

1 October 2024

Personal details removed for proactive release

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OIA 29672

Thank you for your email of 11 September 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"Copies of all ministerial briefings provided to Ministers by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade concerning United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 and its successor resolutions."

On 17 September 2024, you agreed to refine your request to be for:

"Formal briefings from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to Ministers relating to the initial agreement of the following resolutions of the United Nations Security Council:

1. 1540;
2. 1635;
3. 1810;
4. 1977;
5. 2622; and
6. 2663."

Background

New Zealand served a two-year term as an elected member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016. Further detail on our work with the UNSC can be found on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) website here: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/peace-rights-and-security/our-work-with-the-un/new-zealand-and-the-un-security-council-2015-2016>.

Additional publications can be found on the Ministry's website here:

<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources?keyword=security%20council&categories=all&page=1>

For clarity, the resolutions you have requested are as follows:

Resolution number	Resolution date	Brief description
1540	28 April 2004	Preventing non-state actors from acquiring nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, their means of delivery, and related materials.
1635	28 October 2005	Security Council resolution 1635 (2005) [on extension of the mandate of the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)].
1810	25 April 2008	Extended the mandate of the 1540 Committee until 25 April 2011.
1977	20 April 2011	Security Council resolution 1977 (2011) [on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and extension of the mandate of the Security Council Committee Established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004) concerning Non-Proliferation of Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Weapons until 25 Apr. 2021].
2622	25 February 2022	Security Council resolution 2622 (2022) [on extension of the mandate of the Security Council Committee Established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004) concerning Non-Proliferation of Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Weapons until 30 Nov. 2022].
2663	26 May 2022	Extended the mandate of the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts for ten years until 30 November 2032.

Response

Your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) searched both electronic and physical files to attempt to locate the information in scope of your request. For your reference, the following search terms were used in electronic searches:

1. General:
 - a. United Nations Security Council
 - b. UNSC
2. Resolution 1540 (28 April 2004)
 - a. Resolution 1540
 - b. Weapons of mass destruction
 - c. Proliferation
 - d. Non-proliferation
 - e. International peace

- f. S/RES/1540
- 3. Resolution 1635 (28 October 2005)
 - a. Resolution 1635
 - b. Democratic Republic of the Congo
 - c. Congo
 - d. S/RES/1635
- 4. Resolution 1810 (25 April 2008)
 - a. Resolution 1810
 - b. Proliferation
 - c. Non-proliferation
 - d. Weapons of mass destruction
 - e. S/RES/1810
- 5. Resolution 1977 (20 April 2011)
 - a. Resolution 1977
 - b. Proliferation
 - c. Non-proliferation
 - d. Weapons of mass destruction
 - e. Export of technology
 - f. S/RES/1977
- 6. Resolution 2622 (25 February 2022)
 - a. Resolution 2622
 - b. Proliferation
 - c. Non-proliferation
 - d. Weapons of mass destruction
 - e. S/RES/2622
- 7. Resolution 2663 (26 May 2022)
 - a. Resolution 2663
 - b. Proliferation
 - c. Non-proliferation
 - d. Weapons of mass destruction
 - e. Arms control
 - f. Disarmament
 - g. S/RES/2663.

As New Zealand was not an elected member of the United Nations Security Council at the time of the requested Resolutions, New Zealand did not vote on them and therefore it is unlikely that any advice would have been prepared by the Ministry.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Released under the Official Information Act 1982