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To the Family of Tony de Brum  
To the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Berlin, 22.08.2017

### **Deepest Condolences from IPB**

It is with great sadness that we wish to convey our most heartfelt condolences to the family of Tony de Brum, and to the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands as a whole.

As Foreign Minister of the Marshall Islands, Tony de Brum accepted the Sean MacBride Prize 2014, in Vienna, awarded by the International Peace Bureau in grateful recognition for the courage shown in filing landmark lawsuits at the International Court of Justice against the nine nuclear-weapon States. All those privileged to attend the award ceremony were deeply moved by Tony de Brum's acceptance speech, and we wish to mention here just some of his words, which we believe will help us all look to the future with strength and hope:

*"I accept it (the Prize) on behalf of the children of the Marshall Islands who will be born next year, and the year after, and the decade after, who must surely have a better life than their parents did."*

As a 9-year-old in 1954, Tony de Brum witnessed the "Bravo" test at Bikini Atoll, the largest ever US nuclear test that produced an explosion 1,000 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. He grew up during the 12 year period over which the USA conducted 67 nuclear tests in the archipelago, which left a legacy of lasting health and environmental problems for the people of the Marshall Islands. Tony's first-hand experience guided his action and strengthened his leadership.

The International Peace Bureau also nominated Tony de Brum for the Nobel Peace Prize 2016, for we felt that that the courage of turning to the ICJ showed determination and leadership, for which we were all grateful. Our common struggle for a world without war, from which all nuclear weapons are abolished, grew and progressed thanks to Tony de Brum's lifetime endeavours. He will be deeply missed, although we shall continue striving for a world free of nuclear weapons in his name, too.

International Peace Bureau

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