

**TENTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY  
ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

25 October 2021

Excellency,

I refer to my letter dated 18 October 2021, in which I placed under silence procedure until 22 October at 4:00 p.m. a proposal for a decision by the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) on the confirmation of the tentative dates of 4-28 January 2022, for the Tenth Review Conference of Parties to the NPT, and on various modalities for the Review Conference consistent with current restrictions at United Nations Headquarters due to the ongoing ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is my pleasure to inform you that the silence procedure has concluded without objections. Accordingly, the following decision is considered adopted by the States Parties to the NPT:

1. The States Parties agree to confirm the dates of 4-28 January 2022 for the Tenth Review Conference of Parties to the NPT.
2. The States Parties agree that, in the event that current restrictions prevail, the President-designate, the Bureau and the Secretariat will explore all available options to ensure the Review Conference is as close as possible to its predecessors in terms of modalities, participation and the consideration of all substantive matters. The adjustments to the programme of work, which is premised on in-person meetings, and are based on current conditions at United Nations Headquarters, would include:
  - a. Statements for the General Debate to be limited to 5 minutes for national statements and to 8 minutes for statements on behalf of groups of States Parties. After 5 or 8 minutes as applicable, the microphones will be automatically disabled. Similarly, statements in the exercise of right of reply should not exceed 5 minutes for the first intervention and 3 minutes for the second. A strictly enforced time limit for statements and rights of reply would permit the reduction in the overall number of meetings allocated to the General Debate. A similar approach will be taken for statements at the meetings of the Main Committees. Longer statements, submitted in writing, will be reflected on the Review Conference website.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers  
of NPT States Parties to the United Nations  
New York

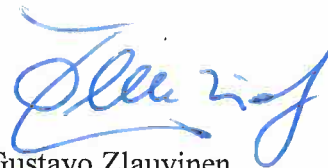
- b. Evening meetings to take place between 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., on a reimbursable basis, if additional, appropriate conference rooms were not to be available for parallel meetings. The evening meetings would help to get, as close as possible, to the total number of meetings allocated to the Main Committees in the initial Program of Work.
- c. The possibility of limited participation at side events at United Nations Headquarters.
- d. The possibility of expanded delegation sizes in conference rooms other than the General Assembly Hall.
- e. The meeting allocated to presentations by civil society to be virtual. Conditions permitting and subject to availability, a separate on-site conference room would be provided for limited participation by civil society.

3. The States Parties agree that any adjustments to the modalities for the Tenth NPT Review Conference are temporary measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and do not create a precedent for future Review Conferences of the Parties to the NPT.

4. The President-designate and the members of the Bureau will continue to work closely together with the Secretariat and States Parties to ensure the Conference, under the foreseen circumstances, is able to undertake its critical responsibilities, that enough time is allocated to the discussion and negotiation of all substantive matters, and that all States Parties have equal and qualitative, in-person participation.

I take this opportunity to once again express my deep appreciation to all States Parties for their enduring support and for the spirit of flexibility and cooperation they have displayed throughout the extended postponement of the Tenth Review Conference caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the confirmation by States Parties of the dates of 4-28 January, we now have the opportunity to carry out the important work of the Review Conference and to ensure the NPT maintains its place as the cornerstone of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and an essential pillar of international peace and security.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Gustavo Zlauvinen  
President-designate