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The UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) Support Unit of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) is pleased to publish the **third** issue of "**1540er**". In 2026, the **1540er** will continue to keep you updated on important events and activities that are supported by UNODA and contribute to the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540. As in the previous issues, this newsletter features national practices and lessons shared by the implementers of resolution 1540 - 1540ers. The resolution remains a central pillar of the international non-proliferation architecture, and so is the critical role of 1540ers.

(Cover image: 1540 Support Unit and the 1540 Committee's Group of Experts.)

Inter-Entity Meeting on UNSCR 1540

UNODA's 1540 Support Unit organized an **inter-entity meeting on programme support and coordination for the implementation of UNSCR 1540** on 30–31 October in New York, USA. The meeting brought together eighteen programme implementing partners, participating in a hybrid format. Participants discussed ways to coordinate programme support and build synergy in adapting to the evolving operating environment, particularly in the face of financial constraints. Participants underlined the value of establishing this meeting and its potential as a regular platform for coordination, information-sharing, and forward-looking planning.





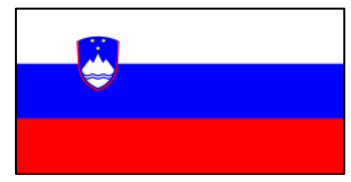
Participants also reflected on lessons learned in programme implementation, with tailored assistance, context-specific support, and strong national ownership being underscored as essential for sustainable results.

Enhancing cooperation and coordination emerged as a unifying theme across all discussions. Examples of successful joint programming, integrated workshops, and multi-partner initiatives illustrated how coordinated efforts can maximize impact.

National Implementation of resolution 1540

The following States updated their Points of Contact in this quarter- **Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Ireland,** and **Slovenia** (in an alphabetical order). National PoCs can be found on the 1540 Committee's website.



Kyrgyzstan and **Türkiye** submitted their national implementation report. National implementation reports are available on the 1540 Committee's page.




Key Support for 1540-related Activities

Open Briefing (New York, USA) 29 October

Mr. Adedeji Ebo, Director and Deputy to the High Representative of UNODA, delivered opening remarks at the 1540 Committee's Open Briefing. He highlighted the continued relevance of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 in preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons to non-State actors amid rapidly evolving technological and security threats. Mr Ebo also outlined UNODA's extensive support to Member States—through national action plan development, training, outreach, and regional coordination—to strengthen implementation of the resolution. At this Open Briefing, Member States and International, Regional, and Subregional Organizations shared their best practices and lessons learned.



Mr. Adedeji Ebo, with the 1540 Committee Chair .

Empowering change: The role of Women in WMD Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (New York, USA) 29 October



Mr. Adedeji Ebo, third from the right.

At a UN side event on women's roles in WMD non-proliferation and disarmament, led by the Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN in New York,, Mr. Ebo emphasized that the lack of women's participation is not only a fairness issue but a significant security vulnerability that limits global disarmament effectiveness. He highlighted how empowering women improves threat assessment, governance, and the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, urging Member States to invest in capacity-building and gender-inclusive practices. Panelists, including two Experts of the 1540 Committee's Group of Experts, shared personal experiences, identified systemic barriers, and encouraged future generations of women to pursue careers in the field.

Peer Review: Botswana and South Africa (Pretoria, South Africa) 4-6 November

Botswana and South Africa, with UNODA support, held a peer-to-peer exercise in Pretoria from 4–6 November 2025 to strengthen export and border controls under UNSCR 1540. The event brought together officials from both countries, UNODA, and the 1540 Committee to share best practices on legal frameworks, licensing, and enforcement. Key outcomes included reaffirmed commitments, priority support for Botswana on export control regulations and training, and a visit to Protechnik Laboratories. This first UNODA-supported peer exchange in Africa was funded by the Republic of Korea and the European Union. Read more on the UNODA website .



Key Support for 1540-related Activities

Workshop on Maritime Border Security Enforcement within the Context of Effective Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) (Crete, Greece), 11-14 November



Mr. Christopher King, UNODA WMD Branch Chief, delivered opening remarks for the training.

The Government of Greece collaborated with UNODA to organize the "Workshop on Maritime Border Security Enforcement within the Context of Effective Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)", hosted by the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC). The four-day workshop aimed to educate, train, and facilitate the exchange of ideas on strategies, best practices, and procedures related to the maritime border security enforcement of national controls on the export, transit and transhipment, within the context of the appropriate and effective implementation of UNSCR 1540. Participants deepened their insights into the resolution through discussions and hands-on exercises.

