



*The Permanent Representative of Albania  
to the United Nations*

New York, 30 June, 2011.

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Dear Mr. Wright

I thank you very much for your interest on the position of my country on a Nuclear Weapons Convention, as well as on the annual resolution of the UN General Assembly on the follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of the Nuclear Weapons. Albania has continuously aligned itself with the statements made by the European Union in various forums, including the ones about the nuclear disarmament and the intermediate step by step approach in this regard.

Aiming a safer world for all mankind Albania supports and is committed toward creating the conditions for reaching the ultimate objective of a world free of nuclear weapons, in accordance with the goals of the NPT. In the same spirit, Albania also supports the unanimous opinion of the ICJ regarding the existing obligations under international law to pursue nuclear disarmament and to conclude negotiations on this matter in good faith.

As for the way to achieve the aforementioned goals, Albania believes that, an intermediate step-by-step approach with gradual and practical steps toward nuclear disarmament with the involvement of the nuclear-weapon states, would be a realistic and reachable approach. We are aware that the final implementation of the objectives of the article VI of the NPT will need a legally binding international document but, for the moment, Albania believes that it is not yet the time to call for such an arrangement, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention, as it could have a negative impact on the current disarmament process.

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Mr. Tim Wright  
Australian Campaign Director  
International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

It is for these differences in the approach toward the shared goal of the nuclear disarmament that Albania is unable to support the resolutions on the Nuclear Weapons Convention or on the follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of the Nuclear Weapons, (despite the improvements on the language of the latter).

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ferit Hoxha', written in a cursive style.

Ferit Hoxha  
Ambassador

Permanent Representative