

Panel: Non-State Stakeholders in Preventing WMD Proliferations (Grand Ballroom I)

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 / 15:30-16:45

Talking Points for: Gabrielle Kraatz-Wadsack, Chief of Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch, Office for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations

By its resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council decided that all States shall refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. The Security Council established an effective programme of focused steps to achieve these objectives.

The successful implementation of the resolution will continue to rely upon the firm commitment and sustained national efforts of Member States themselves. The 1540 Committee which was established pursuant to Resolution 1540 is a unique platform for cooperation to assist Member States in implementing effectively the resolution and to join forces to work together to achieve the resolution's objective.

In providing support to national and international 1540-implementation efforts, UNODA focuses on three key areas:

- Facilitation of national implementation efforts including through enhanced regionally coordinated approaches;
- Bringing together relevant intergovernmental organizations to build synergies of their efforts in support of their respective Member States in implementing the key requirements of resolution 1540 (2004);
- Creation of productive partnerships with civil society in relevant areas.

Civil society has contributed significantly to the activities of the United Nations, whether in disarmament, human rights, development and many other areas. The contribution of civil society in the 1540-related areas should be no exception. The UN Secretary-General has recently welcomed the increasingly prominent role that the 1540 Committee attaches to partnership with civil society.

UNODA intends to continue its practice of facilitating the involvement of representatives of civil society, academia and industries in its activities in support of the full implementation by States of resolution 1540 (2004).

*** The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies.**