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# Conference on Disarmament

4 August 2011  
English  
Original: Spanish

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## **Note verbale dated 3 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement on peace and nuclear disarmament issued by the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba on 28 July 2011 in Havana**

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations based in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to transmit herewith, in English, French and Spanish, a statement on peace and nuclear disarmament issued by the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba on 28 July 2011.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba would be grateful if the present statement could be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to all member States of the Conference and to all States participating as observers in the Conference.

## Statement on peace and nuclear disarmament

The International Relations Committee of the National Assembly of Peoples' Power, aware that nuclear weapons and climate change are the most serious threats that mankind faces today, expresses its deep concern about the existence of more than 22,600 nuclear warheads, half of which could be deployed immediately.

The Committee:

**Condemns** the lack of political will of the nuclear powers that have not honoured the commitment to agree on a treaty for the elimination of nuclear weapons and that continue to improve their existing nuclear weapons.

**Rejects** the alarming increase in military expenditure, which currently amounts to US\$ 1.5 trillion, a sum that is several times greater than the resources allocated for international development assistance. With the resources currently spent on weapons, over 1.02 billion hungry people could be fed, the deaths of the 11 million children who die from starvation and preventable diseases each year could be averted, the extreme poverty suffered by 1.4 billion people in the world could be alleviated or the 759 million illiterate adults could be taught to read and write.

**Reaffirms** the position which Cuba has reiterated at the highest levels on the necessity of totally eliminating nuclear weapons and supports the declaration on this issue adopted at the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2011, which calls for a high-level international conference to be convened for the purpose of reaching an agreement on a programme for the absolute elimination of nuclear weapons.

As Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro Ruz has repeatedly warned, mankind is at a pivotal moment in its history. Alarming threats to the survival of our species are becoming increasingly serious. The only guarantee that nuclear weapons will not be used by any State, or group, is their total and absolute elimination and prohibition.

The International Relations Committee of the National Assembly of Peoples' Power calls on all of the world's parliaments to initiate concrete steps towards the complete elimination of the world's nuclear arsenal, so that future generations may live in a world of peace that is free from nuclear weapons.

Havana, 28 July 2011

“Fifty-third Year of the Revolution”

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