

**Statement: Call to Action on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

The United Nations announced in late March that the 2020 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) would be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This important conference, originally scheduled to begin on April 27, 2020, may now be held as late as April 2021.

The NPT is a cornerstone of international cooperation and essential to preserving norms against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Yet many around the world have been losing confidence in the NPT system given the end of other arms control treaties and stalled progress toward disarmament by countries possessing nuclear weapons.

Though the world will continue grappling with a devastating pandemic for months, this delay allows additional time for the treaty's States Parties to engage in constructive dialogue on nonproliferation and disarmament issues.

**We call on the treaty's States Parties to use the months ahead for trust-building and good faith efforts to ensure the NPT continues to stand as a trusted pillar of international security into the future.**

The NPT's importance does not end with nonproliferation and disarmament. Indeed, it is crucial to addressing another existential threat facing the world: climate change. The safeguards system developed over the past 50 years to ensure peaceful uses of nuclear technology is essential to nonproliferation, no matter what future trajectories we see for nuclear energy.

The continued strengthening of near-universal treaties---whether the NPT or the Paris Agreement---sends a powerful signal that people of the world can work through their differences and unite in fighting the greatest threats to international security. Amidst a daunting and deadly global pandemic, cooperation is more imperative than ever.

**Signed,**

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We Don't Have Time

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