Erlangen Regional Conference (Manila, Philippines), 14 November

UNODA participated in the Erlangen Regional Conference held in Manila on 14 November. Given the importance of regional context in the implementation of UNSCR 1540, including collaboration with academia, this conference aims to build the basis for participating State representatives from the region to learn about the specific needs and challenges of their own as well as neighboring countries' academic institutions in the field of export controls and raise appropriate awareness. Mr. Adedeji Ebo delivered recorded opening remarks for the event.

"[Erlangen Initiative] is particularly relevant in Southeast Asia. The region is emerging as a dynamic hub for research, innovation and higher education. Countries across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are investing heavily in science and technology, building leading academic and research centers and attracting global talent. This growth brings immense opportunity, but also responsibility."

- Opening remarks made by UNODA

Promoting Implementation of UNSCR 1540 and Dual-use Goods Strategic Trade Control Awareness-raising Workshop (Colombo, Sri Lanka) 26-28 November



UNODA, EU P2P Programme, and the Government of Sri Lanka brought together nearly 30 senior officials from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Maldives, and Sri Lanka to enhance regional understanding of UNSCR 1540, reaffirm national commitments toward its full implementation, and strengthen mechanisms for the effective management of dual-use goods (DUG) and technologies. Participants discussed core obligations under resolution 1540, international regulations on dual-use goods and technologies, and identified opportunities for further international collaboration.

Key Support for 1540-related Activities

Erlangen Global Conference (Munich, Germany)
26-27 November



The 3rd Erlangen Global Conference, held in Munich on 26–27 November 2025, brought together nearly 90 experts from governments, academia, and regulators to advance dialogue on implementing UNSCR1540. Discussions focused on research security, Internal Compliance Programs in academia, and the impact of emerging technologies like AI on export control compliance. The event reaffirmed academia's vital role in strengthening global security and showcased the power of diverse voices in shaping effective solutions. See UNODA's update.

"While the fluid nature of scientific practice fosters progress and cross-disciplinary collaboration, it also underscores the importance of integrating security and dual-use awareness into everyday research norms and routines in ways that support implementation of resolution 1540"

-Opening remarks made by UNODA



Regional Workshop on Strategic Trade Management of Dual-Use Goods in Africa (Pretoria, South Africa)
2-4 December



UNODA, South Africa, the EU P2P Programme, and BAFA hosted a regional workshop in Pretoria from 2–4 December 2025 to strengthen African capacities for managing trade in dual-use goods under UNSCR 1540. Representatives from 14 African States shared experiences on legal frameworks, enforcement, and coordination, addressing challenges like resource gaps and proposing solutions such as risk assessments and regional harmonization. The event included a visit to Protechnik Laboratories and reinforced international cooperation to advance non-proliferation and secure trade systems. Read more on UNODA website.

Key Support for 1540-related Activities

Training Course for UNSCR 1540 Points of Contact (PoCs) in Latin America and the Caribbean (Panama City, Panama) 15-17 December



The Government of Panama, the 1540 Committee, and UNODA held a regional training course in Panama City from 15–17 December 2025 for Points of Contact (PoCs) from 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries. The course provided practical guidance on implementing resolution 1540, showcased assistance tools, and fostered peer-to-peer learning to strengthen national and regional cooperation against weapons of mass destruction (WMD) proliferation by non-State actors. By the end, PoCs were better equipped to coordinate implementation and connect States with international support.

This event marked the first comprehensive 1540 PoC training for Latin America and the Caribbean since 2016 and delegations from 27 regional States participated in the course. Among the high-level officials who joined the opening ceremony was the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu. She emphasizes the critical role of PoCs in connecting national, regional, and international efforts, fostering cooperation, and ensuring robust legal and regulatory frameworks to prevent the spread of WMDs. For more information, read UNODA's story.





