

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 11 February 2020 from the Chair of the
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution
1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and in accordance with paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 2325 (2016), I have the honour to transmit herewith the nineteenth programme of work of the Committee and a timetable of the regular meetings of the Committee, for the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021 (see annexes I and II).

I should appreciate it if the present letter and its annexes were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Dian Triansyah **Djani**
Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1540 (2004)



Annex I

Programme of work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021

I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 2325 (2016), decided that the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) would submit its programme of work to the Council before the end of January of each year. The nineteenth programme of work of the Committee covers the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021. The Committee has agreed on this programme of work to fulfil its responsibilities under resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008), 1977 (2011) and 2325 (2016).

2. The Security Council, in paragraph 12 of its resolution 2325 (2016), decided that the Committee would continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme of work. This includes the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in addition to States' efforts at outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Council also noted the need for more attention to be focused on enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and trans-shipment controls.

3. The Committee will continue to work with States on the implementation of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008), 1977 (2011) and 2325 (2016), guided in its approach by the principles of transparency, equal treatment, cooperation and consistency.

4. To implement the nineteenth programme of work more efficiently, the Committee will publish a schedule for periodic meetings. All meetings will be announced to all Security Council delegations with sufficient notice to enable them to engage appropriately. All meeting documents will be circulated to all Council delegations before the meetings. The work will be organized in such a manner as to enable all delegations, regardless of size, to participate fully in all activities. The Committee will promote greater transparency by, where relevant, holding open meetings and by communicating the outcomes of the meetings to national contact points. The Committee, in cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat, will also update its website regularly with regard to its work.

II. 2021 comprehensive review

5. In accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 1977 (2011), the Committee will conduct a comprehensive review on the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) prior to the renewal of its current mandate, which ends on 25 April 2021. On 18 April 2019, the Committee adopted a modalities paper in which it was determined that the report on the comprehensive review would be ready for submission to the Security Council by 31 December 2020.

6. The Committee will conduct the review under the leadership of the Chair using its current structure, adjusted as needed for particular elements of the review process.

In conducting the review, the Committee will operate a system of four working groups, as outlined in the modalities paper.

III. Tasks of the Committee

7. While conducting the comprehensive review, the Committee's attention will, as in previous years, be focused on, but not limited to, the following main areas of work: (a) monitoring and national implementation; (b) assistance; (c) cooperation with international organizations and other relevant United Nations bodies, including the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism; and (d) transparency and media outreach. In addition, the Committee will consider issues relating to administration and resources. An indicative timetable of meetings is provided in annex II in order to facilitate the coordination of activities in support of the comprehensive review and to ensure that work across all four main areas is conducted in an appropriate and timely manner and that there is due consideration of and action in the agreed areas below.

A. Monitoring and national implementation

8. The Committee will:

(a) Brief the Security Council and submit the annual review on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by the end of December 2020, while also continuing to brief the Council jointly with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism once within the present year;

(b) With the objective of achieving universal reporting as soon as possible, continue to strengthen efforts to encourage the remaining nine States that have not yet submitted their first report to do so, including by engaging in dialogue with those States to highlight the importance of universal reporting and the assistance that is available and by assessing which practices have been most effective in stimulating national reporting; and continue to encourage States to submit additional information regarding implementation, while seeking, as appropriate, submissions that identify changes in existing information in a precise form and with supporting background information; this might include issuing to States notes verbales that reiterate reporting requirements on national implementation and meeting countries' representatives on the margins of the General Assembly;

(c) Undertake initiatives to strengthen the capacity of national points of contact to assist in the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) upon the request of States and encourage States that have not yet done so to appoint such national points of contact, including through the continuation, on a regional basis, of the Committee's points of contact training programme; the focus of attention in this training programme should include the reporting and information-sharing capacities of States and the continued adaptation of the course syllabus for each region;

(d) Finalize the systematic review of all matrix information in preparation for the comprehensive review;

(e) Continue to take note of paragraph 14 of resolution 2325 (2016) with regard to effective national control lists;

(f) Continue to encourage States, in line with paragraphs 7 and 12 of resolution 1977 (2011) and paragraph 4 of resolution 2325 (2016), and in coordination with the Committee's activities under the comprehensive review, to identify and voluntarily report on effective national practices in implementing resolution 1540 (2004), and also continue the practice of periodically sharing compilations of effective best practices;

(g) Continue to encourage States, under paragraph 8 of resolution 1977 (2011) and paragraph 5 of resolution 2325 (2016), to prepare, on a voluntary basis, national implementation action plans, as appropriate, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit those plans to the Committee;

(h) Continue to raise awareness of the multilateral treaties and conventions aimed at preventing the proliferation of, or eliminating, nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and, within the context of paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 1540 (2004), to encourage States to promote their universal adoption and full implementation and, where applicable, to promote their implementation;

(i) Also continue to raise awareness of the relevant international legal instruments whose implementation would address obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), and, within the context of paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 1540 (2004), to encourage States to promote their universal adoption and full implementation;

(j) Take note in its work, where relevant, of the continually evolving nature of the risks of proliferation within the context of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

B. Assistance

9. The Committee will:

(a) Maintain an up-to-date list of requests for assistance by States and offers of assistance by States, as well as by international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, and maintain a regularly updated database of requests for and offers of assistance, indicating where they have been matched;

(b) Review requests, offers and related assistance programmes as regards developing more effective matching strategies and enabling better responses to specific needs; promote, where appropriate, the use of the assistance template by States when drafting assistance requests; and continue to help States, when possible, to formulate detailed and effective assistance requests that reflect all necessary information about a specific assistance need, including in relation to how the requests fit into their national implementation plans, as appropriate;

(c) Engage actively in communication between requesting States and assistance providers in its matching process, to improve the flow of information among all parties involved, seeking more follow-up information and, where appropriate, assisting in initiating dialogue between States requesting assistance and assistance providers;

(d) Continue to work with States, upon invitation, and provide assistance through its group of experts, at the State's invitation and subject to available resources, to more actively facilitate assistance by developing assistance workshops or country-specific assistance projects for a State or a region, especially as a quick assistance response, where appropriate, to requests made during dialogue with States, such as through follow-up visits using additional resources, including, potentially, the use of the trust fund for global and regional disarmament activities;

(e) Continue to organize and participate in outreach activities of the Committee, as will its group of experts, at the international, regional and subregional levels, while being prepared to emphasize and engage with regard to assistance programmes, and to promote the sharing of experience through peer-to-peer reviews and other means, tabletop exercises for evaluating and reinforcing effective practices, and lessons learned, while being ready to facilitate offers of or requests for assistance;

(f) Work with States, as well as international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to help them to develop assistance projects designed to support States in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and make more effective offers of assistance for States (or groups of States);

(g) Continue to engage actively in matching offers and requests for assistance and continue, where appropriate, to develop regional approaches to assistance needs and efforts to meet them, including through the holding of regional assistance conferences;

(h) Provide updates on the status of assistance requests and offers to the Committee on a regular basis, and no less frequently than every quarter;

(i) Highlight to States that have received assistance in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) the Committee's appreciation for the voluntary sharing with the Committee of best practices regarding assistance;

(j) Where appropriate, and with the permission of the States concerned, periodically share compilations of effective best practices regarding the provision of assistance in implementing resolution 1540 (2004).

C. Cooperation with international organizations and other relevant United Nations bodies

10. The Committee will:

(a) Continue to enhance its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant United Nations bodies, and develop ways of operating with those organizations on a case-by-case basis and, where appropriate, reflecting programmatically the variation in each organization's capacity and mandate, including through exchanges at the working level, briefings to and from the Committee and enhanced information-sharing arrangements on issues such as networks of points of contact, effective practices and assistance;

(b) Consider inviting expert speakers from international organizations and other United Nations bodies to its meetings, as appropriate;

(c) Under paragraph 18 of resolution 1977 (2011), continue to encourage international, regional and subregional organizations to designate and provide a point of contact or coordinator for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and maintain up-to-date information on such contacts;

(d) Maintain dialogue and information exchange with designated points of contact or coordinators on issues relating to their contribution to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(e) Convene a meeting with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations for sharing information and experiences related to their efforts to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(f) Improve the coordination of the planning of specific activities with regional and subregional organizations in order to develop their active role in supporting the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(g) Organize joint country visits with other international, regional and subregional organizations at the invitation of the States, as appropriate;

(h) Where directly relevant to the goals of the Committee's programme of work, continue to participate in major events organized by international, regional and subregional organizations as opportunities for dialogue with them and their points of contact or coordinators;

