The background of the entire page is a deep blue color. It features a faint, stylized world map with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. The map is centered and occupies most of the background. In the bottom right corner, there are several overlapping, stylized leaf-like shapes, also in shades of blue, which are part of the United Nations emblem's design.

United Nations

Security Council Resolution

1540

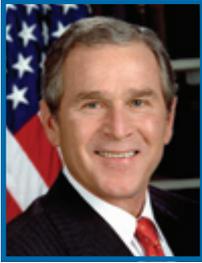
Introduction

The United States helped initiate what became United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (UNSCR 1540) in September 2003 when President Bush stated: “Today, I ask the United Nations Security Council to adopt a new anti-proliferation resolution...[the] United States stands ready to help any nation draft these new laws and to assist in their enforcement.”

UNSCR 1540 is directed against the proliferation of WMD, their means of delivery, and related equipment and materials. While the scope of the resolution includes terrorist activities, it was designed to address the full-range of proliferation activity, including non-state actors providing proliferation-related services. The resolution also places requirements on UN Member States to take specific measures to criminalize activities, which can contribute to or support proliferation activities.

The U.S. views implementation of UNSCR 1540 as a vital element in our comprehensive and global efforts to prevent the proliferation

of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and to keep these deadly weapons out of the hands



“Today, I ask the United Nations Security Council to adopt a new antiproliferation resolution...[the] United States stands ready to help any nation draft these new laws and to assist in their enforcement.”

-President George W. Bush

of terrorists. UNSCR 1540, if fully implemented, can help ensure that no State or non-State actor is a source or beneficiary of WMD proliferation.

What is UNSCR 1540?

In April 2004, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted UNSCR 1540, establishing for the first time obligations under Chapter VII of the UN Charter for all UN Member States to develop and enforce appropriate legal and regulatory measures against the proliferation

of WMD. The significance of Chapter VII of the UN Charter is its binding nature on all UN Member States as a result of finding a threat to international peace and security.

All States have three primary obligations under UNSCR 1540 relating to chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons, related items and their delivery systems: (1) to refrain from providing support to non-State actors seeking such items; (2) to prohibit non-State actors from engaging in specified activities relating to WMD, including the acquisition and use, attempted acquisition and use of, and the financing of the acquisition and use of such items; and (3) to take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials. UNSCR 1673 reinforced the obligation of UNSCR 1540 to include controls on proliferation financing. If each State implements UNSCR 1540 successfully, those individual actions, taken together, will significantly strengthen international standards for controlling the export



It is our fundamental belief that all States view the future of the UNSCR as an opportunity to improve our international security and global trade.

of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and related materials.

The security benefits and advantages to implementation of UNSCR 1540 are clear, but in addition the resolution advances the economic interests of regions that seek to be key global economic suppliers of goods and services, including to the United States. All States should view universal implementation of UNSCR 1540 as an opportunity to improve our international security and global trade by maintaining high security standards globally.

What is the Landscape of Implementation?

To oversee implementation of the measures called for in UNSCR 1540, the Resolution established the 1540 Committee and called on all States to report on relevant plans and programs. The 1540 Committee is working with States to ensure universal implementation. UNSCR 1673, adopted on April 27, 2006, renewed the 1540 Committee for two years, and reemphasized the steps each State must take to implement its 1540 obligations. In addition, UNSCR 1673 reminds States that have not yet presented a report to the Committee to do so without delay and encourages all States that have submitted such reports to provide, at any time or upon the Committee's request, additional information on their implementation process.



Efforts to ensure that States adopt effective controls and enforcement over items covered by UNSCR 1540 are on going and the international community understands the important role that strong and effective laws and enforcement measures to achieve this goal. To date, approximately 140 States have submitted a report to the 1540 Committee, and each report has been reviewed by the 1540 Committee and its experts. These country reports vary in depth and sophistication, as well as in terms of their value for assessing assistance efforts. These reports are essential to further develop an understanding of the gaps in combating the serious threat of WMD proliferation. Full implementation of UNSCR 1540 would go a long way in closing these gaps and identifying the best ways to expand capacity in these important endeavors.



What is the United States Doing to Implement?