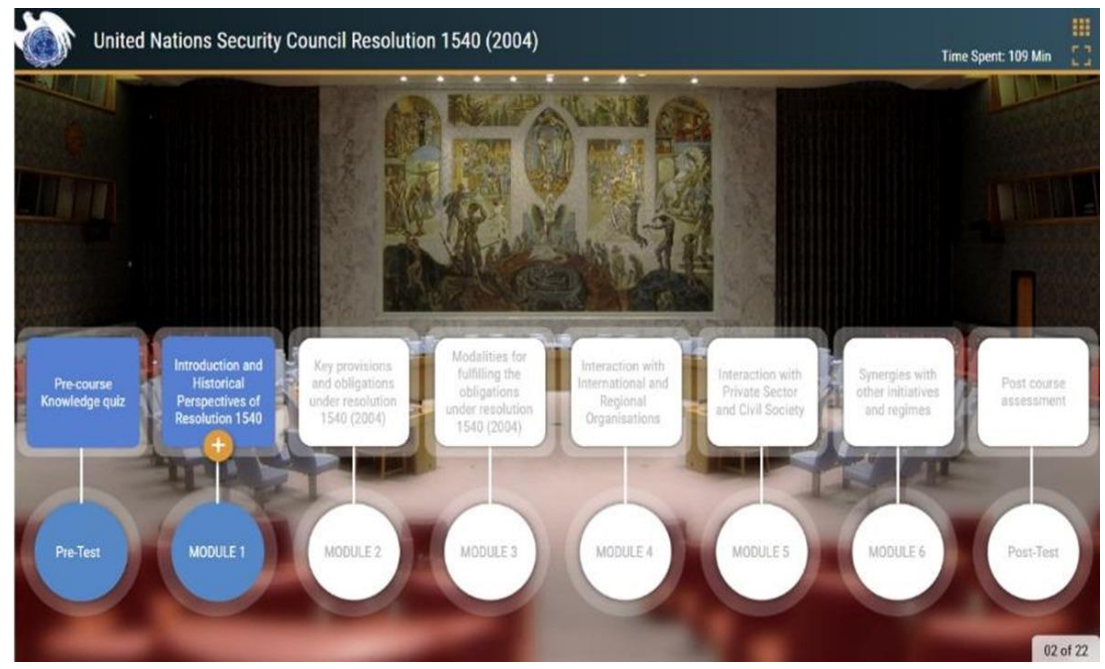
“Security Council resolution 1540 … is not only a legal or technical instrument - it is a commitment to shared responsibility, to safeguarding regional and global security and to preserving human dignity.”

-Opening remarks made by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Educational Values of UNSCR 1540

Updating Online Training Course

The 1540 SU has updated the 1540 online training course to reflect recent developments, including the adoption of UNSCR 2663 (2022) and the outcomes of the 2022 Comprehensive Review. All six modules now provide a clearer view of progress achieved and identify remaining gaps that require further cooperation among Member States and stakeholders. The course also places greater emphasis on advances in science and technology, such as artificial intelligence and information and communication technology, given their growing relevance to implementation. Overall, this self-paced online program helps the general public understand the goals, obligations, and current status of the implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004).



"In [the] evolving context, the implementation of UNSCR 1540 must adapt. States need to strengthen international cooperation, information sharing, and outreach with legislators, industry, academia, and civil society. Effective implementation requires well-informed national authorities, adequate resources, and responsive legal and regulatory frameworks capable of addressing the dual-use nature of emerging technologies.

-Ms. Xiaohui Wu, Head of the 1540 Support Unit, speaks in the online training course.

Panel Discussion on Educational and Capacity Building Value of UNSCR 1540 (Vienna, Austria) 28 November

Experts and officials met in Vienna on 28 November for a panel organized by VCDNP, UNODA, and Türkiye's Permanent Mission to highlight the educational and capacity-building role of UNSCR 1540. Discussions showcased initiatives like Türkiye's regional efforts, university courses, and online training, emphasizing education as a cornerstone for effective implementation. The event reaffirmed Resolution 1540's relevance as a cooperative framework for WMD non-proliferation and called for innovation to strengthen global security through knowledge and collaboration. Check out UNODA's story



The Value of Education for UNSCR 1540 Goals

In this contribution, Dr. **Şebnem Udum,** Associate Professor at Hacettepe University in Türkiye, reflects on her extensive experience in nuclear security education. Drawing on her work with the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN) and her lectures across the globe—from Türkiye to Costa Rica—she highlights the role of academia in building a sustainable nuclear security culture.

(The views and opinions expressed here are the author's own and do not represent UNODA.)

