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December 16, 2008

Monsieur Nicolas Sarkozy, President
Monsieur Hervé Morin, Minister of Defence
Palais de l'Elysée
55, rue du faubourg Saint-Honoré
75008 Paris

Dear President Sarkozy and Minister Morin,

We wish to commend you for the recent announcement that France will compensate the military personnel and civilians who have been affected by the French nuclear tests that were conducted in Algeria and the South Pacific.

Despite precautions taken by the States that have tested nuclear weapons in the Pacific, North America, North Africa, the former Soviet Union, South Asia and China, it is now undeniable that such tests – particularly those detonated in the atmosphere - have impacted on the health of test-site workers and nearby inhabitants. Compensation for such health effects will go some way towards redressing this. We look forward to the French Congress adopting legislation as indicated to confirm such compensation.

In line with current scientific understanding that there is no lower threshold for radiobiological impact, we would hope that French legislators will approve compensation for all exposed workers and inhabitants who have experienced health effects regardless of their recorded level of exposure, or at be least consistent with the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) limit of 1 mSv per year.

We also commend France for ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and closing down the nuclear weapons test sites in Moruroa and Fangataufa. We are working with our colleagues around the world to encourage further ratifications of the CTBT in order that the treaty will enter-into-force and provide a robust regime to prevent any further nuclear weapons testing.

Finally we commend you for the Presidential Initiative of March 21 this year which included an eight-point plan for nuclear disarmament. This included an action plan for:

- Universal ratification of the CTBT
- Transparent and verifiable dismantling of all nuclear testing sites
- Immediate opening of negotiations in the CD on a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT)

Head Office
PO Box 24-429
Manners Street, Wellington
Aotearoa-New Zealand
Tel: +64 4 496-9629
Fax: +64 4 496-9599
pnnd@gsinstitute.org

United Nations Office
866 UN Plaza Suite 4050
New York, NY 10017
United States of America
Tel: +1 646 289 5170
Fax: +1 646 289 5171
mpi-ny@gsinstitute.org

Business Office
GSB Building, Suite 400
One Belmont Avenue
Bala Cynwyd PA 19004, USA
Tel: +1 610 668-5488
Fax: +1 610 668-5489
general@gsinstitute.org

Washington Office
Bipartisan Security Group
110 Maryland Ave NE, #508
Washington, DC 20002, USA
Tel: +1 202 543-9017
Fax: +1 202 543-0799
bsg@gsinstitute.org

- Immediate international moratorium on fissile material production
- Agreement between the P5 on transparency measures
- Start negotiating to ban short and medium range ground-to-ground missiles
- International implementation of the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOC)
- Mobilization in all other fields of disarmament

PNND members around the world, including our members in France, are active on a number of the issues in your action plan, as well as on other nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament initiatives. We enclose for your information a copy of PNND Notes which reports on some of the activities of our members.

We welcome the opportunity to continue dialogue with you on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament initiatives with the aim of reducing current nuclear threats and moving towards a nuclear-weapons-free world.

Yours truly,



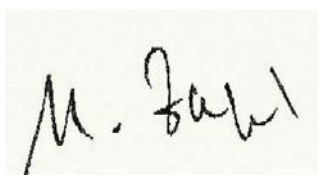
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