United Nations Office
for Disarmament Affairs

Congratulatory message on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP)

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I express my warmest congratulations to the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) on this milestone 15th anniversary. Since its founding, the VCDNP has become an indispensable fixture in the disarmament and non-proliferation community.

Through its reputable and authoritative research, promotion of dialogue and capacity-building, the VCDNP has enriched diplomats' and practitioners' understanding of and engagement in disarmament processes across regions and generations.

The invaluable expertise of its staff in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament issues is undisputed. But I also want to highlight the Center's effort to tackle emerging trends and challenges – from emerging technologies to space security and beyond. This is testament to your commitment to ensuring the Center's work remains timely and relevant. The VCDNP has also distinguished itself through a strong commitment to the empowerment of women and young people in this field, thereby ensuring much-needed diversity of perspectives and expertise.

I am grateful for the close partnership our organizations have enjoyed over the years. And I am convinced of the enduring value of the VCDNP's contributions to global disarmament and non-proliferation goals for years to come.

Thank you and congratulations!