

High Representative Nakamitsu
Deputy Director-General Aparo
Excellencies
Distinguished delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a pleasure to participate in <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/20190901@iaea-undisarmamentaffairs-yv>
Office for Disarmament Affairs and the International Atomic Energy Agency for
co-organizing this thought-provoking webinar.

Since the NPT'S entry into force fifty years ago, safeguards have been the glue that has held the Treaty together. This is because safeguards provide the most obvious and tangible security benefits for States Parties to the NPT – the verifiable knowledge that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are not being diverted to nuclear weapons

@' ongoing technological revolution, many new or evolving technologies face the same dilemma that precipitated the creation of the nuclear safeguards system – how to facilitate extraordinary benefits while mitigating possible dangers. Technological developments have exposed potential vulnerabilities in the non-proliferation regime, but as has been highlighted by our panellists, they also provide many opportunities to strengthen the NPT so that it remains fit for purpose as the cornerstone of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime while ensuring the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and a pillar of international peace and security.

My role as president-designate of the Tenth NPT Review Conference is to facilitate a balanced outcome that strengthens implementation of the Treaty across all three of its pillars: disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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safeguards, and vigilance in their implementation, will be fundamental to such an outcome.

This is in the interest of all NPT States Parties.

Being a treaty with almost universal adherence, the NPT Review Conference, whenever it is held, is an important venue to discuss challenges to the non-prolif

This is especially important given the increasing expansion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its applications for energy, health, agriculture, drinking water, protection of fisheries, understanding climate change and oceans, and many others, and thus helping realizing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Our expert panellists have demonstrated today why we need events such as this. They have provided insights and ideas that I hope can help form the genesis of the discussions and the basis of the agreements that we will need at the Review Conference.

I look forward to working with you all as we seek to strengthen the NPT and its backbone – the safeguards system.