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SHANGHAI

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Dear Alyn

I am very pleased to support the launch of *Securing our Survival: The Case for a Nuclear Weapons Convention*.

Today there is much publicity about the urgent questions facing mankind on the environment. But we cannot ignore other threats. Of these, the most serious continues to be the threat posed by nuclear weaponry. While we no longer have the nuclear confrontation of the Cold War, in many ways the danger from nuclear weapons is greater today than it has ever been. Proliferation continues and the major nuclear powers still ignore their legal obligations to reduce their own stockpiles.

Securing Our Survival points the logical way forward.

With the credentials of now 20 years of having a *Nuclear Free New Zealand*, my hope is that New Zealand might again take a lead internationally. A Nuclear Weapons Convention will not be achieved easily. Now could be the time for a serious campaign seeking international support for it.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Powles', with a large, stylized initial 'M' at the start.

Michael Powles

Member, International Steering Committee of the Middle Powers Initiative
Former New Zealand Ambassador to the United Nations