



Office of the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Room S-3170

United Nations

New York, NY 10017 USA

August 10, 2007

Dear Alyn,

This launching of *Securing our Survival* is a memorable event for many reasons.

Amid calls from throughout the world for new progress in global nuclear disarmament, this timely study offers an updated model convention for achieving this historic goal. Over six decades after the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the time is long overdue to move the disarmament process forward into the realm of international law.

Parliamentarians have essential roles to play in promoting this goal, through collaborative non-partisan efforts, mobilizing support for disarmament among their constituents, and ultimately in the process of ratifying the convention.

The presence of Members of Parliament at today's launching affirms that disarmament is very much an issue of concern to the legislatures. The ultimate beneficiaries of nuclear disarmament are the people, and as their representatives, parliamentarians have a unique stake in ensuring its success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sergio Duarte', is centered on the page.

Sergio Duarte

High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

7 August 2007