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Under the UNSCR 1540, states are expected to enact regulations to account for and secure chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) material in production, use, storage and transport. This task requires not only taking legal measures and international cooperation, but particularly developing norms and culture on ensuring their security as an indispensable basis at the national level. Education is a critical instrument to that end, as it establishes the basis for capacity building, raising awareness, development of culture and eventually norms.

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks dramatically changed the international security agenda and threat assessment. Prior to the attacks, for a threat to be imminent or actual, the intention to give harm and capabilities in that regard had to exist at the same time at the disposal of potential perpetrators. However, 9/11 showed that the intention to give harm also implied that of acquiring the capabilities and those that would create sensation and panic among the public and long-term consequences. Following the attacks, new international legal instruments were developed, or those that already existed, adapted to the changing circumstances-particularly to prevent such attacks especially with the use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) material.

UN Security Council resolutions require universal compliance, and the one that defined proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) "as a threat to international peace and security" was UNSCR 1540. The resolution's main aim is to prevent non-state actors from acquiring WMD and means of delivery, particularly for terrorist purposes. The scenarios include terrorists obtaining CBRN material through illicit trade and manufacturing WMD, or targeting CBRN material in use, storage and transport. In each case, the response strategy was determined mainly to prevent access of malicious actors to these materials and securing them. To that end, the resolution expects states… to

"(a) develop and maintain appropriate effective measures to account for and secure such items in production, use, storage or transport;

(b) develop and maintain appropriate effective physical protection measures…" (UNSCR 1540, 2004)

For the Implementation of UNSCR 1540 goals, establishment of effective measures at the domestic level (national regimes) is critical. Norms (standards of behavior) and culture rest at the basis of the development of a national regime on securing these materials. Capacity-building and education are the methods to construct the belief on the importance/urgency of the issue, and to ensure effective action and continuity.

To further the goals of the UNSCR 1540 in preventing the acquisition and use of radiological and nuclear material by non-state actors, an international nuclear security regime has started to taking shape, primarily in mid-2000s following the resolution. In 2005, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material was amended to include not just the physical protection of such material in transport but also in use and storage. Its name was also amended to include "nuclear facilities." Similarly, the SUA Convention that adopted responses to terrorism in the maritime field adopted a Protocol in 2005 that included scenarios of CBRN use or transport with malicious intent.

The Value of Education for UNSCR 1540 Goals

The IAEA wrapped these scenarios under the definition of nuclear security as “the prevention, detection and response to malicious acts against nuclear and radioactive material in use, storage and transport.” The pieces of this regime are UNSCRs 1540 and 1373, Amended CPPNM, International Convention on the Suppression of Acts Against Terrorism (ICSANT), SUA Convention and its 2005 Protocol as the international legal instruments. The IAEA in its Nuclear Security division, maintains Illicit Trafficking Database, Advisory Services and Missions (IPPAS, INSSP), and the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN). Nuclear Security Summits, Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources are also parts of the regime.

The nature of the threat requires that states take measures domestically and establish national nuclear security regimes. Stakeholder cooperation and development of nuclear security culture are sine qua non of this process. While managers, operators and workers at the facility may develop such a culture, security forces and the general public are not immune from this responsibility. The value of education and capacity building are critical to ensure stakeholder harmony.

“While managers, operators and workers at the facility may develop such a culture, security forces and the general public are not immune from this responsibility. The value of education and capacity building are critical to ensure stakeholder harmony”

INSEN Annual Meeting, July 2018- IAEA

Informing the public on UNSCR 1540 goals and the threats lying behind can be carried out in two parallel ways based on audience. The first one is through fiction, that is informing without causing panic. There are several movies or vice series with horrific scenes, which focused on WMD proliferation risks, or CBRN related incidents. Human brain processes threats with its limbic system (“fight-flee-freeze”) that renders the frontal lobe-which is about analysis and foresight-dysfunctional until the threat is thwarted. Second one is education. Education meets its purpose through the development of new neural pathways and broadens the horizon of students and trainees. Thus, they do not learn under fear, but are ready and willing to receive new information with an expectation of benefits. Education establishes a long-lasting system to raise the new generation, spread accurate knowledge and contribute to building the workforce.

IAEA’s International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN) was established in 2010, to coordinate nuclear security education activities between educational and research institutions and the IAEA. Education is a very effective tool not only to raise the next generation but more importantly to raise awareness within the public.



