

**LUIZ FILIPE DE MACEDO SOARES
AMBASSADOR**

**AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (OPANAL)**

SECRETARY-GENERAL

S-305/2016

Mexico City, 21 June, 2016

H.E. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
Chairman of the Senate
of the Parliament of Kazakhstan

H.E. Erlan Idrissov
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Kazakhstan

Excellencies,

I am deeply honoured by your invitation to attend the Conference “Building a Nuclear Weapons-World” to be held in Astana on August 28-29 2016. Indeed, it would be a splendid opportunity to bring a presence of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean – OPANAL to the Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone of Central Asia and its Member States. Moreover, it would be a pleasure for me to meet authorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan and to take a glimpse of that beautiful and important country.

Taken by my duties at headquarters, including the preparation of meetings of the bodies of the Agency, to which I would add budgetary limitations, unfortunately, it will be impossible for me to attend the Conference.

I also take this opportunity to refer to the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which will take place in Mexico City with the XXV Session of the General Conference at the ministerial level and a high-level international seminar on nuclear disarmament. These events will happen in 10-14 February 2017. The Republic of Kazakhstan will receive more information in due course.

Wishing every success to the August Conference in Astana, I avail myself of this opportunity to present to Your Excellencies the assurances of my highest consideration and most distinguished esteem.

