



UNODA-OSCE Project “Support of Regional Implementation of UNSCR 1540”: Peer-Review Meeting in Tajikistan

2-4 August 2017
Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Representatives of relevant ministries and state agencies of Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan responsible for implementing provisions of UN Security Council resolution (UNSCR) 1540 (2004) on preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, met at a peer-review meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from 2 to 4 August 2017, to share experiences and discuss progress in their work.

This peer review meeting served as a follow-up to the previous rounds held in August 2016 in Minsk, Belarus and in December 2014 in Bishkek. The meeting, hosted by the Government of Tajikistan, was supported by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

The three days’ discussions focused on the national approaches to the implementation of the operative paragraphs of UNSCR 1540, including at the policy making level, legislative framework development, as well as enforcement procedures and effective practices, in line with the national action plans (NAP) on resolution 1540 (2004) of the three States. As a matter of priority for their capitals, the delegations extensively discussed export-control issues, including the national control lists, licensing system, relevant controls at the borders, and identification of dual use goods. The next priority included biological and chemical security issues, including exchange of experience and legal documents, which could help improving the national legislation and regulatory frameworks of the peer States. Also, the delegations had a chance to visit the national identification centres of nuclear, radioactive, chemical and biological materials, as well as one of the border crossing points. At the end of the meeting the delegations worked out a Final Report and Recommendations of the Peer Review, which they are going to present to the 1540 Committee.

In general, the Trilateral Peer Review implemented over two and a half years primarily aimed at developing practical recommendations and improving legislative and regulatory frameworks in the nuclear, biological and chemical fields, in support of the development and implementation of UNSCR 1540 NAPs of Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In the Final Document, the three States have emphasized the peer review format to be an effective practical tool for enhancing implementation of the resolution 1540 at the national and regional level. Taking into account experience of Belarus and Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan adopted its first 1540 NAP in February 2016, Kyrgyzstan has reviewed and approved an updated NAP in July 2016, and Belarus declared intention to update its NAP in 2018. The States shared relevant legislative and regulatory framework documents with each other; made significant progress on adoption or update of the national control lists; developed a regional capacity building project on prevention of transboundary movement of nuclear, radioactive, chemical and biological materials; worked out practical recommendations on establishing and functioning of the national identification centres for dual use goods and other controlled materials.

Also, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan outlined a number of issues, which require further co-operation in this trilateral format, including through necessary support of UNODA and the OSCE. These include, inter alia, joining international instruments relevant to resolution 1540; further exchange of legislative documents; co-operation on training of personnel, including through developing assistance projects on training and exchange of the existing training programmes between the peer States on export controls, detection and identification of the nuclear, radioactive, chemical and biological materials. To facilitate this work, the States suggested holding an additional round of the peer review, including invitation to other states in the Central Asia region to participate, in Kyrgyzstan in 2018.

UNRCPD and the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre organized this three-day event in co-operation with the UN Security Council 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts in the framework of the joint UNODA-OSCE project on “Facilitating the Regional Implementation of UNSC resolution 1540 (2004)”.