

Side event

# Weapons of Mass Destruction Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Instruments in an Age of Accelerated Technological Change

**Date and time:** 25 October 2024 at 13.15-14.30 hours

**Location:** Conference Room 7, United Nations Secretariat Building, New York

**Keynote:** Izumi Nakamitsu, Under Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, UNODA

New and emerging technologies, including in the realms of artificial intelligence (AI), additive manufacturing, outer space and sensor technologies, robotics, and cyber capabilities, impact all international disarmament and non-proliferation instruments. Advances in science and technology have the potential to enhance abilities to monitor and verify obligations and commitments undertaken by States. At the same time, ease of access to science and technology applications – by States and non-State actors alike – also presents risks, as they may be exploited to undermine or bypass verification regimes.

Representatives of the global disarmament and non-proliferation architecture explore how rapid scientific and technological advances could impact the effectiveness of existing treaty regimes and how these regimes are adapting to ensure they remain robust and fit for purpose.

No registration required. Light refreshments will be served prior to the start of the event.

Speakers from the following organisations:

**United Nations Office for  
Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)**

**Comprehensive Nuclear-  
Test-Ban Treaty Organisation  
(CTBTO)**

**International Atomic Energy  
Agency (IAEA)**

**Organisation for the  
Prohibition of Chemical  
Weapons (OPCW)**



# Programme

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13.15 hours

**Introduction by the moderator** (Mr Chris King, Chief of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch, UNODA)

13.20 hours

**Keynote Address - Insights from UNODA on the impact of scientific and technological advances on disarmament and non-proliferation of WMDs** (Ms Izumi Nakamitsu, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs)

13.30 hours

**Panel Discussion:**

**CTBTO:** Enhancements in monitoring technologies for nuclear tests (Mr Jose Rosenberg, Senior Liaison Officer)

**IAEA:** Emerging Technologies – Challenges and Opportunities for Nuclear Safeguards (Ms Tracy Brown, Liaison/Public Information Officer)

**OPCW:** Preventing re-emergence of chemical weapons in an era of accelerating scientific and technological development (Mr Hong Li, Director of External Relations)

**UNODA:** Impact of biotechnology and AI on BWC implementation (Ms Courtney Cresap, Political Affairs Officer)

14.10 hours

**Questions and Answers Session**

14.25 hours

**Closing Remarks**