Why a UN Office for Strategic or Existential Threats?

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Many long-range strategic threats to the survival of humanity are well-known such as:

- Loss of control over future forms of artificial intelligence
- Massive discharges of hydrogen sulfide (H2S) from de-oxygenated oceans, caused by advanced global warming
- Weakening of the Earth's magnetic shield that protects us from deadly solar radiation
- Malicious nanotechnology (including the "gray goo" problem)
- A single individual acting alone, could one day create and deploy a weapon of mass destruction (most likely from synthetic biology)
- Nuclear war escalation
- New Uncontrollable, more-severe pandemics
- Particle accelerator accident
- Gamma-ray bursts
- An asteroid collision
A UN Office on Strategic or Existential Threats

• Focus or centralize research from round the world
• Identify gaps and needs for new research
• The short –term crises over-rules the long-term threats
• Serve other UN organizations, governments, corporations, academic and humanity in general
• Small office, research outsourced, and coordinated with others’ research
• First step: UN General Assembly Resolution for a Feasibility Study for the UN Office by the UN Secretariat
Open Letter to UN Secretary-General

- Open letter to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres calling for feasibility study of the UN Office from:

  - With over 200 leaders in technology, environment, government, business, and academia signatories such as
  - Nobel Prize Laureate Oscar Arias and Internet pioneer Vint Cerf
  - Fits in the UNSG’s “Our Common Agenda” emphases on global strategic foresight
  - Needs as a country to offer a UN General Assembly Resolution for a Feasibility Study for the UN Office by the UN Secretariat
For further information

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