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Message from PNND Co-Presidents in advance of the P5 nuclear disarmament meeting in Paris

7 June 2011

Prime Minister David Cameron

No 10 Downing Street, London United Kingdom

President Dmitry Anatolyevich Medvedev

The Kremlin, Moscow Federation of Russia

President Nicolas Sarkozy

Élysée Palace, Paris Republic of France **President HU Jintao**

Beijing China

President Barack Obama

The White House United States of America

Dear Prime Minister Cameron, President HU, President Medvedev, President Obama and President Sarkozy,

This letter is written to you in advance of the meeting in Paris, at the end of June 2011, of the five Nuclear Weapons States parties to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

At the conclusion of the May 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty, the nuclear weapons states committed "to accelerate concrete progress on steps leading to nuclear disarmament."

To this end the Conference called up those states "to promptly engage with a view to, *inter alia*:

- rapidly move to an overall reduction in the global stockpile of all types of nuclear weapons;
- b. address the question of all types of nuclear weapons regardless of the type and location;
- c. further diminish the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies;
- d. discuss policies that could prevent the use of nuclear weapons...;
- e. consider the interest of non-Nuclear Weapon States in further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons;

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- f. reduce the risk of accidental use of nuclear weapons;
- g. further enhance transparency and increase mutual confidence."

In addition, the Conference agreed:

"All States need to make special efforts to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. The Conference notes 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."

We welcome the decision to convene the Paris meeting in order to begin the process of fulfilling the commitments made at the NPT Review Conference.

In our view the subject fundamentally at issue, the continuing existence of nuclear weapons, is a matter of profound concern to all, but a unique responsibility of the nuclear weapons states. There is a global expectation that the consultations you are commencing will result in significant advances in reducing the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and progress towards the achievement of nuclear disarmament.

The Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (PNND), presently with over 800 members in over 75 countries, will enthusiastically support your efforts to achieve a safer world. PNND will work with the Global Security Institute and its programs the Middle Powers Initiative and the Bipartisan Security Group to amplify these efforts.

Yours sincerely,

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Secretary-General, Great Lakes Parliamentary Forum for Peace, Board Member, Parliamentary Forum on

Small Arms and Light Weapons

Small Times and Light Weapons

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