

FMCT Friends Joint Ministerial Statement

1. We, the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, join together to renew our commitment towards a non-discriminatory, multilateral, and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
2. As we solemnly mark 80 years since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we reaffirm our steadfast commitment towards our shared goal of a world without nuclear weapons and reiterate that such a treaty would represent a significant practical contribution to systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
3. We underscore the importance of maintaining and amplifying political attention as well as expanding support by the international community for such a treaty. In this regard, we are fully committed to engaging with partners and relevant states by exchanging views, raising public awareness on this issue, as well as preserving and sharing expert insights and past practices accumulated so far.
4. We stand ready to work collaboratively for our shared goal and call upon all UN Member States to make constructive and innovative contributions to facilitating negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices as a matter of priority.
5. We urge the Conference on Disarmament to immediately commence negotiations on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, without any preconditions. We recall the reports of the High-Level Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty Expert Preparatory Group and Group of Governmental Experts (GGE), taking note of the issues proposed therein, and emphasize that differences of opinion regarding the treaty should be addressed and resolved through negotiations.
6. We welcome substantive proposals to advance such a treaty as well as actions and efforts taken thus far, inter alia, voluntary moratoria on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, the dismantling of fissile material production facilities, or conversion for peaceful uses, and reporting on stockpiles of civil plutonium, as important interim measures pending the entry into force of such a treaty. In this regard, we call upon relevant states which have not yet done so to engage in such concrete actions and efforts.