The Value of Education for UNSCR 1540 Goals

At INSEN annual meetings, academics and researchers share and exchange information, develop curriculum, contribute to the development of faculty and promote nuclear security education. In addition to working groups, topical area working groups have been formed to work on knowledge management, capacity building, collaborative research and communication tools and strategies. I am attending the INSEN meetings since 2013, and served at the leadership since 2015. I was the Chair of the Network between 2018 and 2019.



Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica- Heredia Campus
September 2023

I am a graduate of the Monterey Institute of International Studies (now Middlebury Institute), and I worked at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) in 2002-2003. Before returning to my home country, I had taken a brochure of the CNS. At the back cover, I noticed a quote by Prof. William C. Potter, head of the Center: "Education is a very powerful but underutilized tool to prevent proliferation." That struck me and I decided to teach on nonproliferation upon my return at the Turkish War Academy. After completing my PhD, and becoming a faculty member at Hacettepe University's Department of International Relations, I launched the graduate course on Nonproliferation Issues in 2012. It includes a special session on WMD terrorism and nuclear security. In addition, within the third-year compulsory course, International Organizations, two sessions are devoted to WMD proliferation and WMD terrorism respectively and the role of the IAEA. In my courses on Energy Security given at undergraduate and graduate levels, technical, historical and legal background of nuclear energy and nuclear proliferation is provided along with sessions on nuclear terrorism.

Apart from those at my institution, I taught several courses on WMD terrorism and particularly on nuclear security for the Turkish Gendarmerie and Coast Guard Academy and the Center of Excellence Defense Against Terrorism within the course, WMD Terrorism. I also gave similar lectures as webinars or faculty development courses organized by King's College London, World Institute for Nuclear Security and CRDF Global. I also taught on these topics at Ankara University's Nuclear Sciences Institute in Turkish, and at the several campuses of the National University of Costa Rica in Spanish. My experience in Costa Rica was invaluable as an academic: Costa Rica is a country without an army and international security is not a top priority in the domestic agenda. After my lectures and seminars, students of the National University developed a high interest on the topic and some of them decided to apply for programs or internships offered by the IAEA, while others decided to study the topic at the academic level.

Spotlight- Japan's 1540 Implementer

Japan has been a significant supporter for the implementation of resolution 1540 and UNODA. Dr. **Sayaka Shingu**, Assistant Director, Non-Proliferation, Science and Nuclear Energy Division, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, shared her thoughts and insights with the 1540ers.

(The views and opinions expressed here are the author's own and do not represent UNODA.)

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Q1:At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, you have worked on multiple non-proliferation initiatives. Could you describe your role in this area, and share how you believe the implementation of resolution 1540 should evolve, now that more than two decades have passed since its adoption?



At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I have been involved in promoting nonproliferation efforts, primarily within the Nonproliferation, Science and Nuclear Energy Division. My main responsibilities include policy formulation and international negotiations such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conferences, and other multilateral counterproliferation initiatives including Proliferation Security Initiative. In particular, promoting UN Security Council Resolution 1540, which addresses the threat of non-state actors acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, has consistently been a key agenda item.

I am a granddaughter of atomic bomb survivors in Hiroshima. As a high school student, I watched the live television coverage of the 9.11 terrorist attacks in the United States and began searching for what I could do in the international community. That experience led me to aspire to become an expert in arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and I even interned at the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs in 2013. I had always hoped to work on UN Security Council Resolution 1540 someday. Now, more than 20 years after that high school experience, I find it deeply moving to be entrusted with responsibility for Resolution 1540.

Over 20 years have passed since Resolution 1540 was adopted, and its implementation has shown steady progress. Many countries have established relevant legal frameworks and strengthened their export control and border management systems. However, simultaneously, the diversification of threats and technological innovation present new challenges to the resolution's implementation. This is why regional cooperation and capacity-building support are becoming more essential to counter these evolving threats. To promote the implementation of Resolution 1540 in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan contributed approximately 1 million USD in 2018 and 720,000 USD in 2025 in order to implement capacity-building support programs in the Indo-Pacific areas, utilizing Japan's expertise in areas such as export control. We recognize this as an essential effort for strengthening the non-proliferation regime across the entire region.

Q2:During Japan's tenure on the Security Council from 2023 to 2024, what role did the State play in advancing resolution 1540? Based on your experience, what were the main challenges you encountered — both within the Council and in providing assistance to Member States?

