**Key messages according to regions**

**Regional/ specific messages:**

AFRICA

* African countries have played a vital role in the development of the Mine Ban Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Arms Trade Treaty.
* African countries can and must use their power and voice to convince nuclear weapon states to ban nuclear weapons
* China and other countries rely on Africa for their vast natural and mineral resources. They care what African countries think and want.
* South Africa was the only country to have nuclear weapons in Africa. It has banned these weapons, but continues to be a leading military player – other countries can also ban these weapons without jeopardizing their image of ‘strength’.
* African countries have signed the Pelindaba Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty, which expresses their desire to “protect African States against possible nuclear attacks on their territories” and to “keep Africa free of environmental pollution by radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter”.
* In case of use, anywhere in the world, Africa would be heavily affected by the climatic effects and food insecurity produced by even a “limited” nuclear war.
* The continued existence and deployment of nuclear weapons is one of the most serious humanitarian problems of our time.
* A ban will establish a strong international norm against use, possession and deployment of nuclear weapons
* A ban will reinforce the importance of countries in the Africa in multilateral processes

LATIN AMERICA

* Mexico is hosting this meeting and along with other Latin American and Caribbean nations, has a historic and unprecedented opportunity to pressure nuclear weapon states and to bring the era of nuclear weapons to an end.
* Latin Americans and Caribbean states have played a vital role in the development of the Mine Ban Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Arms Trade Treaty.
* No Latin American country possesses nuclear weapons today. The Latin American states banned nuclear weapons by signing the Tlatelolco NWFZ Treaty in 1969, making Latin America one of the first NWFZ.
* February 14 marks the anniversary of the Tlatelolco treaty.
* A ban will establish a strong international norm against use, possession and deployment of nuclear weapons
* A ban will reinforce the importance of countries in Latin America in multilateral processes

EUROPE

* In Europe, the following countries have nuclear weapons: France, the UK.
* In Europe, the following countries host bases with nuclear weapons for NATO or other states: Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Turkey.
* The Iran talks have put nuclear weapons back on the global political agenda, and now it is time to also get the public in Europe, to show support a global ban
* Nuclear weapons are one of the world’s biggest forgotten humanitarian problems.
* Nuclear weapons have unacceptable humanitarian consequences and could fall into the hands of terrorists, or be detonated as a result of an accident – having nuclear weapons increases the risk of their use
* Failure to support a ban on nuclear weapons goes against the humanitarian principles that we proclaim we want to protect.
* The humanitarian protection of civilians should be at the forefront in any international security arrangement
* No international treaty (NATO ALLIANCE) obliges European states to block progress towards ban on nuclear weapons.
* A ban will correct a legal anomaly …
* A ban will bring existing legal instruments together under a simplified framework (Nuclear Proliferation Treaty, Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, 1540), and strengthen it

ASIA-PACIFIC

* In Asia, the following countries are under a nuclear weapon umbrella: South Korea, Japan, and Australia.
* New Zealand’s Disarmament and Arms Control Act made the US suspend its [ANZUS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ANZUS) obligations. New Zealand is still part of a military alliance with the US.
* Nuclear weapons have already had a catastrophic humanitarian impact on populations living in Asia Pacific:
  + The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed more than 200,000 people immediately or within a few months of the blasts. Many more people have died in the decades since from radiation-induced cancers.
  + Nuclear test programmes in the Pacific, Australia, China, Kazakhstan, India, Pakistan and North Korea have had a major toll on human health and the environment.
* Countries in North-East Asia and South Asia fear that nuclear weapons will one day be used again.
* Nations in the South Pacific, South-East Asia and Central Asia have rejected nuclear weapons by forming nuclear-weapon-free zones, and Mongolia is recognised as a single-state nuclear-weapon-free zone.
* Most countries in Asia Pacific have announced their readiness to join negotiations on a treaty banning nuclear weapons. This would make the Asia Pacific region, and the world, a much safer place for all.