Dear Biden-Harris Transition Team,

As organizations committed to non-proliferation and a diplomacy-centric U.S. foreign policy, we wanted to first thank you for the President-elect's recent affirmation of his commitment to rejoining the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in the New York Times and the transition team’s consistent reinforcement of this position. We share your belief that rejoining the nuclear agreement is an urgent national security priority and know the Biden-Harris team will need to take many steps after Inauguration Day to reverse the Trump administration’s disastrous policies.

To set the stage for a mutual U.S. and Iranian return to compliance with the JCPOA, we encourage you to include the following recommendations in the steps you take on Day 1 of a Biden-Harris administration:

1. **Revoke the order issued by President Trump withdrawing the U.S. from the JCPOA.** National Security Policy Memorandum (NSPM) 11 formally ended U.S. participation in the JCPOA on May 8, 2018. As the Center for American Progress noted, revoking the order on day 1 would send a signal to Iran that a Biden administration is shifting its approach.

2. **Immediately renew waivers for cooperative nonproliferation projects.** Revoking the waivers was counterproductive to non-proliferation efforts and reversed critical components of the deal that allowed other JCPOA participants to assist Iran in reducing proliferation risks at key nuclear sites.

3. **Issue a confirmation that the Biden administration does not view the UN sanctions on Iran as ‘snapped’ back.** Voicing support for the full implementation of UNSCR 2231 and disavowing the Trump administration’s claims on snapback will reverse U.S. isolation at the UNSC and help immediately reset the international coalition that built the deal in the first place.

4. **Allow the IMF to issue a $5 billion loan that Iran requested earlier this year to help combat the pandemic.** The U.S. could simply lift its objection to the loan, giving Iran the funds needed to repair some of the economic damage from the pandemic and U.S. sanctions, helping regenerate some of the goodwill that was lost under the Trump administration.

These steps would be an important signal that the new administration is turning the page on Trump’s disastrous policy and moving quickly to implement the President-elect's strategy of rejoining the JCPOA and working to build on it through diplomacy. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to craft a more sensible approach toward Iran.

Respectfully,

Arms Control Association
Common Defense
Council for a Livable World
Foreign Policy for America
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Indivisible
J Street
Ploughshares Fund
National Iranian American Council
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
VoteVets
Win Without War