

Messages of Appreciation for

ANGELA KANE

UN High Representative  
For Disarmament Affairs



Presented at  
“Civil Society Honors Angela Kane”

May 11, 2015  
United Nations Church Center, New York City

Hosted by Hague Appeal for Peace, International Peace Bureau, Lawyers  
Committee on Nuclear Policy, and NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace  
and Security

The departure of Angela Kane from the position of High Representative in the Office of Disarmament Affairs at the United Nations is both untimely and unfortunate. Angela's entire career in the UN represents a story of professionalism in the service of the UN and its ideals rewarded by promotions earned through hard work and not political patronage.

After a wide experience in the UN system she chose to return to Disarmament and worked consistently to consolidate and enhance the norms set by the UN. Civil society was encouraged by the space created for their work by Angela Kane. The appointment of a successor will be watched carefully lest there be an erosion of the impressive achievement recorded by a dedicated international civil servant.

- *Jayantha Dhanapala, President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science & World Affairs; Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs 1998-2003*
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My sincere congratulations and thanks to Angela Kane, my successor as High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, for taking the job to such high standards.

- *Sergio Duarte  
Former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs*
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While Angela Kane's role with the UN will be sorely missed by all who recognize when the practical work of peace is being done, we look toward an ongoing equally significant role for her in civil society's efforts toward peace and security through disarmament.

With appreciation,

- *Betty A. Reardon  
Founding Director Emeritus  
International Institute on Peace Education*
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Thank you for the years of hard work that has inspired and helped so many. Your professionalism, passion, and commitment will remain a positive influence in addressing the greatest threat to humanity that human beings have ever created. It is my fervent hope that your skills will continue to be utilized to advance the elimination of nuclear weapons and to make the world safer and saner.

In gratitude,

- *Jonathan Granoff*  
*President, Global Security Institute*

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Dear Angela Kane,

Thank you for being a staunch advocate of nuclear disarmament in your capacity as UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. Your commitment to achieving progress on disarmament matters, particularly nuclear disarmament, reinforces the hopes of many advocates of achieving a nuclear weapon-free world. We at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation appreciate your commitment to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, as well as the compassion with which you expressed it and the courage with which you have fought for it.

- *David Krieger*  
*President, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation*

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It was our great pleasure to host Angela Kane in Ottawa in December 2013. She was highly informed, clear-spoken, and an excellent commentator for the media. Ms. Kane was so very gracious in responding to questions from parliamentarians, students, and civil society. We are so sorry to see her leave this position because her tenure has been characterized by such skill, productivity, and quiet authority. We will miss you and we wish you the very best in your further endeavours.

- *Bev DeLong*  
*Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons*

**United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**  
**Ms. Angela Kane**

Dear Angela,

On behalf of the members of the World Future Council, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to you for your critical contribution to disarmament as UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.

At a time marked by new challenges to disarmament due to a changing and deteriorating geopolitical landscape, you have been an indefatigable champion for disarmament as evidenced by your impressive track record.

In particular, we would like to commend you on the indispensable role you have played in the joint UN-OPCW mission to eliminate the chemical weapons programme of Syria, after the horrendous incidents involving their use. Such swift action was vital to preventing possible future use.

Furthermore, we would like to thank you for highlighting the importance and urgency of nuclear disarmament in creating a more secure, just and sustainable future. By underlining the obligations relating to nuclear disarmament in the context of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, offering practical pathways forward through the promotion of the UN Secretary-General's Five-Point Proposal for Nuclear Disarmament and supporting new initiatives such as the 'Humanitarian Initiative', UN Open-Ended Working Group and 2013 Future Policy Award, you have moved the nuclear disarmament agenda forward. Importantly, in the process, you have engaged and given voice to the many civil society groups who share your commitment to nuclear disarmament.

On a personal note, we will not forget how you travelled directly from the airport, upon returning from a mission overseas, to UN Headquarters to participate in the 2013 Future Policy Award ceremony, which we organised with your office and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. It was illustrative of your personal commitment to the issue and we greatly appreciated it.

It has been a pleasure working with you and your office on the Award as well as follow-up activities, including an event in the Czech Senate in May 2014, a parliamentary workshop on best nuclear disarmament practice in Geneva in October 2014 and a recent project we launched in Bosnia-Herzegovina on addressing the blight of small arms and light weapons.

We don't know what the next chapter in your distinguished career will be, but we trust it will be another successful one and we wish you the very best.

Warm regards,



Jakob von Uexkull  
Chair and Founder, World Future Council



Rob van Riet  
Coordinator, Disarmament Programme

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