

APPEAL

The end of the Cold War at the beginning of this decade raised hope among peoples from all over the world for a peaceful future. It was soon to disappear with the explosion of uncountable local and regional conflicts in all continents. These "smaller" conflicts have shown an almost forgotten arsenal of mass elimination and destruction ways. The arms industries seem to have reached a point of total fulfilment, together with the highest profits ever accumulated. What was left of the peoples' hope was some confidence in governments' and the international community's commitment to leave nuclear arms back in history.

All too few kept alive their concern for the potential of the remaining nuclear weapons arsenal of the super powers. Even less were paying attention to those countries that developed their nuclear potential under cover. ARC•PEACE was among the organisations that considered that time was not over for the struggle for peace. It strongly condemnd the French experiments in the Pacific Ocean.

For architects, designers and planners it will always be inconceivable that the largest amount of resources, even in poor countries, is dedicated to create and purchase means of destruction instead of constructing.

ARC•PEACE International - Architects, Designers and Planners for Social Responsibility - strongly condemns the recent nuclear experiments conducted by the Indian government. Those experiments are made behind the backs of the Indian people, in spite of the outrageous conditions of life they are deemed to.

The appearance of a new "nuclear power" in times of search for international understanding, of efforts to overcome poverty and of growing concern for our planet's survival, is a menace for the whole world. The Indian government's action puts their own people in danger and is a clear demonstration of disrespect for human life. It should not be tolerated by anyone.

ARC•PEACE International appeals to all its members, and colleagues from all the world, to express their strongest resentment against the development of an Indian nuclear power capacity.

In Stockholm, May 15, 1998