Nuclear Discussion Forum
2021 session

“Achieving a balanced outcome at the Tenth NPT Review Conference”

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is the cornerstone of the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. The Treaty, with its near-universal membership, uniquely combines verifiable non-proliferation obligations, legally binding disarmament commitments and arrangements for assistance in the development of peaceful uses of nuclear technologies.

The Tenth NPT Review Conference, postponed numerous times due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is now tentatively scheduled to January 2022. The Tenth Review Conference comes at a critical juncture in time amid rising tensions between nuclear powers, heightening of nuclear confrontation risks and erosion and of the arms control architecture.

Despite the many challenges on the contemporary agenda, the Tenth Review Conference provides an opportunity for its States Parties to strengthen the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime, with the NPT at its core, and to make tangible and good faith efforts to reconfirm and implement the commitments and obligations in line with the common objective of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Co-organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations, this session of the Nuclear Discussion Forum seeks to foster dialogue on how the Tenth Review Conference can produce a balanced outcome across the three main Pillars. In particular, the following questions could serve as guiding points for the discussion: What can be done to reduce nuclear risks and reinvigorate a common vision for disarmament? How the non-proliferation elements could be improved without infringing on the States Parties’ rights to peaceful uses of nuclear energy? How the NPT can additionally facilitate access to peaceful uses on a global scale? How could emerging technologies and new domains be included in the discussions at the RevCon?

Expert speakers will engage in a moderated discussion, followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

Moderator: Ambassador Magzhan Ilyassov, Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations.

Panelists:
- Ambassador Gustavo Zlauvinen (Argentina), President-Designate of the Tenth NPT Review Conference;
- Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs;
- Ms. Vivian Okeke, Representative of the Director General to the United Nations, Director of the IAEA Liaison Office in New York;
- Civil society representative (tbc).