

STATEMENT BY MR. MANJEEV SINGH PURI, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE,  
AT THE MEETING TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSC RESOLUTION 1540 ON  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

Mr. Chairman,

I congratulate you on this initiative to convene an open meeting to review the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 1540. I assure you of our constructive participation in these deliberations.

India recognizes that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is a major challenge facing the international community. We fully understand the dangers of WMDs falling into the hands of terrorists. We have therefore supported the general objectives of UNSCR 1540. The resolution was in harmony with our own General Assembly resolution "Measures to prevent terrorists from gaining access to WMD", which was first introduced in 2002 and is adopted by consensus.

Since the adoption of the 1540 resolution we have taken additional steps to further strengthen our existing legislative and regulatory mechanism for exercising controls over WMDs. A major step was the enactment of the WMD Act in June 2005. The Act provides for an integrated and over-arching legislation on prohibiting unlawful activities in relation to WMDs, their delivery systems and related materials, equipment and technologies. The Act criminalises a range of unlawful activities in relation to WMDs and their means of delivery. Industry outreach activities are undertaken on regular basis in different parts of the country to sensitize exporters and industry to various aspects related to the 1540 resolution. In addition, training programmes are organized for officials connected with the administration of dual-use export goods.

India filed its first report on UNSCR 1540 in November 2004. This report was followed by two addendums in January and February 2006. An update to these reports and addendums was filed in April 2009, focusing on developments of the past three years and the draft matrices circulated by 1540 Committee.

India has contributed to the work of the 1540 Committee, including through nominating an Expert, Dr. V. Siddhartha, who worked for the Committee for a two year term.

We have noted that a large number of countries have taken measures to implement the resolution at a national level and have reported to the Committee. We support efforts to prepare guidelines for handling assistance requests by countries and to find means to address the most commonly found gaps in the implementation of 1540. It is important that these activities are performed only at the request of a country and keeping in mind the varying national capacities, procedures and systems. Based on specific requests by countries, India remains ready to assist them bilaterally in capacity building and fulfilling their obligations under UNSCR 1540.

The resolution is global in its reach and should be taken forward along with everyone so that broader synergies are utilized for its better implementation. The involvement of regional organizations may need to be carefully considered since this subject is rather specialized in nature, and capability and expertise at the level of regional or sub-regional organizations may not be often available.

Thank you.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)