We also have an obligation to promote a new vision of society. One in which violence has no place in resolving disputes among states, communities or individuals, but in which non-violence and compassion are the preeminent values in all human relations.

Today, we are facing a time of great uncertainty and upheaval in many corners of the world. I am confident that you will also raise awareness of the threat that violence, conflict, poverty, climate change and environmental degradation pose to us all. By doing so, you will help not only those of us who are alive today, but even generations yet to come. I urge you not only to continue to work for genuine world peace, but also to work to promote a recognition of the oneness of humanity, the idea that in being human we are all the same, which will make even the thought of conflict unnecessary.

I offer my greetings to both organizers and participants, as well as my sincere prayers that your conference may be successful in contributing to the creation of a happier and more peaceful world.

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10 May 2019