

Resolution 1540: At the Crossroads
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Thinking out-of-the-box about 1540 Implementation

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The speech offers an independent and non-governmental view on the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1540. It recognizes the merits of Resolution 1540 as a key of development and organization of global non-proliferation efforts.

The presentation intends to provide some fresh ideas about how to improve understanding of this fact, as well as acceptance and accountability in societies, by promoting an increasing participation of social actors, and emphasizing core aspects involved. Focus is placed upon addressing key challenges to a successful implementation. It starts with a discussion of meanings and implications of “appropriate” and “effective implementation”.

In this approach, “appropriate and effective implementation” is seen as a multidimensional and systemic process. The presentation specially highlights the potentiality of the civil society, still pending of development in many of countries, as a key driver to the 1540 implementation’s success.

Such development implies a shift of mindset, at all levels (local, regional, global) toward an innovative and inclusive thinking. Concerning Governments, it would represent to adopt a brand-new priority setting where policies of state could be based mainly on a full understanding of benefits, rather than on the states’ duties. It means to go beyond the required formal issues such as reporting and legal framework setting, to meaningful and sustainable processes which consolidate with the passage of time. It also means efforts on capacity building, acceptance of brand-new actors with key roles, and besides of an increasing international cooperation, at strategic and tactic levels.

But the change would also mean a growing social responsibility by key actors from the civil society, such as private companies, political organizations, academia, and NGOs, and current outreach practices would be enriched with a broader and proactive participation.

Based on the outlined scheme, some proposals for integrated actions will be put into consideration.