



*League of Arab States
The Secretary General*

مرفق (١٩)

July 21st, 2013

Excellency,

Thank you for your letter dated 20 June 2013, in follow-up to our meeting at Headquarters of the League of Arab States last month. It was a good opportunity to be briefed on your efforts and ideas to overcome the impasse of convening the postponed 2012 Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons of Mass Destruction, including the idea of holding "preparatory consultations" in Geneva.

I would like to stress that the Arab States had previously considered this proposal, and requested the fulfillment of four criteria to guarantee the success and seriousness of these consultations.

In follow-up to your meeting with the Arab Group in Geneva last April, on the margins of the Second Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference, I would like to stress the urgency of receiving your proposals in a formal paper directed to the Senior Officials Committee as requested by them during the Geneva meeting, in order for the Arab States to be able to respond to these proposals.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express my highest consideration, and reiterate the support of the League of Arab States for your endeavors, and assure you the League's cooperation with you and your team.

Sincerely,

Nabil Elaraby

N. Elaraby
Secretary General

*H.E. Jaakko Laajava
Under-Secretary of State
Facilitator for 2012 Conference
Finland*