During its term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council from 2023 to 2024, Japan played an active role in various fields to contribute to the realization and maintenance of international peace and security. Advancing Resolution 1540 remained one of Japan's top diplomatic priorities.

Spotlight- Japan’s 1540 Implementer

In Security Council discussions, Japan consistently emphasized the importance of WMD non-proliferation and urged the Council to maintain its focus on the threat of proliferation by non-state actors. Japan continued its political and financial support for the activities of the Security Council's 1540 Committee and actively contributed to the Committee's reports and various discussions.

Furthermore, leveraging its position as G7 Chair, Japan ensured that the outcome document, entitled “G7 Leaders’ Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament,” explicitly stated the importance of upholding WMD non-proliferation and one of the main focuses of the G7-led Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction was enhancing the implementation of the UNSCR 1540.

However, in advancing these efforts, we faced several major challenges. Challenges within the Security Council included, first, political polarization and diversity of priorities. While WMD non-proliferation is a shared interest, rivalries among major powers and the diverse security priorities of individual nations sometimes made consistent, strong consensus-building difficult. Second, resource constraints. Securing sufficient budget and human resources to support the activities of the Security Council 1540 Committee and its expert group remained a constant challenge, which sometimes limited the Committee's effective operations.

In these undertakings, we cannot overemphasize the importance of the active contribution by the Group of Experts. In this context, it is regrettable that we have seen no progress in terms of selection of experts to fill the remaining vacancies even though Japan nominated two strong candidates last year. We hope to see the Group of Experts fully constituted as early as possible and we believe our candidates would definitely add further value to the Committee with their rich practical experiences and professional skills and expertise.

Q3: Japan has been a consistent champion of resolution 1540 in the region, including its valuable contributions to UNODA last year. How would you assess your experience working with UNODA, and what impact did this collaboration have on advancing non-proliferation objectives?

Japan has consistently played a leading role in implementing Resolution 1540 in the Asia-Pacific region, with close collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) at the core of its efforts. Japan highly values its cooperation with UNODA as extremely beneficial and highly impactful.

As the core UN body in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, UNODA possesses unparalleled expertise, an extensive network, and strong legitimacy within the international community. The primary advantages of Japan's collaboration with UNODA were as follows:

First, synergies in expertise and resources. The combination of Japan's financial and technical expertise with UNODA's extensive experience, broad network of specialists, and international implementation capacity enabled the planning and execution of more effective and comprehensive capacity-building support programs. To this end, I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Shinichi Hirao, Associate Political Affairs Officer of UNODA for his extensive work to enhance the implementation of Resolution 1540.

Second, regional and global reach. Within UNODA's global operational framework, Japan strategically deployed support focused specifically on the Asia-Pacific region. This strengthened Japan's contribution by addressing specific regional needs while ensuring the universality of international nonproliferation norms. In this regard, Japan’s special thanks also go to Ms. Amanda Cowl, UNODA Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, for her dedicated work to support countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Spotlight- Japan's 1540 Implementer

The impact of this collaboration on advancing nonproliferation objectives is multifaceted. First, significant enhancement of regional nonproliferation capabilities. Through joint projects with UNODA, many participating countries achieved concrete outcomes such as strengthening legal frameworks for WMD nonproliferation, such as developing National Action Plans. This strengthened the overall regional nonproliferation regime. Second, strengthening Japan's leadership. For example, through the UNODA Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, Japan engaged in more than 100 activities in 32 different States between 2022 and 2025.

I am confident that our collaboration with UNODA is a successful case study that embodies the spirit of Resolution 1540 and has significantly contributed to practical progress toward non-proliferation goals.



1540 Peer Review between the Philippines and Singapore with Japan as an observer (May, 2024, Manila)

Q4: Japan observed the peer review conducted by the Philippines and Singapore in 2025. What achievements stood out to you, and what lessons did you draw from observing or assisting in the process? How can these outcomes be sustained and incorporated into future peer reviews across the region?

Taking this opportunity, Japan would like to highly commend the Philippines and Singapore for their leadership to conduct the first peer review of Resolution 1540 in Asia. Japan's participation as an observer by dispatching our experts, including Ms. ONO Sumiko, Advisor on Export Control of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, marked a significant milestone in the field of WMD non-proliferation and provided an invaluable experience. The voluntary participation of the Philippines and Singapore in this process and their transparent submission of their domestic implementation status to third-party evaluation demonstrate a strong commitment to advancing non-proliferation in the region.

