:
- How would technical assistance and additional training help regions to build capacity through UNSCR 1540?
- Are implementation plans the best way to encourage states to make specific assistance requests that Partners could act upon?
- How can key IGOs like IAEA, OPCW, BWC, WCO foster further efforts to complement UN activities as the institutional relationships evolve with the 1540 Committee through such areas as the Comprehensive Review?

Key Points – Ideas to Explore (Part II)

- How does each state address coordination within its governmental bodies to promote further 1540 implementation?
- How can nongovernmental organizations support the effective implementation of UNSCR 1540?
- Do participating states face common regional challenges to meet their obligations under resolution 1540?
- How can regional, sub-regional, and intergovernmental organizations effectively share best practices and lessons learned relating to implementation of the resolution?
- What ways are there to effectively share information and expertise among participants concerning the broad array of obligations that UNSCR 1540 establishes?

Closing Thoughts

- The Bottom Line moving forward with UNSCR 1540: There are some tough tasks ahead which require decisive action by all States to assure that WMD proliferation can be prevented effectively
- These tasks require substantive political decisions and the adoption - and enforcement - of appropriate effective laws and regulations changing or replacing existing rules and practices
- The Resolution is clear: verbal support and encouragement to implement relevant multilateral treaties and arrangements is good - but is not enough to assure effective implementation of the Resolution which requires ongoing and persistent efforts of all States and of the international bodies concerned
- As we are serious about combating nonproliferation, we have to make best use of all available means -- including incorporating all relevant aspects in close cooperation with, IAEA, OPCW, BWC, UNODC, Interpol, NATO, OSCE , etc

Questions??

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