



Österreichische Präsidenschaftskanzlei

Gesandte Mag. Katharina Wieser
Europäische und internationale Angelegenheiten

A-1014 Wien, Hofburg, Ballhausplatz
Tel. +43-1-53422-241, Fax +43-1-53422-248
katharina.wieser@hofburg.at

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Wien, 31. Juli 2014

An die
Österreichische Botschaft
TOKIO

cc: BMEIA, Abteilung II.8, II.10

Zu do. Ber. Zl. Tokio-ÖB/POL/0043/2014 vom 9. Juni 2014

**Betreff: JAPAN; World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, 2.-9.
August 2014; Übermittlung eines Grußwortes des Herrn
Bundespräsidenten**

Die Präsidenschaftskanzlei übermittelt in der Beilage das Grußwort des Herrn Bundespräsidenten für die 2014 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (2.-9.8.2014, Hiroshima und Nagasaki), mit der Bitte um möglichst umgehende Übermittlung in do. geeignet erscheinender Weise an die Veranstalter.

Mag. Katharina Wieser
Gesandte
(elektronisch gefertigt)

Beilage



**Message by H.E. Dr. Heinz Fischer,
Federal President of the Republic of Austria
on the occasion of the
*World Conference Against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs 2-9 August 2014***

69 years ago, the world witnessed a man-made disaster of unprecedented scale. The nuclear bombs that detonated on 6th and 9th of August 1945 have brought unspeakable harm. It is therefore our duty to commemorate these grave events, and I want to commend the *World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs* for its invaluable contribution and important work in this regard. Let me thus address this special message to you today.

Nuclear disasters are a concern to all of us around the globe. It is a shared responsibility of all states to work towards a nuclear weapon free world. The anachronistic discourse of nuclear deterrence should no longer have a place in international security debates. It is the humanitarian dimension that must again be firmly anchored in our thinking and guide international disarmament efforts. Austria, as part of an ever growing group of states, is working towards this shared goal.


The present moment seems favourable to achieve substantial progress in this regard. Austria is going to host the third international conference dealing with the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in Vienna on 8th and 9th December 2014. The Vienna Conference will look at the effects of nuclear weapons on humankind, on the environment and food production, on health and the economy. It will try to assess the risk that a nuclear detonation actually takes place.

I believe that the Vienna Conference can be a stepping stone towards the achievement of a world free of nuclear weapons. Austria looks forward to the active participation and support of all concerned. Achieving our shared objective of nuclear disarmament and a world without nuclear weapons is an urgent priority.

Already next year, in 2015, we will mark the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is also the year of the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in New York. Nuclear weapon states and all other nuclear possessors will urgently have to live up to their obligations to eliminate these weapons for peace and a sustainable future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hans Dominik". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Vienna, 30 July 2014

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