(i) Continue to explore opportunities to enhance ongoing cooperation with the related sanctions committees concerning counter-terrorism identified in paragraph 8 (a) above, including through, as appropriate, enhanced information-sharing and coordination on visits to States, within their respective mandates, and technical assistance, and other issues of relevance to all three committees;

(j) As appropriate, continue to expand both formal and informal working relationships with international non-proliferation mechanisms, including zones free of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, and work streams to implement decisions of the Nuclear Security Summits, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Implementation Support Unit under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the non-proliferation facet of the Global Health Security Agenda and other United Nations bodies and international, regional and subregional organizations, where applicable:

(i) To facilitate the sharing of information on effective practices and lessons learned, in addition to templates and guidance, including with a view to their incorporation into the compilations envisaged in paragraph 9 (j) above;

(ii) To identify assistance requirements and programmes through which its work with international, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant United Nations bodies can focus on facilitating the activity of those organizations with respect to remedying national implementation challenges, such as reconciling priorities, harmonizing approaches, facilitating advisory and drafting services and matching requests for and offers of assistance, and to promote regional cooperation and communication on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(iii) To enhance information-sharing, technical assistance, coordination on visits to countries, within the respective mandates of the Committee and the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, and other issues of relevance to the three committees, as appropriate.

D. Transparency and media outreach

11. The Committee will:

(a) Increase interaction on a regular basis with all States Members of the United Nations, including, where appropriate, through open meetings, as noted in paragraph 20 of resolution 1977 (2011) and paragraph 28 of resolution 2325 (2016), and by regularly updating its website;

(b) Continue to maintain the website as the main source of information and resources relating to resolution 1540 (2004) and to regularly update it with information that includes, but is not limited to:

- (i) Outreach events and workshops already conducted and confirmed upcoming events, including information notes on such activities;
- (ii) Relevant activities of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and other United Nations bodies;
- (iii) A list of frequently asked questions;
- (c) Continue to encourage States to promote dialogue and cooperation, including, where appropriate, with civil society and academia, to address the threat posed by illicit trafficking in nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery, and related materials;
- (d) Also continue to encourage States to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry regarding its obligations under national laws, in line with paragraph 8 (d) of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), including to support the conduct of global and regional meetings with industry;
- (e) Consider and seize opportunities, as appropriate, for direct interaction, with the consent of the States concerned, with relevant industries and industry groups, academia and civil society;
- (f) Continue to increase efforts to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high-level decision makers, for example by participating in and supporting activities directly related to the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) by the Inter-Parliamentary Union;
- (g) Continue to brief States, as well as international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, formally and informally, on the work of the Committee and the obligations and requirements under resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).

IV. Administration and resources

12. The Committee will also consider issues relating to administration and resources. It will, inter alia:

- (a) In accordance with the priorities and activities set out in the programme of work, convene, as appropriate, informal expert-level meetings to review progress on its implementation, and receive updates on Committee activities from working group Chairs and its group of experts and relevant updates from the Office for Disarmament Affairs;
- (b) Continue its good cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs in order to strengthen the regional capacity of the Office to provide support for the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#);
- (c) Continue to conduct regular meetings of the Committee and its working groups and, as necessary, additional meetings with relevant parties so as to further the mandate under resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), including meetings that may require participation from capitals on topics of high priority;
- (d) Encourage States, as well as international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to support the work of the Committee and its programmes;

(e) Continue to encourage and take full advantage of voluntary financial contributions provided to assist States in identifying and addressing their needs with regard to the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), and, at the Committee's discretion, promote the efficient and effective use of the existing funding mechanisms within the United Nations system;

(f) Continue to consider ways of strengthening capabilities and effectiveness with regard to support for its work, and, in the context of the comprehensive review, draft a working paper on making more efficient use of its group of experts;

(g) Further continue its efforts to ease the transition of new non-permanent members into the Committee, including by making relevant documentation available and providing appropriate briefings, and maintain the network of non-permanent members leaving the Committee, to provide support for the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#);

(h) Regarding all aspects of the Committee's work, consider what methodologies may be appropriate for producing quantitative measures of success within the terms of resolutions [1540 \(2004\)](#), [1673 \(2006\)](#), [1810 \(2008\)](#) and [1977 \(2011\)](#), including by examining options for technical support so as to enable better acquisition, storage, retrieval, analysis and display of data and facilitate reporting through electronic tools.

