

# Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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English only

## First session

Vienna, 31 July–11 August 2023

## Information for non-governmental organizations

### *Summary*

The present document provides preliminary information for non-governmental organization participants at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Any necessary additional information will be provided closer to the date of the session. Documentation and other information will be posted, as it becomes available, on the website of the 2023 Preparatory Committee (<https://meetings.unoda.org/npt-/treaty-on-the-non-proliferation-of-nuclear-weapons-preparatory-committee-for-the-eleventh-review-conference-first-session-2023>).



## **I. Dates and venue**

1. The first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will be held in Vienna from 31 July to 11 August 2023.
2. The opening meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, 31 July, and will be held in the M-Plenary Conference Room (M-Building, first floor) at the Vienna International Centre.

## **II. Provisions for the attendance of non-governmental organizations**

3. Based on the practice of the previous preparatory committees and on the relevant rules of procedure of the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapon, which will apply provisionally for the session of the Preparatory Committee until a final decision on this matter is taken, representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) shall be allowed, upon request, to attend the meetings of the Committee other than those designated closed, to be seated in the public gallery, to receive documents of the Committee and, at their own expense, to make written material available to the participants in the Committee. The Committee will also allocate a meeting for NGOs to address the Committee.

## **III. Restrictions related to the coronavirus disease pandemic**

4. As of 1 March 2023, there are no restrictions related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic in place in the host country and host city. Participants are strongly encouraged to consult official Austrian sources for any restrictions that may be in place, including those that apply to travellers entering Austria, at the following webpage: <https://www.austria.info/en/service-and-facts/coronavirus-information>.
5. All participants, including vaccinated participants, are encouraged to take all feasible precautions to ensure the safe conduct of the meetings of the Preparatory Committee. Participants are also asked not to attend the meetings if they feel ill or have respiratory or other symptoms.

## **IV. Practical arrangements for accreditation, registration and issuance of grounds passes**

### **Accreditation**

6. All requests for accreditation must be submitted to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs no later than 2 June 2023 using the online form (<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/3Cjku4D3NA>). In addition, NGOs must submit to Diane Barnes ([diane.barnes@un.org](mailto:diane.barnes@un.org)) a separate, written accreditation request on the official letterhead of the organization, listing the full names and titles of the representatives who will attend. NGOs that have not attended a meeting of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in the past should indicate previous interactions between the organization and the United Nations in relation to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues. A mission statement or summary of work of the organization should be provided.

7. NGOs that have requested accreditation as stated above will be informed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs by email by 16 June 2023 of the outcome of their request. It is important to bear in mind that individuals requesting accreditation, as well as those planning to attend side events, must be at least 18 years of age. Questions relating to accreditation, should be addressed to Diane Barnes ([diane.barnes@un.org](mailto:diane.barnes@un.org)).

## **Registration and issuance of grounds passes**

8. Incomplete registrations and registrations received after the deadline will not be processed.

9. Online registration will be available from 19 June to 17 July 2023 to representatives of NGOs whose accreditation has been approved.

10. Attendees must complete the registration form on the online Indico system (<https://indico.un.org/event/1004395/registrations/>) and follow the process described therein. Once a participant is registered in the system, the profile will remain valid and will only have to be updated if needed. Online registrations must include: (a) the accreditation request letter, including the name of the participant; and (b) the passport nationality and email address of the participant. If the requested documents are not attached, the system will reject the application.

11. Once their registrations have been approved in Indico, representatives of NGOs will receive a confirmation email. They will receive a second email requesting them to submit a photograph, which is needed to issue a preprinted conference pass and which will therefore shorten the time needed to issue an access pass on the day of registration.

12. Identification passes will be issued at the United Nations Security and Safety Section Pass Office at Gate One of the Vienna International Centre. Participants who have uploaded their photograph in advance will be able to collect their pass from the area marked “Preprinted conference passes”, located to the right after entrance through Gate One. Participants who have not uploaded their photograph in advance will be able to request and collect their pass from the Pass Office. The regular working hours of the Pass Office are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday, and passes can be collected from 31 July until the end of the meetings of the Preparatory Committee, on 11 August. Participants who will also be attending the meetings of the working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will obtain one pass that will be valid for the meetings of the Committee and the working group (covering the period from 24 July to 11 August) and may collect their pass in advance on 21 July, from 1 to 3.30 p.m., and on 23 July, from 3 to 6 p.m. Participants who are only attending the meetings of the Committee may collect their passes in advance on 28 July, from 1 to 3.30 p.m., and on 30 July, from 3 to 6 p.m. Participants will need their valid passport to collect their pass.

