

# Press Releases: Assistant Secretary of State Dr. Christopher A. Ford To Lead U.S. Delegation to the NPT Preparatory Committee Meeting 2019 in New York

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
April 29, 2019

---

The third meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons takes place at the United Nations in New York from April 29 to May 10, 2019. Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation Dr. Christopher A. Ford will lead the U.S. delegation from April 29-30.

U.S. Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament Ambassador Robert A. Wood will join Assistant Secretary Ford and lead the delegation for the remainder of the meeting.

In this year's meeting, the United States' overall approach is to emphasize the common interest all NPT Parties have to maintain and strengthen the Treaty in all its aspects. The central provisions of the NPT – relating to nonproliferation, disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy – reflect shared interests of all NPT Parties. The United States will highlight the Creating an Environment for Nuclear Disarmament initiative as a key part of its efforts to reinforce all of these aspects.

The Preparatory Committee meeting is an opportunity for all NPT Parties to recommit themselves to preserving and expanding the benefits of the NPT.

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*

---

# Press Releases: Republic of the Marshall Islands National Day

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
April 29, 2019

---

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I send my highest regards to the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on your 40th Constitution Day, May 1.

Our two countries share a deep friendship between our governments and our peoples. We are eternally grateful for the dedicated service of Marshallese citizens in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Marshall Islands is a key partner in creating a vision for the Indo-Pacific that is prosperous, safe, and secure. I look forward to continuing our work together in maritime security, economic development, and strengthening outcomes on health, education, infrastructure, and resilience to natural disasters.

Please accept my sincere congratulations on this special occasion.

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*

---

# Press Releases: Sierra Leone National Day

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
April 27, 2019

---

On behalf of the United States, I congratulate the Government and people of Sierra Leone as you celebrate your 58th independence day on April 27.

The United States remains committed to a strong partnership with Sierra Leone and to supporting Sierra Leone's efforts to strengthen its democracy, prosperity, and security. Sierra Leone has shown tremendous progress in maintaining peace, consolidating democracy, and promoting an environment for economic growth. The United States looks forward to future opportunities to expand our partnership to support prosperity for all of Sierra Leone's citizens.

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*

---

# Press Releases: Togo's National Day

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
April 27, 2019

---

On behalf of the American people, I send my heartfelt congratulations on the anniversary of your independence.

We commend Togo's significant contributions to international peacekeeping and maritime security. We support Togo's continued efforts to become more business friendly, increase the well-being of all Togolese citizens, and strengthen your democratic institutions, especially as we look ahead to your presidential elections in 2020.

I wish you peace and prosperity as you celebrate 59 years of independence.

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department.  
External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*

---

## **[Press Releases: On the Occasion of Koningsdag in the Kingdom of the Netherlands](#)**

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
April 27, 2019

---

On behalf of the United States government, I congratulate His Majesty King Willem-Alexander on his sixth celebration of Koningsdag, and extend my best wishes to the people of the Netherlands on this joyous occasion.

The United States and the Netherlands share the longest, unbroken peaceful relationship we have with any country in the world. Our deep friendship is rooted in a commitment to democracy and rule of law. We work together to promote peace, prosperity, and freedom in Europe and around the globe.

Our partnership will reach new heights this year as the United States and the Netherlands co-host the ninth annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit in The Hague in June. This event underscores the commitment by both countries at the highest levels to entrepreneurship and innovation. With its theme of *The Future Now*, we will bring the world's most inspiring entrepreneurs and investors together to solve global challenges and create economic prosperity. The coming year will also mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the struggle by Allied forces to liberate the Netherlands from Nazi oppression. We greatly appreciate the dedication shown by the Dutch people to remember our shared history of sacrifice, especially at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten.

I wish the happiest of King's Days to all the people of the Netherlands, a key ally and friend of the United States of America, and a happy 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday to His Majesty King Willem-Alexander.

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*