MESSAGE TO THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT FOR NUCLEAR ABOLITION

It is a pleasant duty for me to salute the many young people gathered at Hiroshima to observe the 70th anniversary of the nuclear bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and discuss issues of the highest significance for the future of all peoples. I have always admired and supported action by youth organizations to bring forth the message of peace and understanding among nations. The Youth Summit is an appropriate occasion to foster these ideals and to support negotiations of a treaty banning the use of nuclear weapons. The catastrophic consequences of any use of such weapons is one of the major issues under debate by governments and civil society in international organs devoted to disarmament. The conscience of humankind expects from young leaders a decisive push toward the achievement of the prohibition of the only remaining category of weapons of mass destruction whose use is not regulated by a multilateral treaty. Your action is a very important part of the worldwide effort to achieve the long overdue goal of nuclear disarmament.

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