

**Address by Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu
High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**

**to participants of the PIR Center International School on Global Security 2019
Zvenigorod, 6 – 14 April 2019**

Mr. Albert Zulkharneev,

Dr. Vladimir Orlov,

Staff members and School participants,

I am pleased to send closing remarks to the participants of the 19th International School on Global Security held in Zvenigorod, Russia, on 6 – 14 April 2019. In the current security environment affected by emerging technologies, we need a comprehensive understanding of challenges to disarmament, non-proliferation, cyber security, regional and global security.

I believe the PIR Center School has provided a unique opportunity for you, 25 young and outstanding professionals, politicians, diplomats, military and civil servants, journalists, scholars, faculty, and students, to build expertise, improve professional skills and contribute through knowledge to a more secure world.

PIR Center has long promoted disarmament and non-proliferation education, including through the establishment of the Dual Master's Degree Program in WMD Non-proliferation in partnership with the MGIMO University and the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey.

I would like to highlight the contribution of Dr. Orlov to the cause of disarmament and non-proliferation education as member of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in 2015-2018.

The 19th International School on Global Security is special as it marks the 25th anniversary of PIR Center. My Office values the experience of its cooperation with the Center as an independent Russian think tank strongly committed to advancing in-depth understanding of nuclear issues in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and beyond the region.

Therefore, I hope that the participants of the School found this event full of fruitful discussions, constructive debates, and had opportunities to develop a shared vision that will help address the challenges to international security we face today.

Thank you.