In addition to working towards meeting its obligations under UNSCR 1540, the United States has supported these implementation efforts in other countries through a variety of mechanisms including by providing funding and expertise for 1540-related conferences and outreach, providing extensive technical assistance, and providing strong endorsement for such efforts in the annual G-8 Summit statements. The Department of State's Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) program has



The U.S. co-hosted an ARF 1540 Workshop in San Francisco with Singapore and Canada that resulted in actionable follow through with Ministers.

budgeted almost \$132 million since 2004 for UNSCR 1540-relevant training, equipment, legal/regulatory, and infrastructure development assistance. Additionally, other UNSCR 1540-related U.S. programs designed to prohibit transfers of proliferation-sensitive materials to non-governmental actors, enact and enforce effective export controls, and secure proliferation sensitive materials; raise U.S. funding to over \$2 billion annually.

To highlight the importance of implementation of UNSCR 1540 we encouraged and assisted regional initiatives as called for in the renewal mandate for the Committee in UNSCR 1673. For example, the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) adopted Ministerial decisions in November 2006 that endorsed regional support for UNSCR 1540 and called for further actions including the development of individualized national plans. The US actively supports efforts in the Organization of American States (OAS) and the ASEAN Regional Forum to support implementation of 1540. The U.S. also co-hosted an ARF 1540 Workshop in San Francisco with Singapore and Canada that

resulted in actionable follow through with Ministers. Further regional efforts are envisioned.

As an example of the importance that the U.S. places on implementation of UNSCR 1540 and the United States' recognition that we must match our support with action to help build other States' capacity to implement the Resolution, we have proposed a broad expansion of the G-8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction to include UNSCR 1540.

Developing a Plan of Action

Domestically the United States has, over the course of many years, put in place an extensive set of legal and regulatory measures addressing many of the UNSCR 1540 requirements. The United States continues to strengthen its legal and regulatory framework in response to new proliferation challenges. One step taken by the United States to fulfill its obligations was the June 2005 issuance of Executive Order (E.O.) 13382, which freezes the U.S. assets of those

individuals or entities designated as WMD proliferators and their supporters and prohibits U.S. persons from engaging in transactions with them. To date the United States has designated 51 entities, in such States as North Korea, Iran, and Syria. Those designated under E.O. 13382 for proliferation activities are effectively denied access to the U.S. financial and commercial systems. The U.S. encourages other governments to create similar authorities to address the actions of persons or entities under their jurisdiction who might be financing or otherwise supporting the activities of known proliferators.

The United States completed its National Action Plan on May 31, 2006, and has relied since then on the Plan as a working document.



The initial approach focuses on ways to strengthen States' nonproliferation capacities through on-going assistance programs and projects, particularly by

working with regional organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and the Organization of American States (OAS), consistent with the 1540 Committee's April 2006 report (S/2006/257 and Corr. 1). The United States has distributed the matrices prepared by the 1540 Committee to the relevant agencies within its government for review and will provide any additional comments to the Committee.

The United States is working with the 1540 Committee to factor the Committee's analyses of States' implementation of UNSCR 1540, as set forth in its matrices, into U.S. decisions regarding assistance in areas related to 1540, and other domestic steps. We recognize that each country will tailor its implementation plans to its own needs and priorities. In this regard, the United States established a special coordinator for UNSCR 1540 and this has proven useful to integrate the UNSCR 1540 implementation by all U.S. Government agencies.

What are the Next Steps?

The 1540 Committee and its experts have done much useful work over the past several years, as the Committee's report to the Security Coun-



Peru is among the many countries worldwide to host successful UNSCR outreach events.

cil summarizes effectively. This is a significant report that for the first time attempts to outline the measures taken by UN Member States to address the key proliferation issues described by the Resolution and to combat the danger posed by WMD proliferation activities by both State and non-State actors. The report is publicly available on the United Nations website as

Document S/2006/257 and Corr. 1 (<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/293/00/PDF/N0629300.pdf?OpenElement>). By 27 April 2008 the 1540 Committee will issue

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/293/00/PDF/N0629300.pdf?OpenElement>

another report to the Security Council, which will document implementation of the Resolution, including the progress made regarding the recommendations of the 2006 report, as well as the successful outreach events conducted worldwide.

As we move ahead, the United States looks forward to consulting with our partners and allies to capitalize on the benefits of full implementation of UNSCR 1540. The web of counterproliferation efforts must be multi-faceted and global to be successful. Governments must coordinate their diplomatic, law enforcement, military and intelligence assets in their efforts to stop proliferation. States should take steps now to implement their obligations under UN-

SCR 1540, develop authorities similar to E.O. 13382, and take other concrete actions to stop the spread of chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons, their related materials and their delivery systems. Taking these steps together will more effectively address the challenges created by those who do not abide by the regimes and norms of international nonproliferation.

For questions please email: USG1540@state.gov in the Bureau of International Security & Nonproliferation, Department of State.

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