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United Nations Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading toward their total elimination

Geneva, 16 May 2017

Excellency,

I would like to thank you once again for the positive and encouraging discussions we had last March at the first session of the United Nations Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, Leading Toward their Total Elimination, convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution A/RES/71/258, as well as the valuable views offered by delegations during the briefing in Geneva on April 27, 2017.

I now wish to inform you of a few organizational aspects in preparation for the next UN Conference session.

In my capacity as the President of the Conference, I took due note of the constructive views and proposals expressed thus far by delegations on priority issues to be included on the Treaty’s text and invited all delegations to submit all their statements made during the first session of the Conference, as well as any working papers, to the Office for Disarmament for uploading on the Conference webpage: https://www.un.org/disarmament/ptnw.

I would also take this opportunity to inform you that I intend to release the draft of the legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading toward their total elimination, on Monday May 22, 2017. That day, I will make a presentation of the draft text at the Palais des Nations, room XXVI from 16h to 17h.

I intend to be available for informal consultations in New York City as of June 7th.
May I conclude by highlighting how much I look forward to working with all of you toward a successful Conference and the conclusion of a legally binding instrument prohibiting nuclear weapons.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ambassador Blayne Whyte G.
Permanent Representative of Costa Rica
to the United Nations in Geneva
President to the United Conference

To all
Permanent and Observer Missions
to the United Nations in New York and Geneva