

## **Options for African Countries to Demonstrate Leadership at Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) 2020 Review Conference (RevCon)<sup>1</sup>**

1. **African NPT Priorities:** Submit a paper at RevCon that recommits African countries to the three NPT pillars, articulates key priorities for the region, emphasizes the synergy between the Treaty of Pelindaba and the NPT, and announces actions in support of the NPT goals.
2. **RevCon Participation:** Ensure high-level participation by African countries at RevCon, including active participation in thematic debates and side events. Promote gender and age diversity in African delegations to RevCon.
  - **African Youth Delegation:** Form an African youth delegation to attend RevCon with the goal of promoting disarmament educational efforts among emerging scientists, technical experts, and policy professionals in the region.
3. **Disarmament:** Encourage commitment by the nuclear weapon states to reinvigorated pursuit of nuclear disarmament as required under NPT obligations and repeated commitments.
4. **Non-use of Nuclear Weapons:** Promote affirmation by nuclear weapon states of their commitment to avoid the use of nuclear weapons (“a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought”).
5. **Pelindaba Anniversary:** Announce planned celebrations for the 25th anniversary of the Treaty of Pelindaba. These could include reviewing the achievements and work of the Treaty and the launch of “Pelindaba Day” to remind and educate countries about the benefits of the treaty. Promote Africa as a model for other nuclear-weapon-free zones and offer lessons learned to other zones.
6. **Disarmament and development:** Adopt a strong position that delivering the Sustained Development Goals and Agenda 2063 are critical for Africa and would be bolstered by progress on disarmament. Connect disarmament, security, and development to other global trends (e.g. climate change).

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<sup>1</sup> These options were raised and discussed at the regional workshop “*Strengthening the NPT Regime: Priorities for the 2020 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conference*” held 4-5 March 2020 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop was co-hosted by the Nuclear Threat Initiative and AFRISIS and sponsored by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. These options were developed by the Nuclear Threat Initiative and AFRISIS and, while they were informed by the discussion and debate during the two-day workshop, they do not necessarily reflect the views of every participant.

7. **Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT):** Stress the importance of achieving entry-into-force and universal adherence to CTBT for implementing the NPT goals and strengthening global security.
8. **Nuclear cooperation and engagement in the region:** Request assistance in nuclear infrastructure development and non-power applications (e.g. radiotherapy cancer treatment machines); and assess regional perspectives on peaceful uses, with a focus on identifying non-power uses of most importance and ways to strengthen collaboration with IAEA in those areas.
9. **Nuclear safety and security:** Affirm support, and take actions, to bolster effective physical protection of nuclear materials (e.g. countries ratify amendment to Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and submit required information under various agreements).
10. **Nuclear education:** Submit a proposal to bolster efforts on nuclear education with a focus on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.