The outstanding achievements of this peer review were particularly evident in the following areas. First, unparalleled transparency and open dialogue. The Philippines and Singapore laid the foundation for mutual learning and trust-building by candidly presenting both their strengths and specific challenges and areas for improvement in implementing Resolution 1540. This is highly groundbreaking in the field of non-proliferation, which often involves sensitive information. Second, concretizing regional cooperation and sharing best practices. This peer review exemplified how effective mutual learning and capacity building within the region can be. Diverse experiences and best practices from reviewer and observer states were shared, creating a valuable learning opportunity for all participants.

Spotlight- Japan’s 1540 Implementer

The lessons learned from this process are as follows. First, the value of peer review as mutual learning. Peer reviews should not be mere “evaluations,” but rather a forum where participating countries learn from each other's experiences and explore collaborative approaches to address common challenges. Second, the importance of political commitment and trust-building. The success of peer reviews depends heavily on strong political will from participating governments and mutual trust. These elements are essential for maintaining transparency and enabling frank discussions. Finally, the necessity of continuous follow-up. It is vital that peer review outcomes do not end with a single report. Concrete action plans for identified recommendations and mechanisms to regularly monitor their progress are indispensable.

To sustain these outcomes and integrate them into future regional peer reviews, the following points are considered important: First, widely publish and disseminate peer review reports and key lessons learned so other countries in the region can reference them. Second, systematize the successful cases and effective approaches gathered through peer reviews and develop guidelines that countries considering future reviews can utilize. Third, build and strengthen forums and platforms for countries that participated in peer reviews to continue exchanging information and cooperating afterward.

The peer reviews of the Philippines and Singapore serve as role models for implementing Resolution 1540 in the region. This valuable experience should be maximized to strengthen the regional non-proliferation regime going forward. Japan will continue to actively support such initiatives.

“Over 20 years have passed since Resolution 1540 was adopted, and its implementation has shown steady progress…. However, simultaneously, the diversification of threats and technological innovation present new challenges to the resolution's implementation. This is why regional cooperation and capacity-building support are becoming more essential to counter these evolving threats.“

- Dr. Sayaka Shingu

Upcoming Events and Activities*

- to be organized / supported by the 1540 Support Unit



No	Activity	Venue	Date
1	UNODA Capacity Building Program on Implementation of 1540 & Strategic Trade Controls	Palasamudram	10-13 February
2	Costa Rica UNSCR 1540 National Action Plan development workshop	San Jose	24-25 March
3	Launch event: updated 1540 online course (TBC)	New York	April

***The events are to be confirmed, and this list is not comprehensive**. For any inquiries, please feel free to contact the 1540 Support Unit.

Meet the 1540ers at the 1540 Support Unit/ UNODA



Ms. Xiaohui Wu, Head of the Unit and Senior Political Affairs Officer



Ms. Amanda Cowl, Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific (based in Bangkok)



Mr. Chen Wang Information Systems Officer

Welcome!



Ms. Marya Canham, Political Affairs Officer



Ms. Ophelia Zenz, Political Affairs Officer

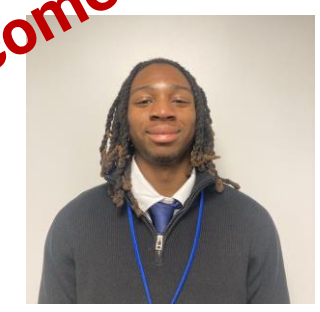


Mr. Brendan Farmer, Administrative Assistant

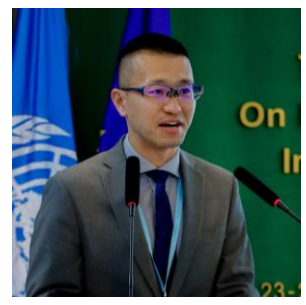


Ms. Lisa Ivrin, Administrative Assistant

Welcome!



Mr. Lawrence Cook, Data and Technology Intern



Mr. Shinichi Hirao, Associate Political Affairs Officer (editor for 1540er)

If you have any feedback or ideas we could cover in future issues, please share with us at: UN1540er@un.org

UNSCR 1540 Support Unit

UNODA Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch

