
Conference on Disarmament

8 October 2014
English
Original: Spanish

Note verbale, dated 3 October 2014, to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament from the Permanent Mission of Cuba, transmitting a declaration of the International Relations Committee of the Peoples' National Assembly of Cuba, dated 26 September 2014, expressing support for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, and has the honour to attach herewith the Declaration of Support for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, issued by the International Relations Committee of the Peoples' National Assembly of Cuba on 26 September 2014.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba would be grateful if the Declaration could be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and circulated to all member States and observer States of the Conference.

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Declaration of Support for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

In light of the first ever commemoration, on 26 September 2014, of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, by decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations, we as members of the Cuban National Assembly wish to express our intention to continue to work together for the prohibition and total elimination of nuclear weapons.

To this end we condemn the possession of nuclear weapons, any improvements made to nuclear weapons, nuclear testing of any kind and the doctrines that seek to justify the use or threat of use of such weapons. The considerable financial resources currently dedicated to nuclear arms should be used to support peace, sustainable development and a dignified life for all human beings.

We are proud to be part of the first densely populated area of the world which — through the Treaty of Tlatelolco — has declared itself to be a nuclear-weapon-free zone. And we are similarly proud to belong to a region which has formally proclaimed itself as a Zone of Peace, a historical milestone which was set on 29 January 2014 during the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held in Havana, and which aims to ban the use of force or threat of use of force from our region forever.

We support the immediate launch of negotiations for the swift adoption of an international convention which totally eliminates nuclear weapons, by prohibiting their development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer and use or threat of use and stipulating that they must be destroyed.

As Commander-in-Chief, Fidel Castro Ruz has said on many occasions, humanity is at a crucial moment in its history. The threats to the survival of our species are becoming ever more serious and alarming and the only guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used by anyone is by a total ban and complete elimination.

For these reasons, and in the framework of these celebrations, we appeal to all the parliaments of the world to promote and support the elimination from the face of the earth of nuclear arsenals and all weapons of mass destruction, in order to bequeath to future generations a world of peace free from nuclear weapons.

**International Relations Committee
of the Peoples' National Assembly
26 September 2014**
