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Message to the 21st World Congress of IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War)

Astana, Kazakhstan, August 25-29, 2014

Dear IPPNW

Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) sends greetings and best wishes to you on the occasion of your Assembly in Astana, Kazakhstan.

PNND pays tribute to IPPNW for your leadership in the global campaigns for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

You have highlighted the catastrophic health and environmental consequences of the production, testing and use of nuclear weapons, the inability of medical professionals to adequately respond to such consequences, and the responsibility of everyone to work for the peace and security of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

In addition, you have highlighted the immorality and illegality of nuclear weapons, and helped bring differing constituencies together to build the cooperation required to abolish nuclear weapons.

As such, your Nobel Peace Prize in 1987 was well deserved, and you continue to do justice to the award through effective actions for nuclear abolition.

PNND affirms the value and opportunity of IPPNW holding its 2014 World Congress in Astana, especially in light of the tragic experience of nuclear testing in Kazakhstan and the leadership taken by Kazakhstan to reject nuclear weapons nationally, forge a regional nuclear-weapon-free zone and advance a number of global initiatives including the International Day Against Nuclear Tests which was endorsed unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly.

PNND was honoured to be invited by the Nazarbayev Centre and the Kazakhstan Foreign Ministry to hold our annual assembly in Astana in August 2012, an event which was opened by President Nazarbayev and included the launch of the ATOM Project and the participation of parliamentarians from the nuclear-armed States and over 80 other countries.

We extend our commendation to President Nazarbayev and the government of Kazakhstan for continuing to host important international nuclear abolition events in Astana such as the IPPNW World Congress.

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866 UN Plaza Suite 4050 New York, NY 10017 United States of America Tel: +1 646 752 8702 info@pnnd.org East Asian Office Hiromichi Umebayashi Peace Depot, 1-30-27-4-1F Hiyoshi-honcho Kohoku-ku, Yokohama, 223-0062, Japan Tel: +81 45-563-5101 cxj15621@nifty.ne.jp Coordinator Arab Countries Mona Makhamreh P.O. Box 37, Amman Jordan 19152 Tel.: +962 79580-3022 muna@pnnd.org Central European Coordinator Jana Jedlickova U Dobrenskych 5, Prague, Czech Republic +420 775856879 jana@pnnd.org PNND also thanks IPPNW sincerely for the very positive partnership between us over the years. We look forward to strengthening this partnership and our cooperation in the various campaigns to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

In this context we thank IPPNW for accepting the invitations to participate in PNND Assemblies, and we would welcome the possibility to participate in World Congresses of IPPNW.

Once again we wish you success for your World Congress in Astana.

Yours sincerely

PNND Co-Presidents:

Mani Shankar Aiyar MP, India Chair of the Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World

Bill Kidd MP, Scotland Co-Convener, Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on Nuclear Disarmament

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Mi-Kyung Lee MP, Republic of Korea Secretary-General of the Democratic Party

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Baroness Sue Miller, United Kingdom Member of the UK Delegation to the IPU

Tarja Cronberg, Finland Former President of the European Parliament Contact Group with Iran

Christine Muttonen MP, Austria Spokesperson for the Social Democratic Parliamentary Group for Foreign and EU Policy

Saber Chowdhary

Saber H Chowdhury MP, Bangladesh Former President, Inter Parliamentary Union Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

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Taro Kono MP, Japan Former Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee

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Senator Ed Markey, United States Member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee

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Marit Nybakk MP, Norway Vice-President of the Norwegian Parliament

Paul Dewar MP, Canada Opposition Critic for Foreign Affairs

Senator Richard Tuheiava, France Member for French Polynesia Member of the Defence Committee of the French Senate

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Angelika Beer, Germany Inaugural Chair of the Parliamentarians Network for Conflict Prevention

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Dr Sergey Kolesnikov, Russia Former Co-President of IPPNW

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Uta Zapf, Germany PNND Past-President PNND Adviser on Interparliamentary Organisations

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Mr Jaroslaw Walesa MEP Member of Global Zero

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Dr. Edine von Herold (Costa Rica) *Member of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War*