

مرفق (18)



His Excellency

Dr Nabil El-Arabi

Secretary-General of the League of Arab States

Helsinki, 20 June 2013

Excellency,

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to meet you in my capacity as the Facilitator during my trip to Cairo on June 12, 2013. I am grateful for having had the possibility to explain to you the state of play of the preparations for the Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.

I am very grateful for your continued support to my work. Your encouragement, help and advice are very important for me.

During our meeting, we discussed the efforts by the conveners and the facilitator to make progress in addressing the four criteria elaborated by the Foreign Ministers of the League of Arab States as regards the holding of preparatory consultations for the said Conference.

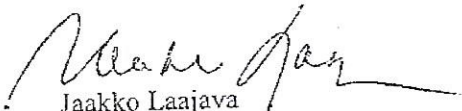
As I mentioned, I would be very pleased if you could share your assessment regarding the fulfillment of these criteria with the Foreign Ministers of the League of Arab States. I am convinced this would help us to move forward.

I would be equally pleased if you could authorize Ambassador Wael al-Assad to continue staying in close contact with us. From time to time, we would need to meet in person for consultations, also outside Cairo.

I also agree with your view that it is important to see the forest for the trees and understand the tremendous potential of the Conference to transform the Middle East region through addressing the most crucial issues of security.

At this moment, making progress with this proposal would demonstrate to the entire world that the region is capable to shape a better future for it. I believe we are very close of being able to start this process very soon.

Thank you once again for your leadership. I wish you a very pleasant summer.


Jaakko Laajava
Under-Secretary of State
Facilitator

