



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 July, 2014

Excellency

In December 2009, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 64/35, by consensus, declaring 29 August as the International Day against Nuclear Tests. The Day was instituted to highlight the importance of ending nuclear tests in order to avert their devastating and harmful effects on the lives and health of people and the environment.

The Assembly has devoted this important Day to “enhancing public awareness and education about the effect of nuclear weapons test explosions or any other nuclear explosion and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free-world”.

In this regard, I wish to invite you to participate in an informal plenary meeting to mark the Day under the overall theme “The Path to Zero”. The opening segment will be followed by a high-level panel presentation, and a question and answer segment during which Member States can share their views and interactively engage with the panellists.

This informal meeting, which is convened and organized in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan, will take place on 10 September, 2014 from 10:00 to 13:00, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. A tentative Programme for the event is attached hereto.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Ashe".

John W. Ashe

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME
Informal Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly
to mark the 2014 Observance of the International Day against Nuclear Tests

The Meeting is convened by H.E. Mr. John Ashe, President of the United Nations General Assembly, and organized in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Date: Wednesday, 10 September 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Venue: Trusteeship Council, United Nations Headquarters

Opening Statements by:

- H.E. Mr. John Ashe, President of the United Nations General Assembly
- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations (invited)
- Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan

High-Level Interactive Panel on the Path to Zero: The Role of the United Nations in Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

The official opening ceremony will be followed by a High-Level Panel on the above theme. The panelists are expected to cover some key issues, including necessary steps for further progress on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, confidence building and other relevant issues.

Panel Details

Moderator (tbc)

Speakers

- Ms. Angela Kane, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (invited)
- H.E. Ambassador Libran Cabactulan, Permanent Representative of Philippines to the United Nations in New York
- H.E. Ambassador Guillermo Rishchynski, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York
- Mr. Geoffrey Shaw, Representative of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations
- Representative of civil society (tbc)

The panel will be followed by observations and questions from Member States.

Entry

The Informal Meeting is open to all diplomats, think-tanks, the academic community, civil society and the media. Those without a UN Grounds Pass interested in these events should kindly contact: itilegen@yahoo.com, or tel: 1-212-2301900, ext 322.