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MSC REPRESENTS MARITIME SECURITY INTERESTS IN UN CIVIL SOCIETY MEETING

CHARLOTTE, NC (October 2009) – Ron Thomason, the Maritime Security Council's Vice President for Strategic Programs, participated in a major "civil society" session on "*Resolution 1540: At the Crossroads*," at UN Headquarters in New York City on behalf of the MSC.

The objective of this watershed event was to provide selected transportation, security, and supply chain industry representatives with a forum to contribute to the official Comprehensive Review of the Status of Implementation on Resolution 1540 conducted by the UN's 1540 Committee (September 30-October 2, 2009).

On 28 April 2004, The United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1540 (2004) obliging States to refrain from supporting, by any means, non-State actors from developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their delivery systems.

Resolution 1540 (2004) imposes binding obligations on all States to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials. It also encourages enhanced international cooperation on such efforts, in accord with and promoting universal adherence to existing international non proliferation treaties.

Co-organizers for this event included the Henry L. Stimson Center, the World Institute for Nuclear Security, the Arab Institute for Security Studies, the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), the Nonproliferation for Global Security Foundation, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. The tentative date for the presentation of the final document resulting from this comprehensive review is 31 January 2010.

About the Maritime Security Council (MSC):

The Maritime Security Council is the world's premier organization dedicated solely to the security of the maritime industry, and is a leading advocate for the security and policy interests of the global maritime and supply chain communities. Founded in 1988, the MSC is a not-for-profit organization that has played a pioneering role in developing the US Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA) and security 'best practice' programs such as the Carrier Initiative Program, the Supercarrier Initiative, Business Alliance for Secure Commerce (BASC), and the Customs-Trade partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).

About Ronald Thomason

Ron Thomason is the President of Infrastructure Security Solutions LLC (ISS). ISS provides security solutions to companies within the international transportation, critical infrastructure, and supply chain communities. Ron is a Governor of the MSC for ten years and serves as a maritime security industry representative to organizations such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the International Police Organization (INTERPOL).

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Keywords:

CARGO SCREENING, CARGO SECURITY, C-TPAT, CUSTOMS TRADE PARTNERSHIP AGAINST TERRORISM, CSI, CONTAINER SECURITY INITIATIVE, COUNTERTERRORISM, FERRY SECURITY, HOMELAND SECURITY, ISPS CODE, INTERNATIONAL SHIP AND PORT FACILITY SECURITY CODE, MARITIME SECURITY, MARITIME SECURITY TRAINING, MTSA, MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT, PORT SECURITY, PORT SECURITY TRAINING, SEAPORT SECURITY, SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY, UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, UNSCR 1540, WMD, WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION