

Parliamentary endorsement of the Nuclear Weapons Convention

[Released by the European Section of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, July 1, 2008]

As parliamentarians from across the political spectrum and from around the world;

We are concerned about the rising threats from the proliferation of nuclear weapons to new countries, the potential for terrorists to acquire or produce nuclear weapons, and the maintenance of nuclear weapons and policies to use them by States currently possessing such weapons;

We believe that only way to ensure the prevention of nuclear proliferation and the achievement of global security is to move resolutely towards the complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons;

We take seriously the universal obligation, affirmed by the International Court of Justice, to achieve nuclear disarmament in good faith in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

We therefore:

1. *call for* multilateral negotiations that would prevent proliferation and achieve nuclear disarmament through a global non-discriminatory treaty – a Nuclear Weapons Convention;
2. *endorse* the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention – which has been submitted by Costa Rica and Malaysia to the Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Conference (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.17) and to the United Nations General Assembly (UN Doc A/62/650) – as a guide to the achievement of an actual treaty, and as an exploration of the legal, technical, institutional and political measures that would make possible the abolition of nuclear weapons;
3. *recognize that* the complete abolition and elimination of nuclear weapons is a complicated process that might take a number of graduated and consecutive steps as well as a range of concurrent measures, and that a Nuclear Weapons Convention could therefore be achieved either as a single treaty or as a package of agreements;
4. *affirm that* a Nuclear Weapons Convention would incorporate, reinforce, link and build on existing non-proliferation and disarmament instruments including the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
5. *pledge to* submit the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention to our respective parliaments in order to promote negotiations, raise public awareness, identify steps toward nuclear disarmament, and indicate national measures that could be taken to support and implement a convention.

We call on parliamentarians and legislators around the world to join us in these efforts.

Name

Signature Country

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