

STRENGTHENING THE NPT REGIME: PRIORITIES FOR THE 2020 NPT REVCON

3-4 December 2019

*PortoBay Hotel, Av. Atlantica, 1500, Rua Duvivier, 6, CEP 22021-000 Copacabana,
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

Flamingo Room

Sponsored by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

AGENDA

MEETING OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Discuss the current state of play in advance of the NPT Review Conference (RevCon)
- Highlight potential opportunities for Latin American nations to contribute to a successful 2020 RevCon and advance the NPT's goals
- Identify priority commitments and actions to strengthen risk reduction, transparency, doctrines (including the role of political statements), fissile material management, and peaceful uses where countries should collectively focus efforts in advance of the RevCon
- Discuss strategy and tactics to make progress on agreeing and implementing priority commitments and actions both before and after the RevCon
- Assess the role of various government initiatives in building a pathway to disarmament and offer specific recommendations to strengthen such initiatives

Tuesday, 3 December 2019

9:15 – 9:30 am:

Welcome and Overview of Meeting Objectives

*Isabelle Williams, Senior Adviser, Nuclear Threat Initiative
Irma Arguello, Founder and Chair, NPSGlobal Foundation*

9:30 – 11:00 am:

Update on 2020 NPT Review Conference

*Discussion Facilitator: Minister Marcelo Paz Saraiva Câmara, Chefe da Divisão de
Desarmamento e Tecnologias Sensíveis (DDS), Ministério das Relações Exteriores,
Brazil*

- What is at stake in the 2020 RevCon? What outcomes would best advance the NPT's goals? Strengthen the overall credibility of the regime? What if a traditional consensus agreement proves elusive?
- What are the priority issues that governments are actively working on?

- What else can be done in the months ahead to ensure a successful 2020 RevCon? By all countries? By countries of Latin America?
- How do countries anticipate the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will come up during the 2020 RevCon? Can we foster a productive discussion?

11:00 – 11:15 am: Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45 pm: **Risk Reduction, Disarmament and Article VI: Priorities for Action**

Discussion Facilitator: Dr. Lewis Dunn, NTI Consultant, former U.S. Ambassador to the NPT Review Conference

- How does nuclear risk reduction fit into the broader Article VI nuclear disarmament agenda, e.g., as a necessity and an enabler but not as an alternative?
- What are the key concerns of governments regarding risks of nuclear weapons? How are those risks changing? How are they being addressed?
- What priority risk reduction actions should be pursued at the 2020 RevCon and beyond? Within the P5 process? Bilaterally? Regionally?
- What types of political statements have been made in the past to support NPT goals (e.g., declaratory policies, negative security assurances, etc.)? How have they contributed and what could their role be in 2020?
- How can the arms control and disarmament endeavor be sustained and reenergized?

12:45 – 2:00 pm: Lunch

2:00 – 3:00 pm: **Strengthening Transparency Between Nuclear Weapon States and Non-Nuclear Weapon States**

Discussion Facilitator: Ambassador Alfredo Labbé, Member and Vice-President of the International Humanitarian Fact Finding Commission, senior Chilean diplomat

- What are the highest priority, near-term transparency actions that would best support the disarmament process and could be advanced at the RevCon or in other ways?
- How can interactive dialogue and transparency between the NWS and NNWS become a more integral component of the NPT?

3:00 – 4:00 pm: **Strengthening Fissile Material Management**

Discussion Facilitator: Irma Arguello, Founder and Chair, NPSGlobal Foundation

- Which measures related to the security, control, accounting, and transparency of nuclear materials can be taken by countries before the RevCon?
- What can governments do to strengthen nuclear security, including universalization and full implementation of relevant IAEA INFCIRCs and relevant conventions?

- How can countries best support efforts to negotiate a Fissile Materials Cut-Off Treaty in light of the long-standing impasse on this issue? What steps can be taken to keep this on the international agenda and create new urgency for progress?
- What is the role of fissile material management in a sustained disarmament process and how can states engage to advance that role?

4:00 – 4:15 pm: Coffee Break

4:15 – 5:15 pm: **Peaceful Uses: Facilitating Cooperation, Ensuring Safety, and Strengthening Safeguards**

Discussion Facilitator: Dr. Juan Francisco Facetti, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to Austria and Multilateral Organizations, Vienna

- What steps can be taken to strengthen cooperation on the many different aspects of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy? How can the RevCon contribute?
- What can be done to strengthen and universalize safeguards implementation and commitments? What role can be played by regional accounting and control arrangements for nuclear materials, as approved by the IAEA Board of Governors?

8:00 – 10:00 pm: Dinner

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

9:30 – 11:00 am: **Nuclear Deterrence and Nuclear Disarmament**

Discussion Facilitator: Dr. Emiliano Buis, Profesor Titular de Derecho Internacional Pùblico, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Profesor NPSGlobal

- Is there inherent tension between the goal of disarmament and continued reliance on nuclear deterrence while nuclear weapons exist?
- Would reinvigorated efforts by the nuclear weapons states to limit and reduce nuclear weapons and take additional steps to reduce the risk of nuclear use give greater confidence to NNWS that progress toward disarmament is possible?
- How can we best facilitate a productive discussion between those communities who emphasize the need for continued reliance on nuclear deterrence today and those who advocate for greater progress toward nuclear disarmament based on humanitarian impacts?
- How can the discourse be carried forward about the consequences of nuclear weapons use among governments, civil society, public, etc?
- Where should this issue be addressed? If at the 2020 RevCon, how?

11:00 – 11:15 am: Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15 pm: **The Role of New and Existing Forums to Unlock Disarmament Diplomacy**
Discussion Facilitator: First Secretary Sandra Paola Ramirez Valenzuela, Coordinadora para Desarme, No Proliferación y Control de armamentos, Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Mexico

- What contribution can governments' initiatives make to building a pathway to disarmament (e.g., Creating the Environment for Nuclear Disarmament, International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification, Swedish Stepping Stone Initiative)?
- Where is progress being made by various initiatives?
- What are the most important questions that such initiatives could address next?
- How can dialogue and mutual support be encouraged among these different initiatives?

12:15 – 12:45 pm: **Recommendations from Discussion**
Isabelle Williams, Senior Adviser, Nuclear Threat Initiative
Irma Arguello, Founder and Chair, NPSGlobal Foundation
James McKeon, Program Officer, Nuclear Threat Initiative

- Based on the discussions, which of the ideas or proposals have the most potential to strengthen the NPT for the 2020 RevCon and beyond? For becoming the basis for joint commitments by groups of countries? For national action prior to the RevCon? For building trust among countries?

12:45 – 2:00 pm Lunch