



### Parliamentary Network for Nuclear Disarmament

A non-partisan forum for parliamentarians nationally and internationally to share resources and information, develop cooperative strategies and engage in nuclear disarmament issues, initiatives and arenas.

#### Why worry about nuclear disarmament?

The Cold War ended a decade ago, yet there are still 30,000 nuclear weapons stockpiled, with over 5000 deployed on hair trigger alert. Plans by the US to develop a ballistic missile defence are prompting China and Russia to enhance their nuclear capabilities. India and Pakistan are preparing to deploy nuclear weapons following tests in 1998. The increasing availability of fissile material, nuclear technology and missile technology is increasing the likelihood of nuclear threats from other states and non-state actors. However, a window of opportunity exists to move toward a comprehensive and verified ban on nuclear weapons. There is thus a need to build political will amongst governments.

#### What does the network provide?

- Information for parliamentarians on nuclear disarmament issues and on international events including United Nations disarmament meetings
- Samples of parliamentary resolutions, motions, questions and legislation from around the world
- Contacts with parliamentary colleagues in other countries with whom to share information and ideas
- A forum for developing joint strategy between parliaments on international initiatives such as implementation of the Non Proliferation Treaty disarmament obligations, NATO Review and United Nations resolutions
- Links with non-governmental experts

## Why Parliamentarians?

*"...The parliaments of the world are the bridges between government and civil society. They provide the funds to pay for national initiatives. Through their deliberations, they help to shape policy, and through their investigative and oversight powers they build public accountability. They provide a bulwark to ensure that governments comply with their international commitments and pledges -- a role that at times requires the enactment of domestic legislation. These functions are absolutely vital to the future of nuclear disarmament. They help to give disarmament not only vision, but also some backbone, muscle, and teeth."*

**UN Under-Secretary-General Jayantha Dhanapala, British House of Commons, July 3, 2000**

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**Parliamentary Network  
 for Nuclear Disarmament**  
 membership is free  
 fill in the form below and return to  
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