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PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR  
NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION  
AND DISARMAMENT

## Reducing nuclear threats – the role of parliamentarians

**Side event organized by Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) in cooperation with IPU**

*Tuesday 22 March, 12:15 – 13:45*

*Luangwa, New Wing, MICC*

*Light lunch from 12:00*

*Interpretation available in English and French*

The risks and catastrophic impacts of the use of nuclear weapons – whether that use is intentional, or by accident, miscalculation or unauthorized access – have been highlighted by recent inter-governmental conferences in Austria, Mexico and Norway. Those risks have been elevated by rising tensions between nuclear powers, including over the Ukraine, in the Middle East and in the South China Sea. And on 26 January this year, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists set their 'Doomsday Clock' to [Three Minutes to Midnight](#).

The 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly adopted a resolution [Toward a Nuclear Weapon Free World: The Contribution of Parliaments](#). It welcomed the inter-governmental conferences on the impact of nuclear weapons and highlighted the importance of nuclear disarmament. The resolution calls on parliaments to work with their governments in order to reduce nuclear risks, to eliminate the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines and policies, and to support multilateral negotiations for nuclear disarmament. This roundtable will discuss examples and further possibilities for parliamentary action on these issues.

The roundtable discussion will focus on opportunities provided by the upcoming [Nuclear Security Summit 2016](#) (Washington, 31 March – 1 April), the [United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations](#) (sessions in May and August), the United Nations General Assembly (September – November) and the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (26 September).

Parliamentarians are encouraged to consider and discuss the following questions at the roundtable:

1. Are there confidence-building measures in place, or which could be developed, in your region to reduce tensions and support nuclear disarmament?
2. What national legislative measures have been taken in your parliaments to support the global prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons?
3. What actions can parliaments and parliamentarians take to enhance public awareness of the risks of nuclear weapons and the possibilities for multilateral nuclear disarmament?

