

# Working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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## First session

Vienna, 24–28 July 2023

## Report of the working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

### I. Introduction

1. During the 13th plenary meeting of the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held on 26 August 2022, States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted a decision to establish a working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty to discuss and make recommendations to the Preparatory Committee that would improve the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability, coordination and continuity of the review process of the Treaty ([NPT/CONF.2020/DEC.2](#)).

2. Pursuant to [NPT/CONF.2020/DEC.2](#), and following the agreement of States parties, the working group met from 24 to 28 July 2023 in Vienna.

3. Accordingly, the first session of the working group was opened on 24 July by Chris King, Chief of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, who also served as Secretary of the working group.

4. The following 101 States parties to the Treaty participated in the work of the working group at its first session: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.



## II. Substantive and procedural issues

### A. Organization of work

5. States parties agreed that the working group should be presided over by the Chair of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. At its first meeting, on 24 July, the working group elected Jarmo Viinanen of Finland by acclamation to serve as Chair of the working group.

6. At its 1st meeting, on 24 July, the working group adopted the agenda (NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/1), as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of the Chair.
3. Election of the Vice-Chairs.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Organization of work.
6. Exchange of views on improving the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability, coordination and continuity of the review process of the Treaty.
7. Statements by non-governmental organizations.
8. Consideration and adoption of the recommendations of the working group to the Preparatory Committee.
9. Any other business.

7. Furthermore, the working group took note of the indicative timetable (NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/3), as well as the summarized indicative timetable NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/4).

8. In the course of the discussion on the organization of work of the working group, the following decisions were taken:

(a) **Election of officers**

The working group decided to elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs as its office bearers, to be drawn from the Treaty's regional groups (Western European and Others, Eastern European and Non-Aligned States Parties). At its first meeting, on 24 July, the working group elected as Vice-Chairs Arsen Omarov of Kazakhstan from the Group of Eastern European States and Jonelle John S. Domingo of the Philippines from the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties.

(b) **Methods of work**

(i) **Decision-making**

At its first meeting, the working group noted that, in accordance with NPT/CONF.2020/DEC.2, it would operate according to the rules of procedure of the tenth Review Conference, which would be applied mutatis mutandis.

(ii) **Participation**

At its first meeting, it was decided that the working group would be held in private unless otherwise decided by States parties in accordance with the rules of procedure, and that representatives of regional organizations should be allowed to participate in its meetings, submit working papers and make

statements. It was also decided that secure remote simultaneous interpretation links to enable remote access to the meetings of the working group, which allowed for passive participation without the possibility of making remote interventions or otherwise interacting with the meetings, would be made available to States parties. It was further decided that a two-hour period within one meeting of the working group would be dedicated to presentations by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on the substance of the working group and would be held in public and be webcast. States parties agreed that NGOs making presentations at that meeting would be selected according to past practice related to NGO participation in the Treaty review cycle.

Accordingly, the following regional organizations were represented as observers at the working group: European Union, League of Arab States and Pacific Islands Forum.

Accordingly, representatives of six NGOs attended the meeting of the working group (see [NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/5](#)).

No State not party to the Treaty attended the working group as an observer.

(iii) **Working languages**

At its first meeting, the working group decided to use Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish as its working languages.

(iv) **Records and documents**

At its first meeting, the working group decided that documentation for the working group would include translation only for official documents, namely, the rules of procedure, the agenda and the final report of the session, that working papers would be circulated as received and that no summary records would be prepared.

(v) **No formal general debate or list of speakers**

At its first meeting, the working group decided that there would not be a formal general debate or a speakers list for the meetings of the working group.

9. The working group held nine plenary meetings.

10. The discussions were structured according to the indicative timetable, which provided equal time for the consideration of the topics of effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability, coordination and continuity of the review process of the Treaty.

11. The chair presented two sets of recommendations, as contained in [NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/CRP.2/Rev.1](#) and [NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/DEC.2](#). The working group considered these recommendations and was not able to reach consensus on their adoption.

12. At its third meeting, on 25 July, the working group heard six statements from non-governmental organizations.

## B. Documentation

13. During the session, the working group had before it the following documents:

<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/1</a>	Provisional agenda
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/2</a>	Financial report
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/3</a>	Report of the working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (WP.1)
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Czech Republic to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Egypt to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Canada to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by the European Union to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Austria to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Ireland, New Zealand and Switzerland to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Germany to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by the United States of America to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (WP.2)
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by Indonesia to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by the Holy See to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by France to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Working paper (posted as received on the website of the working group)	Working paper submitted by China to the working group on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/1/Rev.1</a>	Information for States parties, observer States and intergovernmental organizations
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/2/Rev.1</a>	Information for non-governmental organizations
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/3</a>	Indicative timetable
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/4</a>	Indicative timetable (summarized)
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/5</a>	List of non-governmental organizations
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/INF/6</a>	List of participants
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/CRP.1</a>	Draft decisions on the organization of work of the working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/CRP.2/Rev.1</a>	Draft recommendations to the Preparatory Committee that would improve the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability, coordination and continuity of the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/CRP.3</a>	Draft report of the working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
<a href="#">NPT/CONF.2026/WG.I/MISC.1</a>	Provisional list of participants

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