

Resolution
adopted by the General Assembly of IALANA
International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms
Berlin, 26 June 2009

IALANA, the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, is pleased by the swelling chorus of voices* from many countries and many political sectors endorsing the vision of a nuclear weapons free world. But a vision is not a policy. While ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the enactment of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty and the renewal of START would all be steps in the right direction, more is needed to make the vision a reality.

A nuclear weapons free world requires the conclusion of a convention establishing total and permanent nuclear disarmament.

IALANA hopes that a demand for the prompt beginning of negotiations for such a convention will emerge from the 2010 NPT Review Conference. Failing such a demand, IALANA is prepared to embark on a campaign to ask the International Court of Justice for an Advisory Opinion defining the timeline for compliance in good faith with the general nuclear disarmament obligation required by Article VI of the NPT and the Court's Advisory Opinion of 8 July 1996. Time is of the essence. As stated in the 1996 Opinion the obligation is one to pursue and *bring to a conclusion* negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.

* Influential voices calling for a nuclear-weapons-free world include, but are not limited to, the United Nations Secretary General (in his five-point plan for nuclear disarmament), Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission, New Agenda Coalition, Seven Nation Initiative, Hoover Institute Initiative (involving former United States high-level officials Henry Kissinger, George Shultz, Sam Nunn and William Perry), International Commission for Non-proliferation and Disarmament, joint statement of high-level Norwegian statesmen (former Prime Ministers Odvar Nordli, Kåre Willoch, Gro Harlem Brundtland and Kjell Magne Bondevik and former Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg), joint statement of high-level German statesmen (former Federal Minister Egon Bahr, former Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, former Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and former Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker), joint statement of Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Store and German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, joint statement of United States President Obama and Russian President Medvedev, Australian high-level statesmen (former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, former Defence Force chief General Peter Gration and former chief of the army Lieutenant-General John Sanderson), Polish high-level statesmen (former Polish Presidents Aleksander Kwasniewski and Lech Walesa and former Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki), Italian high-level statesmen (former Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema, President of Italian Chamber of Deputies Gianfranco Fini, former Minister for European Affairs Giorgio La Malfa and former Defence Minister Arturo Parisi), International Atomic Energy Agency Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei, Nobel Peace Laureates' statement on nuclear abolition, Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision, Global Zero, International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), the Parliamentarians Declaration Supporting a Nuclear Weapons Convention, and the approximately 125 countries voting in favour of the Nuclear Weapons Convention at the United Nations General Assembly.