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# Translation of the letter faxed by ACDN on Tuesday, 4 October 2005, to the French president



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Saintes, 4 October 2005

M. le président de la République

Palais de l'Elysée

Copies to: M. le premier ministre

Hôtel Matignon

M. le ministre des Affaires

Etrangères

Quai d'Orsay

Original sent by FAX

Monsieur le Président,

We have heard that the UN's First Committee is to consider on Thursday 6 October a resolution brought forward (among others) by Canada, Mexico and Malaysia which asks for a special committee to be created within the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, a committee which would meet frequently to make progress in four areas: nuclear disarmament, a treaty to prevent the militarisation of space, a « cut-off » treaty for the isolation of fissile materials, and « negative guarantees ». The creation of an « ad hoc » committee like this would make possible the unblocking of the situation at the Disarmament Conference in Geneva and would constitute a considerable step in the direction of nuclear disarmament. Indeed it is unacceptable that the unanimity rule should allow a single nation to prevent any progress in this direction, and to increase thereby the risks of nuclear proliferation by states and by terrorist groups.

If our information is correct, this resolution if adopted would be submitted to the UN General Assembly before the end of October. That is why we are immediately asking you, and the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to ensure that France gives her support as from now to this resolution, of which France could become a cosignatory, and then votes for it when it reaches the General Assembly. Not to make this gesture would mean that France is aligning herself with the « pre-emptive war » strategy of the USA, which could lead to a catastrophe.

Numerous French NGOs will meet on Saturday 8 October at the National Assembly in Paris for a day of reflection devoted to « France's attitude to

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nuclear weapons ». We will draw their attention to the question raised in this letter, which is of the highest importance, and we hope we will all be able to say that France has made the choice of reason.

Monsieur le Président, please accept our respectful greetings.

For ACDN France (Action of Citizens for the total Dismantling of Nukes)

Jean-Marie Matagne, president