



# PNND

PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT

## Promoting a Global Treaty to Abolish Nuclear Weapons: Parliamentarians and a Nuclear Weapons Convention

*Parliamentarians and parliaments play a key role in the success of disarmament and non-proliferation efforts. At a time when the international community is facing unprecedented global challenges, parliamentarians can take on leading roles in ensuring sustainable global security, while reducing the diversion of precious resources from human needs. . I salute **Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament** for its related efforts and for its work towards building support for a nuclear weapon convention.*

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Letter to the Presidents/Speakers of all parliaments, Feb 2010

Action by parliamentarians is vital to advancing a global treaty to abolish nuclear weapons – a nuclear weapons convention (NWC). Parliamentarians can raise the issue in parliaments, question their governments' positions, adopt motions or resolutions in parliaments, hold hearings, and endorse joint parliamentary declarations. They can also participate in global disarmament forums, either as part of government delegations or civil society delegations. PNND helps facilitate and publicise such parliamentary actions, including:

### a) Parliamentary Declaration

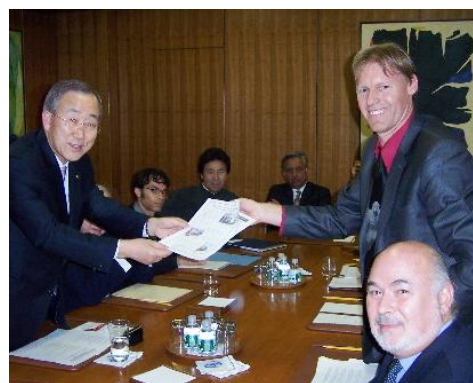
In July 2008 the European Parliament Section of PNND commemorated the 40th anniversary of the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) by launching [a Parliamentary declaration in support of the Nuclear Weapons Convention](#).

The declaration calls for implementation of the NPT disarmament obligation through multilateral negotiations to achieve a non-discriminatory global treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under international control.

The Declaration was endorsed by parliamentarians from around the world– including current and former heads of government, chairs of key committees and others. It was presented to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at a special PNND strategy meeting with him in October 2009. As a result, Mr Ban took the unprecedented action of contacting the speakers/presidents of every parliament in the world to commend such parliamentary action and encourage further action.



*Members of the European Parliament launch the parliamentary Statement supporting a Nuclear Weapons Convention*



*PNND presents Parliamentary Statement supporting an NWC to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon*

### b) Parliamentary resolutions/motions

PNND members have submitted resolutions and motions supporting a NWC (and or the UN Secretary-General's Five Point Plan which includes a NWC) into parliaments around the world, some of which have been adopted by (Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, Costa Rica, Germany, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand and the European Parliament) and others of which are designed to build more parliamentary support before being put to a vote (Belgium, France, UK and USA).

### c) Parliamentary hearings/debates

Parliamentary hearings or debates on a NWC have been held in a number of parliaments including Canada, Germany and Norway.

### d) Inter-Parliamentary Union

The Inter Parliamentary Union includes as members 162 parliaments – including most of the nuclear-weapons-possessing countries and their allies. In 2009 IPU adopted a resolution proposed by PNND members which supported a range of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation measures including the UNSG's Five Point Plan. IPU and PNND followed up by producing a Handbook for Parliamentarians on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament which has been sent to every parliament in the world.

For more information see [www.pnnd.org](http://www.pnnd.org) or contact [alyn@pnnd.org](mailto:alyn@pnnd.org)