

Lunchtime Panel Event

Understanding Nuclear Weapon Risks

25 January 2017

Room XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

1:00 – 1:10

Welcoming Remarks

Jarmo Sareva, Director, *UNIDIR*

1:10 – 1:20

Introduction to the Project

Wilfred Wan, *UNIDIR*

1:20 – 1:50

Discussion I. Current Challenges

Is nuclear weapons use and/or possession being normalized? Are we operating with inaccurate risk perceptions of a state-authorized detonation event?

- Is nuclear deterrence stable in view of contemporary developments?
Mark Fitzpatrick, *International Institute for Strategic Studies*
- Are dual-use cruise missiles inherently destabilizing?
Christine Parthemore, *Johns Hopkins University*
- Could unexpected interactions cause the use of nuclear weapons?
Pavel Podvig, *UNIDIR*

Moderator: **John Borrie**, *UNIDIR*

1:50 – 2:20

Discussion II. Knowledge Gaps

To what degree do we – and can we – understand the overall picture of risk in relation to nuclear weapons? What are the human versus the technical dimensions of risk?

- In what ways does the nuclear enterprise remain susceptible to the cyber threat?
Patricia Lewis and Beyza Unal, *Chatham House*
- How can we address the vulnerability of materials under military control?
Reza Lahidji, *International Law and Policy Institute (ILPI)*

Moderator: **Tim Caughley**, *UNIDIR*

2:20 – 2:50

Questions and Answers
