



**Panel discussion on**  
**Nuclear Weapons - The Road to Zero**

***Monday, 17 October, 10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.***

**Introduction**

In 2009 the IPU Assembly adopted by consensus a comprehensive resolution on advancing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and securing the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (see <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/120/120-1.htm>). The resolution includes many practical recommendations on what parliaments should do to ensure universal ratification of CTBT, promote the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan for nuclear disarmament, and support a number of concurrent steps such as reductions in nuclear stockpiles, establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, and commencement of negotiations on a fissile materials treaty and a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention.

Last year, several parliaments reported on steps they were taking to implement those recommendations. Others are being encouraged to follow suit, and several Member Parliaments continue to attach great importance to the issue of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The panel discussion in Bern aims to enhance political support and further mobilize parliamentary action to meet the goal of a nuclear weapon-free world.

**Segment 1 (10.30 – 11.45 a.m.)**

This segment will focus on the new visions, policies and proposals that have been put forward to address the threats and challenges posed by nuclear weapons. It will serve to provide an overview of these proposals, focusing on approaches to achieve zero nuclear weapons, including from a humanitarian perspective.

Chairman: Honorable Harry Jenkins, Speaker of Parliament, Australia

Panellists:

- Mr. Gareth Evans, Co-Chair of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament and former Foreign Minister and MP of Australia
- Mr. Tibor Tóth, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)
- Dr. Rebecca E. Johnson, Executive Director, Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy

**Segment 2 (11.45 a.m. – 1 p.m.)**

This segment will look more closely at the steps that can be taken now to work towards the overall objective. It will include presentations on the roles and responsibilities of parliaments with respect to governance of nuclear weapons and the tools that are available to them.

Panellists:

- Lord Desmond Browne, United Kingdom, former Defence Secretary
- Dr. Raphael Chegeni, United Republic of Tanzania, PNND Co-President, Secretary General of the Great Lakes Parliamentary Forum on Peace
- Hon. Matt Robson, New Zealand, former Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control