Joint Interfaith Statement on the Entry into Force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

22 January 2021

As a wide coalition of faith-based communities from around the world, we speak with one voice to reject the existential threat to humanity that nuclear weapons pose. We wholeheartedly welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), the first international treaty to comprehensively ban nuclear weapons. The Treaty addresses the disproportionate impact of nuclear weapons on women and indigenous peoples and the importance of victim assistance and healing environmental harms in a groundbreaking way. We congratulate, celebrate and appreciate the countries that have ratified and signed this important Treaty, as well as all who have worked for nuclear disarmament and abolition for many decades.

As people of faith, we believe that the possession, development and threat to use nuclear weapons is immoral. There are no safe hands for these weapons. The accidental or deliberate detonation of a nuclear weapon would cause severe, long-lasting and far-reaching harm on all aspects of our lives and our environment throughout the world. Further, these technologies are part of structures and systems that bring about great suffering and destruction. We commit, therefore, to the ethical and strategic necessity of working together for economic and social justice, right relationship with the Earth, and accountability and restoration where there is violence and harm. We rejoice at the possibilities of a new world that this Treaty ushers in. At a time when the world desperately needs fresh hope, the TPNW inspires us to continue to work to fully eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons, and to create conditions for peace, justice, and well-being.

We recognize the legacy of the global hibakusha, survivors whose courage and perseverance serve as our inspiration, guidance, and moral foundation in the quest for a world free from nuclear weapons. This quest will continue until all nuclear weapons are eliminated from our planet. We invite everyone, especially those in communities of faith, to join us in this work for peace, justice, and respect for life—against which nuclear weapons stand in complete opposition—in ways that are meaningful and authentic to your traditions and how you are inspired to participate. We urge all States to join the growing community of States which have rejected nuclear weapons and to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, or work toward that end by joining the First Meeting of the States Parties planned to take place this year.

At this historic moment, we must act decisively to strengthen the power of the TPNW upon its entry into force, and to work for peace, cooperation, and common security.

Endorsing Organizations

This list is being updated regularly to reflect the current endorsing organizations.

Act Church of Sweden Agape Community All Africa Conference of Churches The All Souls Nuclear Disarmament Task Force Alliance of Baptists American Baptist Churches, USA American Friends Service Committee Anglican Pacifist Fellowship Arkport Catholic Worker Augustinians Internationsl Awakening/art & culture Baltimore Nonviolence Center Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Bruderhof The Buddhist Council of New York Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore Casa Maria Catholic Worker Catholic Committee of Appalachia Charter for Compassion Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Christian Conference of Asia Christian Council of Sweden Christians for Peace Newcastle Australia Church and Peace Church Council of Greater Seattle Church of the Brethren, Office of Peacebuilding and Policy Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations The Church of Scotland Church of Sweden Archbishop Emeritus Church of Sweden Youth Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach **Comboni Missionary Sisters** Comisión de Ecología y Cuidado de la Creación de la Diócesis de Lurín, Lima Perú Comisión General Justicia y Paz Community of Christ Community of Christ - British Isles Congregation de NDC du Bon Pasteur à Madagascar Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (Global)

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Latin America and the Caribbean Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces Congregation of St. Joseph Congregation of the Mission Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace Congregations of St. Joseph Council of Churches in the Netherlands Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul USA **Disciples Peace Fellowship Dominican Leadership Conference** Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids Dominican Sisters of Hope Dominican Sisters of Houston Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa ECAR JUSTICE ET PAIX MADAGASCAR **Ecumenical Peace Institue Edmund Rice International Episcopal Peace Fellowship** Fachgruppe Gerechtigkeit, Frieden unbd Bewahrung der Schöpfung der Evangelisch-methodistischen Kirche in Deutschland Fellowship of Reconciliation - USA Fondazione Proclade Internazionale-onlus Franciscan Peace Center Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Friends Committee on National Legislation Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers) Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ Gonzaga Nuclear Peace Club Good Shepherd Sisters Green Hope Foundation Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Heiwa Peace and Reconcilation Foundation of New York Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, JPIC-USA House of Peace Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Loreto Generalate International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation International Gurukula Community (India) International Gurukula Community (USA) International Presentation Association International Public Policy Institute

InterReligious Task Force on Central America Islamic Society of North America Justice and Peace Scotland Justice Coalition of Religious Katarina församling in Svenska kyrkan Kvekersamfunnet i Norge/the Religious Society of Friends in Norway Lake City Catholic Worker Farm Leadership Conference of Women Religious Leadership Council of the IHM Sisters The London Catholic Worker Loretto at the UN Loretto Community Loretto Peace Committee Martha Justice Ministry, Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish, NS Mary's House Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic Mennonite World Conference Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice Muslim Peace Fellowship National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd National Council of Churches Nevada Desert Experience Newman Hall Non Violent Committee North Carolina Council of Churches North Shore Coalition for Peace & Justice Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity/Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth **On Earth Peace** The Open Door Community Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation Pace e Bene and Campaign Nonviolence Pacific Conference of Churches Pacifica Peace People **Passionists International** Parliament of the World's Religions PAX Pax Christi Aotearoa New Zealand Pax Christi Castro Valley Pax Christi Flanders Pax Christi France

Pax Christi International Pax Christi Ireland Pax Christi Metro New York Pax Christi Northern California Pax Christi - Perú Pax Christi Scotland Pax Christi USA Peace Economy Project PMU Pooha-Bah Traditional Native American Healing Center Precious Blood Missionaries Kansas City Province Presbyterian Church (USA) Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Religieus Genootschap der Vrienden (Quakers) Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Sweden Saint Peter Claver Catholic Worker School Sisters of Notre Dame School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province Sisters of Bon Secours, USA Sisters of Charity Federation Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Sisters of Saint Anne, St. Marie Province Sisters of Saint Francis Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa Sisters of St. Francis, Sylvania OH Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Sisters of St. Martha, PEI Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand Sisters of the Holy Cross Sisters of the Humility of Mary Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, IA Sisters, Home Visitors of Mary Social Justice Office Srs of St. Joseph-TOSF

Soka Gakkai International SS. Francis and Therese Catholic Worker Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona College Tikkun/Network of Spiritual Progressives Trinity Cathedral Episcopal Church United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society The United Reformed Church, United Kingdom United Religions Initiative The Uniting Church in Sweden / Equmeniakyrkan Vereniging Kerk en Vrede Veterans for Peace, Ch. 45 Viva House, Baltimore Catholic Worker **VIVAT** International Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons World Council of Churches World Yoga Community (Argentina) World Yoga Community (India) World Yoga Community (USA)