## **V. Facilities for non-governmental organizations**

13. In order to facilitate the participation of NGOs in the Preparatory Committee, Conference Room M4 will be made available for use by all accredited NGOs for their meetings, briefings, side events and for the distribution of official conference documents to their representatives. Emma Bjerten, the designated NGO Coordinator, will be responsible for the allocation of time and the availability of the room for NGO briefings and meetings. Ms. Bjerten’s contact details are provided below.

14. NGOs are solely responsible for delivering, storing, distributing and removing their materials (including documents), as well as for all costs related thereto. The Secretariat does not receive or store any materials on behalf of NGOs. NGOs are advised to ensure that boxes or other containers can be easily opened for security inspection, upon request. The Secretariat will authorize the removal of materials judged to be inappropriate.

## **VI. Documentation**

15. All documents and statements for the first session of the Preparatory Committee will be available on the website of the Committee (<https://meetings.unoda.org/npt/-/treaty-on-the-non-proliferation-of-nuclear-weapons-preparatory-committee-for-the-eleventh-review-conference-first-session-2023>).

16. Pending a decision by the Preparatory Committee, NGOs may be allowed to display their documents and other information materials on a designated table. One copy of each document should be provided to the Secretariat through the NGO Coordinator prior to its being publicly displayed.

## **VII. Presentations by non-governmental organizations**

17. Without prejudice to a decision by the States parties as to the programme of work of the Preparatory Committee, it is tentatively expected that a plenary meeting for NGO presentations will be held on Wednesday, 2 August 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. As in the past, NGOs are requested to coordinate among themselves in deciding which representatives will address the Committee during the meeting allocated for NGO presentations.

18. NGOs are kindly asked to provide their statements in advance for the interpretation services. They may do so by sending an electronic copy of their statement to [unov.conference@un.org](mailto:unov.conference@un.org) and clearly indicate in the subject line of the email the meeting (Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee), the speaker and the organization or organizations represented. Alternatively, NGOs may provide 14 hard copies. The United Nations does not provide photocopying or printing services.

## **VIII. Side events and exhibitions**

19. The number of rooms available for holding side events during the first session of the Preparatory Committee is limited. Side events that can be accommodated within the room allocated to NGOs will also be scheduled by the NGO point of contact, who will maintain a public schedule on the following web page: <https://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/npt/2023/calendar>.

20. Limited space is available for exhibitions. All exhibitions at United Nations facilities require sponsorship by a State party willing to assume responsibility for their placement and content as well as the submission of associated costs. Sponsorship requests should be submitted directly to the relevant permanent mission points of contact. Member States should contact the Secretariat ([npt@un.org](mailto:npt@un.org)) as soon as possible and no later than 31 May 2023.

## IX. Point of contact

21. The Secretariat has been informed that the designated non-governmental organization point of contact in connection with participation by non-governmental organizations in the Preparatory Committee is as follows:

Emma Bjerten  
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom  
 777 UN Plaza, 6th floor  
 New York, New York 10017  
 United States of America  
 Email: [emma.bjerten@wilpf.org](mailto:emma.bjerten@wilpf.org)

## X. Letters of invitation and visas

22. The United Nations is not in a position to provide letters of invitation or letters to consulates requesting that representatives of non-governmental organizations be provided visas for travelling to Vienna in order to attend the meetings of the Preparatory Committee. It is the responsibility of such representatives to make their own arrangements for visas, travel and related costs. Organizations with delegates requiring host country visas are therefore encouraged to complete, as soon as possible, the steps described in paragraphs 6, 7 and 10, respectively.

<i>Checklist for representatives of non-governmental organizations</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Requests for accreditation sent to the Secretariat	2 June 2023
Notification by email from the Secretariat to representatives informing them of the status of their request	16 June 2023
Request for representative registration	17 July 2023