Annex II

Timetable of regular meetings of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021

I. Background

Set out below is a non-exhaustive list of activities and meetings of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021. In order to implement the comprehensive review effectively, the Committee will meet on a regular basis throughout the year. The modalities paper on the comprehensive review sets out a structure for implementation using working groups, which will meet on a quarterly basis.

II. List of meetings and activities

February

- Consider drafts of letters from the Chair to international and regional organizations requesting inputs to the comprehensive review (modalities paper, paras. 6 (c) (i–iii))
- Consider a paper on the Committee’s experience since 2016 with respect to outreach to States and civil society, including academia, industry and professional associations (modalities paper, paras. 6 (d) (i–ii))
- Consider a concept paper setting out an agenda and list of speakers and participants for the June 2020 open consultations with Member States, international organizations and civil society (modalities paper, para. 11 (c))
- Discuss national implementation trends on the basis of a partial matrix review
- Organize procedural briefings with the coordinators of the five United Nations regional groups for the purposes of informing them about the comprehensive review and the open consultations (modalities paper, paras. 4, 6 (c) (iii), 8 and 9)
- Send a “save the date” notice for the June 2020 open consultations with Member States, as well as international and regional organizations and civil society, as appropriate, and send invitations to speakers, if applicable (modalities paper, para. 11 (c))

March

- Chair’s briefing to the Security Council, and statement to the press on the comprehensive review
- Hold back-to-back meetings with industry, academia and non-governmental organizations
- Send updated matrices to Member States for comment by 29 May 2020 (modalities paper, para. 4)
- Consider a paper assessing the use of the website to date, including a review of site-view trends and language accessibility (modalities paper, para. 6 (d) (ii))
- Send invitations for the June 2020 open consultations to Member States, international organizations and civil society (modalities paper, para. 11 (c))

- Decide on the format of the final report on the 2021 comprehensive review (modalities paper, para. 10)
- Send the following letters in support of routine Committee activity in the areas listed below:
 - National implementation: (1) to non-reporting States; (2) to request additional information; (3) to request submission of the points of contact; and (4) to request an update of the points of contact
 - Assistance: (1) to States requesting assistance; (2) to regular assistance providers; and (3) to potential assistance providers
 - International cooperation (1) to request submission of the points of contact; and (2) to request an update of the points of contact

April

- Hold a meeting of the Committee on activities related to the comprehensive review
- Hold an informal expert-level meeting on the work of the Committee with briefings by the group of experts, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Security Council Affairs Division

May

- Briefings to the Security Council by the Chairs of the Committee, the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism
- Hold a meeting of the Committee on the nuclear-related provisions of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) in the margins of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

June

- Consider any revised matrices following consultations with relevant Member States (modalities paper, para. 4)
- Post all approved matrices on the website of the Committee
- Hold open consultations with Member States, as well as international organizations and civil society, as appropriate, to review progress towards the full and effective implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#)

July

- Hold meetings of the Committee to discuss and review the outcomes of the open consultations in the context of the comprehensive review, with participation from capitals, as appropriate

August

- Hold discussions in a retreat format on:
 - The provisional matrix review
 - Ways to further improve the Committee's role in facilitating "match-making"

- The Committee's collaboration with international and regional organizations
- Outreach and transparency efforts and recommendations for improvements
- Hold a Committee meeting to discuss the final matrix review, formatting and the presentation of data
- Draft conclusions and recommendations on:
 - National implementation
 - Assistance, including improvements to bring about the prompt delivery of assistance to Member States
 - International cooperation
 - Outreach and transparency

October

- Hold open consultations with Member States to discuss the matrix review and draft conclusions, as well as any recommendations
- Hold Committee meetings, inviting States that will join the Committee in 2021, to:
 - Discuss the draft report on the comprehensive review, as necessary (modalities paper, paras. 4 and 11 (d))
 - Draft the resolution on the extension of the Committee's mandate

November

- Hold Committee meetings, inviting States that will join the Committee in 2021, to:
 - Discuss the draft report on the comprehensive review, as necessary (modalities paper, paras. 4 and 11(d))
 - Draft the resolution on the extension of the Committee's mandate

December

- Hold a Committee meeting, inviting States that will join the Committee in 2021, to:
 - Consider and adopt the final report on the comprehensive review for submission to the Security Council (modalities paper, para. 4)
 - Consider the draft resolution on the extension of the Committee's mandate
- Deliver the report on the comprehensive review to the Security Council (modalities paper, para. 11 (e)) and brief the press on the comprehensive review outcomes