Nonproliferation in a Noncompliant World: Rethinking UN Security Council Resolution 1540
October 29, 2015

Welcome

Brian Finlay, President and CEO, Stimson Center
Mr. Finlay oversees the strategic vision of the Center after more than a decade serving as Senior Associate, Managing Director, and Vice President at Stimson. During his tenure at the Center, Mr. Finlay established the Managing Across Boundaries initiative that links diverse threats—including the drug trade, conventional arms, weapons of mass destruction and human trafficking—to identify common solutions.

Participants

Richard Cupitt, Special Coordinator of UN Security Council Resolution 1540, U.S. State Department Office of Counterproliferation Initiatives
Mr. Cupitt served as a member of the 1540 Committee Group of Experts 2005-2012, holds a PhD in Political Science, and has held several posts in academia and the U.S. government, including as special advisor to the Undersecretary of Commerce in the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security. He has written/edited four books and dozens of other works on export controls and international security. He currently serves as the Special Coordinator of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1540 in the U.S. State Department Office of Counterproliferation Initiatives.

Debra K. Decker, Senior Advisor, Managing Across Boundaries Initiative, Stimson Center
Ms. Decker has more than 20 years of experience developing policies and managing processes in the private and public sectors and is a subject matter expert in the field of risk management. She has advised private and public sector clients on strategy and risk and has specialized in the threats stemming from weapons of mass destruction and in the vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure. Ms. Decker also has been a research associate at Harvard’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs where she focused on nuclear issues and terrorism risks. She holds a Wharton MBA and Harvard MPA.

Nicolas Kasprzyk, Consultant, Transnational Threats and International Crime Division, Institute for Security Studies
Mr. Kasprzyk served as a member of the 1540 Committee group of Experts from 2009-2014. He previously served as a ballistic missiles analyst at the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company (1999-2002); and as an adviser (2002-2008) and high-level expert (2008-2009) on non-proliferation and disarmament in the French Ministry of Defense (Directorate for Strategic Affairs). In July 2014, he joined the Institute for Security Studies to manage a project on Africa’s implementation of Resolution 1540 and contribute on other non-proliferation and disarmament matters, including in the conventional area. Mr. Kasprzyk holds a master’s degree in law and a postmaster’s degree in arms control, disarmament and verification.
Terence Taylor, Coordinator of the Group of Experts, UN Security Council 1540 Committee
Mr. Taylor has been, since 2012, the Coordinator of the Group of Experts supporting the U.N. Security Council Committee established by Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004). He is the founding President of the International Council for the Life Sciences (ICLS). Previously he was Vice-President, Global Health and Security, at the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI); President and Executive Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies – US (IISS-US) and, earlier, Assistant Director with IISS at its London headquarters. A particular focus of his work with these organizations has been the development of scientific networks, principally in the field of health security, across sensitive political boundaries in the Middle East, South Asia and elsewhere. He has substantial experience in international security policy matters as a U.K. government official and for the United Nations both in the field and at U.N. Headquarters. His experience is related to both field operations and to the development and implementation of policies in relation to arms control and non-proliferation treaties and agreements for both conventional and weapons of mass destruction and law of armed conflict aspects of International Humanitarian Law. He has also conducted consulting work on political risk assessment and studies of the private biotechnology industry, particularly in relation to biosafety and biosecurity at life science facilities. He was a member of the US Institute of Medicine’s standing Forum on Microbial Threats. He was a career officer in the British Army with experience in many parts of the world including U.N. peacekeeping, counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.

Esther Zubiri, Spanish State Attorney Chief, the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States
Ms. Zubiri is the Spanish State Attorney Chief on counter-terrorism and non-proliferation matters and currently leads the UNSCR 1540 implementation program at the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States. She holds a Juris Doctor Degree and previously was the U.N. Chief of the Justice, Policy, Legislation and Human Rights Project in Afghanistan where she led the technical support to the Afghan Ministries on the drafting and implementation of counter-terrorism and non-proliferation legislation. She has represented Spain on the reviews of the U.N. Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Committee of Experts on Terrorism at the Council of Europe. She has played a key role in the negotiation of the European Union Directives and Regulations for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items and the prevention of the use of the financial systems for proliferation and terrorism financing, as well as in the drafting of domestic criminal, commercial and customs laws and foreign trade and export control regulations and in overseeing nuclear smuggling and counter-terrorism proceedings.