Declaration of the Tenth IHL Dialogs at Nuremberg
September 29, 2016

In the spirit of humanity and peace the assembled current and former international prosecutors and their representatives here at Nuremberg, Germany...

Recognizing the continuing need for justice and the rule of law as the foundation to international peace and security, and cognizant of the legacy of all those who preceded us at Nuremberg and elsewhere:

Considering that the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the judgments of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg is an appropriate occasion for renewal of the international commitment to justice for all victims of atrocity crime;

Acknowledging those judgements and the work of those at that tribunal that set the cornerstone for the modern system of international criminal law;

Inspired by the commitment of the Nuremberg Tribunal to stay the hand of vengeance and subordinate power to reason;

Noting with grave concern the ongoing attacks against civilian populations including humanitarian actors in violation of the norms applied at Nuremberg and modern international criminal law;

Commending Ambassador Christian Wenaweser as the eighth recipient of the Joshua Heintz Humanitarian Award for his important and impressive service to humanity;

Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the International Humanitarian Law Dialogs;
Now do solemnly declare and call upon the international community and international organizations to keep the spirit of the Nuremberg Principles alive by:

Promoting the independence of international and national judicial institutions including shielding them from political interference;

Ensuring full accountability for all perpetrators of international crimes such as enforcing warrants and judicial orders;

Protecting the integrity of judicial proceedings by guaranteeing witnesses and victims are free from threats and undue influence;

Ensuring effective accountability for all international crimes including sexual and gender based crimes, crimes victimizing children, and crimes against cultural heritage;

Providing full support to all international courts and tribunals in the exercise of their judicial and residual functions;

Committing to capacity building based on best practices and their own experience in assisting jurisdictions to fulfil their complementarity obligations.

Signed in Mutual Witness:

Fatou Bensouda
International Criminal Court

Serge Brammertz
International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
David M. Crane  
Special Court for Sierra Leone

Norman Farrell  
Special Tribunal for Lebanon

Brenda J. Hollis  
Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Hassan B. Jallow  
International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda  
Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals

Nicholas Koumjian  
Extraordinary Chambers in the  
Courts of Cambodia

Robert Petit  
Extraordinary Chambers in the  
Courts of Cambodia

Stephen J. Rapp  
Special Court for Sierra Leone