**The Position of the Group of Non-Aligned State Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

**on the Format and Modalities of the 10th Session of the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference**

1. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) continues to follow with concern the gravity of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on public health.

2. The convening of the NPT Review Conference is especially important given the crucial role of the NPT in international security. Thus, all efforts must be made to ensure the convening of the Conference in a manner that contributes to a successful outcome.

3. The Group reiterates the importance of convening the Review Conference in accordance with Article VIII of the Treaty and Decision (1) of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on “Strengthening the Review Process of the Treaty”. Given the nature and scope of the Conference, the number of its committees, the variety and sensitivity of the topics within its purview, and the copious amount of documentation involved, the Review Conference needs to be convened in a full-fledged format, that allows for a thorough, balanced, and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Treaty. Therefore, the Group is of the view that scaling down the number of in-person meetings or the number of participants must be avoided.

4. With a view to making timely and comprehensive decisions on the convening of the Conference, the Group requests as early as possible an assessment of the possibility of the convening of the Conference during the tentatively agreed period of 2-27 August 2021.

5. The Group also encourages the intensification and strengthening of informal consultations on the substantive issues, leading to the convening of the Review Conference.

6. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT stands ready to work together with all other State Parties, the Bureau-designate and the Secretariat to ensure the successful convening of the Review Conference.