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HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.2411 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4066

REFERENCE: ODA-14-01430

6 November 2014

Dear Dr. Plesch,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 27 October 2014, inviting the Secretary-General to address the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London on the topic of General Disarmament.

The important work carried out by SOAS in the area of disarmament within the framework of the Strategic Concept for the Removal of Arms and Proliferation (SCRAP) is duly recognized. In particular, the “Basic elements of an international legally-binding agreement on General and Complete Disarmament” is indeed an innovative initiative.

Unfortunately, due to longstanding work commitments, the Secretary-General would not be able to accept your kind invitation. Nevertheless, my staff at the Office for Disarmament Affairs would be pleased to discuss with you relevant issues of mutual interest.

I wish to thank you for your interest and support for promoting disarmament issues and wish you much success in your endeavours.

Yours sincerely,



Angela Kane
High Representative
for Disarmament Affairs

Dr. Dan Plesch
Director
Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
University of London
London