



PNND

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Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons

October 2013

Invitation to endorse a parliamentary appeal for a global ban on nuclear weapons

Dear PNND Member

Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (PNND) has been active in highlighting the humanitarian and environmental consequences of any use of nuclear weapons as one of the reasons making nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament a vital issue for the 21st Century.

The International Court of Justice in 1996 concluded that “The destructive power of nuclear weapons cannot be contained in either time or space”, that the threat or use of nuclear weapons would thus be generally illegal, and that there is an unconditional and universal legal obligation to achieve the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

Governments have accepted this obligation – but have not dedicated sufficient political will to its achievement. Parliamentarians globally are instrumental in building this political will.

We thus enclose an international parliamentary appeal, launched by ICAN (an International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons), calling on ‘*all national governments to negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons and leading to their complete eradication*’ noting that ‘*The only way to guarantee that they [nuclear weapons] will never be used again is to outlaw and eliminate them without further delay.*’ The appeal will be presented to a range of intergovernmental and inter-parliamentary forums over the next two years to advance nuclear abolition.

The appeal complements the *Parliamentary Declaration for a Nuclear Weapons Convention* which PNND presented to the United Nations Secretary General and the States Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 2010, and which helped move States Parties to the NPT to agree that “all States need to make special efforts to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,” noting “the Five-Point Proposal for Nuclear Disarmament of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which proposes *inter alia* the consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments backed by a strong system of verification.”

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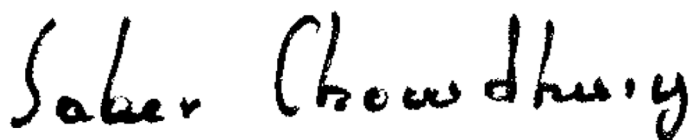
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PNND circulates information about a range of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament approaches including initial steps, regional measures and more comprehensive approaches to achieving global abolition, and about related parliamentary initiatives.

We encourage you to consider adding your signature to the new appeal and return to us at info@pnnd.org or post to:

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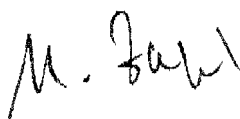
Yours sincerely,



Saber Chowdhury MP (Bangladesh)
PNND Co-President
President of the Inter Parliamentary Union Standing Committee on International Peace and Security



Baroness Sue Miller (UK House of Lords)
PNND Co-President
Member of the UK delegation to the Inter Parliamentary Union



Uta Zapf MdB (Germany)
PNND Co-President
Chair of the Bundestag Sub-committee on Disarmament and Arms Control