

**Security Council**

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**Note verbale dated 5 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of  
China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the  
Security Council**

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations has the honour to submit herewith China's statement on the annual briefing, contained in document [S/2020/347](#), by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) (see annex). It would be much appreciated if the present note and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.



**Annex to the note verbale dated 5 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: Chinese]

**Statement by the delegation of China concerning the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)**

Mr. President,

China wishes to thank Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani, Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), for his briefing. Since last year, the Committee has carried out a considerable amount of work, including in promoting implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), facilitating assistance and strengthening capacity-building. It has made steady progress in work related to the comprehensive review to be conducted by 2021, while taking measures to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its work. China appreciates the efforts made by the Chair of the Committee, its Group of Experts and the Secretariat.

Mr. President,

Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) was the first resolution on non-proliferation adopted by the Security Council and, as such, is an important part of the international non-proliferation regime. Thanks to the long-term efforts of all countries and the Committee, considerable progress has been made in implementing the resolution, and positive contributions have been made towards strengthening the international non-proliferation regime and promoting international cooperation in the area of non-proliferation. It should be noted, however, that the international situation with regard to non-proliferation remains dire; the Committee still has a long way to go. When facing new challenges, the international community should remain committed to multilateral cooperation, firmly safeguard international rules, and actively promote the creation of a more just and rational global non-proliferation governance system. China supports the Committee's important role in that regard.

Firstly, the primary focus of the Committee's work is to promote implementation of the resolution. As a result of the joint efforts of all parties, two States submitted national implementation reports for the first time in 2019, thus reducing the number of non-reporting States to single digits. China supports the Committee's ongoing efforts to press countries that have not submitted reports to do so as soon as possible. It encourages all parties to submit additional information in due course, based on the progress of domestic implementation. China notes that some States have recently made progress in conducting peer reviews and commends their work.

Secondly, strengthening assistance is an important way to effectively improve the non-proliferation capabilities of all States. The Committee should further improve the matching of requests with offers of relevant international cooperation and assistance, focusing on meeting the international assistance needs of developing States in the area of non-proliferation and strengthening national capacity-building. In order to promote international and regional non-proliferation cooperation, China and the Committee jointly organized the third Training Course for the 1540 Points of Contact in the Asia-Pacific Region, which was held in China in October 2019. We are willing to continue to play an active role in strengthening capacity-building for implementation of the resolution by States in the Asia-Pacific region.

Thirdly, international cooperation and outreach help to consolidate international consensus on non-proliferation. China supports the Committee's efforts to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and other international, regional and subregional organizations; strengthen communication with relevant industries, the scientific community and academia; and coordinate the efforts of all parties to strengthen implementation of the resolution and improve the transparency and visibility of the Committee's work in accordance with its mandate under existing resolutions.

Mr. President,

The Committee is tasked with conducting a comprehensive review of the implementation of the resolution by 25 April 2021. All parties should seize that important opportunity to conduct a comprehensive, objective and pragmatic evaluation of the implementation of the resolution, and thus generate new political impetus to strengthen implementation thereafter. China wishes to make several proposals.

Firstly, efforts should be made to ensure that the comprehensive review is open, inclusive and transparent, and to encourage the Chair of the Committee to carry out extensive consultations with a view to ensuring that all parties, especially developing States, can participate and have their voices heard, and that the review report is based on consensus and reflects the views of all parties in a comprehensive, objective and balanced manner.

Secondly, efforts should be made to fulfil the main objective of preventing non-State actors from engaging in proliferation activities; respect the leading role of States in non-proliferation work; comply with the mandate set forth in the existing resolutions; and refrain from arbitrarily interpreting the resolutions or introducing additional complications that do not fall within their scope.

Thirdly, efforts should be made to take into full consideration such factors as scientific and technological development and progress and the special needs of countries in implementing the resolution; comprehensively assess the ever-changing proliferation risks; and carefully make proposals aimed at strengthening new measures to implement the resolution. Those proposals should be feasible and operable, and should help to promote international cooperation in the area of non-proliferation and improve the effectiveness of activities for the provision of assistance.

Mr. President,

China will continue to work with all parties in order to promote the effective implementation of the resolution, move forward with the comprehensive review, and make positive contributions towards improving the international non-proliferation regime and strengthening global governance in that area.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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