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General and complete disarmament

Nuclear disarmament

Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

Reducing nuclear danger

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
III. Information received from Governments	2



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Qatar

[Original: Arabic]

[27 June 2006]

The relevant authorities in the State of Qatar hereby notify you that, with regard to the agenda item “Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons” adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 60/76 of 8 December 2005, the opinion remains fully valid, in that it states that “There is in neither customary nor conventional international law any specific authorization of the threat or use of nuclear weapons” and that “the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict, and in particular the principles and rules of humanitarian law”.

The opinion makes clear that nuclear-weapon States have an obligation not only to carry out negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament under strict and effective international control, but also to bring those negotiations to a conclusion.

The Government of the State of Qatar also informs the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the following relevant information:

- The Government of the State of Qatar has no involvement with nuclear weapons, nor has it previously had any involvement with such weapons.
- The State of Qatar stresses that the only guarantee that nuclear weapons will not be used is their total elimination. In this regard it emphasizes the historical significance of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice. The State of Qatar also affirms all United Nations General Assembly resolutions issued under the agenda item “Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons”, and calls on the international community to take practical steps towards nuclear disarmament and towards overcoming the obstacles facing the Disarmament Conference in achieving that goal.
- The State of Qatar has submitted its first report to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which was issued as United Nations document S/AC.44/2004/(02)/75. The information contained in paragraph 1 (b) of that document may be relied on as representing the efforts and measures being taken by the State of Qatar regarding implementation of the resolution in question, in conjunction with what was mentioned in the introduction.