



CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM

THE NEXT 100 INITIATIVE: RESPONDING TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1540 WITH DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING ASSISTANCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

SUMMARY

The delegations of the member countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA), meeting in Panama City in coordination with the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), with the support of the Stimson Center and the Stanley Foundation, with the participation of the 1540 Committee of Experts, the Department of State of the United States, the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (OAS/SSM/CICTE), the CARICOM Regional Coordinator for implementation of Resolution 1540, and regional academic institutions and authorities held a Workshop on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 focused on development and capacity-building assistance in Central America.

One of the main objectives was to assist the participating States in developing plans for implementation of UNSCR 1540 through effective measures capable of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other transnational threats.

The above objective is a component of the "Next 100 Initiative" supported by the Stimson Center and the Stanley Foundation that also seeks to identify new streams of technical and financial assistance to governments on issues related to public health, border security, regional development, infrastructure, drug trafficking, trade in small arms and light weapons, and smuggling and trafficking, among others.

Participants reaffirmed the importance of these issues as part of the security model established by the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America.

The workshop also addressed issues directly related to implementation of Resolution 1540, such as the establishment of effective border controls, law enforcement, and the prevention of trafficking and sale of chemical, biological, nuclear, and conventional weapons.

It was agreed that SICA has a regulatory framework that facilitates compliance with Resolution 1540 and, in turn, can facilitate region-wide access to resources available for implementation and the development of requisite structural capacities and human resources.

It was shown that there is interest in developing the topic of 1540 implementation at the Central American Integration System in coordination with the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States and with the support of the Stimson Center and the Stanley Foundation.

Relevant aspects stressed by participants included the need for an active role by the Secretariat General of SICA in identifying the common needs of the region and serving as a focal point to assist in the process of implementation of Resolution 1540 by mediating access to technical assistance resources available for the Resolution.

Finally, it was suggested that a second meeting be scheduled for 2011 under the auspices of the organizers.