

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

27 January 2022

Excellency,

As you will recall, States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) held consultations on 25 January to discuss next steps following the decision taken as a result of developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic not to convene the Tenth Review Conference of Parties to the NPT on 4 – 28 January 2022 and to postpone it further.

At the conclusion of those consultations, I stated that it was my understanding that:

1. States Parties' preference is for a full-fledged Review Conference to be held as soon as possible, but that it must take into account the health and safety of all participants and be inclusive of all States Parties.
2. States Parties' wish to maintain the tentative hold placed on the dates of 1 - 26 August 2022, but that this does not constitute a formal decision, rather it is simply to ensure States Parties are able to use those dates should they decide to, and that a formal decision on the dates will need to be taken at a later time.
3. The provisional Secretary-General should continue to explore with the United Nations Secretariat feasible options to swap the tentative dates in August with the United Nations Disarmament Commission session in April, including the addition of one week to ensure a Programme of Work that provides at a minimum the same number of meetings as agreed by States Parties for the postponed January 2022 Review Conference dates.
4. The provisional Secretary-General should continue to explore with the United Nations Secretariat possible dates earlier than August 2022 for the Review Conference at United Nations locations and facilities outside of United Nations Headquarters.

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

5. If I had received no strong opposition by the close of business on 26 January 2022, I would formally begin dialogue with States Parties that have a history of hosting large international conferences, to explore possible options for holding the Review Conference earlier than August 2022 at non-United Nations venues and facilities, on an exceptional basis, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This shall not constitute, in any way, a precedent for next sessions of the Review Conference.
6. All options for non-United Nations venues and facilities should take into account the necessary logistics and additional financial implications, as well as assurances by the potential host State that visas would be issued to all delegates from all States Parties.
7. Options for non-United Nations venues and facilities would require the establishment of a travel fund for those States Parties without diplomatic representation at the venue.
8. Appropriate efforts will be made to avoid any clash with other disarmament meetings and to ensure a formal decision regarding the dates and venue of the Review Conference is taken three months in advance, however these do not constitute preconditions for the holding of the Review Conference.

As of close of business on 26 January 2022, I had not received any objections to points 5, 6 and 7. I will, therefore, ask the provisional Secretary-General to immediately begin formal dialogue with the States Parties mentioned above on appropriate non-United Nations venues and facilities.

It is my intention to continue holding informal consultations with all States Parties in the coming weeks to provide updates on developments and consider options that could facilitate a formal decision on the dates and venue of the Review Conference as soon as possible.

As always, I would like to 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.

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



Gustavo Zlauvinen
President-designate