



NPT News in Review

*Civil society perspectives on the
2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference
3–28 May 2010*



Planning for nuclear disarmament now

Beatrice Fihn and Ray Acheson | Reaching Critical Will of WILPF

After a week of general statements in the GA hall, the substantive work finally started on Friday. As Main Committee I opened, delegates delivered statements focusing on disarmament actions plans. In the afternoon, civil society representatives addressed the Review Conference. Moving and informative speeches from Hibakusha, Jody Williams, the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and other members of civil society gave the Conference a sense of urgency and brought a humanitarian injection to the discussions.

In Main Committee I, a large number of non-nuclear weapon states delivered strong statements calling for further steps towards nuclear disarmament. Such calls seemed to focus mainly on two themes.

The first was the importance of developing a nuclear disarmament action plan for the outcome document of the Review Conference. There was widespread support for reaffirmation of the 13 steps and for moving further beyond them through a plan of action with benchmarks or a time frame to measure progress. The NAM introduced its working paper, which proposes a plan of action for the full implementation of the 13 steps and article VI. South Africa and Argentina's ambassadors emphasized that reductions are not the same as elimination, since reductions have more to do with excessive capacity and do not automatically translate into commitment to nuclear disarmament. In addition, Switzerland's ambassador argued that quantitative reductions are not enough if nuclear weapon states simultaneously develop new and more efficient types of weapons. The NAM and the NAC called for a moratorium on upgrading and developing new types or missions for nuclear weapons. Iran called for a prohibition on research, development, modernization, and production of new nuclear weapons or delivery systems and a ban on the construction of any new facility for such activities.

Measures to prevent vertical proliferation lead to the second reoccurring theme, the importance of reducing the role of nuclear

weapons in military doctrines. The NAM argued that security doctrines, including NATO's Strategic Concept, still set out rationales for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and maintain unjustifiable concepts of international security based on promoting nuclear deterrence. Brazil's ambassador argued that nuclear weapons are not needed to deter NNWS or terrorist attacks and thus nuclear deterrence doctrines only apply to NWS and their relations among themselves. Several other delegations, including the NAC, Japan, Switzerland, the Philippines also called for reducing the role of nuclear weapons.

However, the five nuclear weapon states had a different view on these issues. Russia and the US devoted most of their individual and joint statements to describing the advantages of the new START. While the NAM and others noted that these reductions did not meet the international community's expectations, Russia and the US emphasized new START's contribution to international security and to the implementation of article VI and pointed out "everyone will win as a result of its implementation".

At the same time, they and France argued that fulfilment of article VI is everyone else's responsibility. France and the US argued that preventing proliferation is a necessary condition for disarmament, following on from the P5 joint statement wherein they continue to put disarmament off into the distant future, arguing that other states need to first "create the conditions" that they deem necessary to fulfil their own obligations under article VI. They argued, "All other States must contribute to fulfilling these disarmament goals by creating the necessary security environment, resolving regional tensions, promoting collective security, and making progress in all the areas of disarmament." France's ambassador argued these conditions are important "so that nuclear disarmament does not set off an arms race in other areas."

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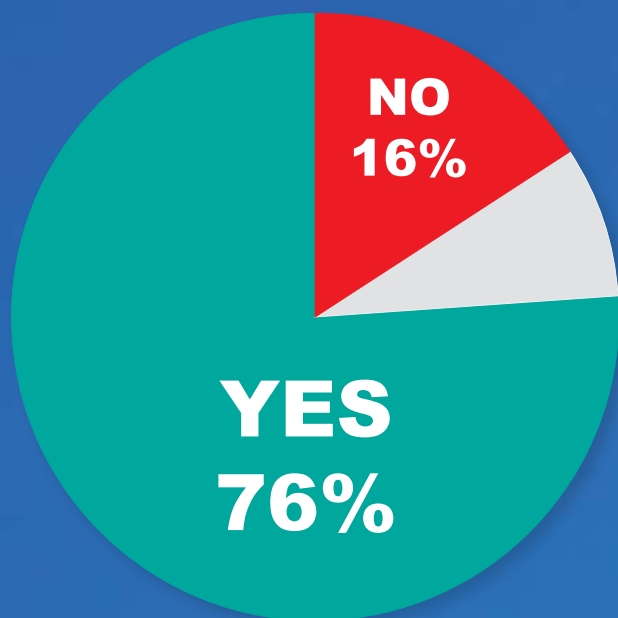
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The people say 'yes' to a Nuclear Weapons Convention.

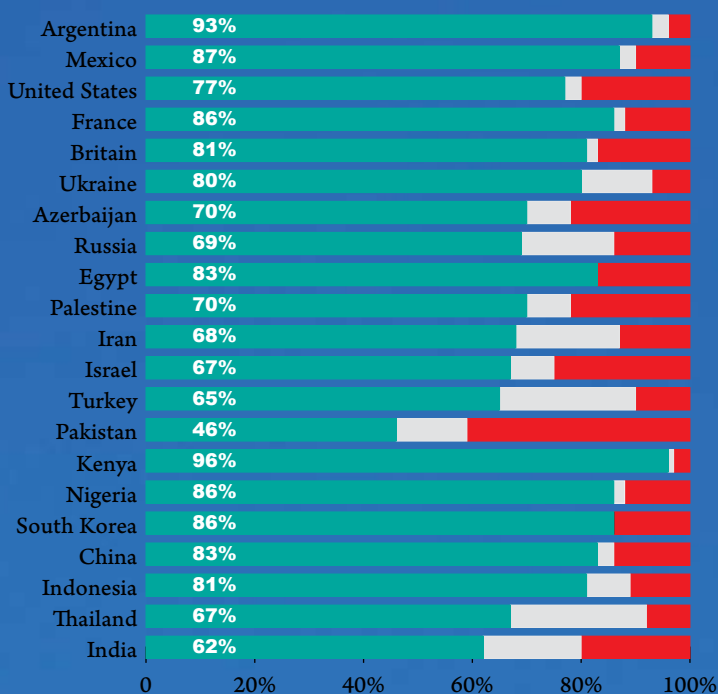
Opinion polls conducted in 21 countries have revealed that, on average, 76% of people worldwide support the negotiation of a treaty banning and eliminating all nuclear weapons. Large majorities in all five of the NPT nuclear-weapon states said 'yes' to a Nuclear Weapons

Convention. Nuclear abolition is the democratic wish of the world's people. Governments have a clear popular mandate, at this NPT Review Conference, to agree to start work on a binding, verifiable convention. A Nuclear Weapons Convention—Now We Can.



Average support globally

Source: Global Zero



The “other” nuclear weapons

Welmood Verhagen and Susi Snyder | IKV Pax Christi

Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, and Turkey continue to host US battlefield nuclear weapons (also called tactical or sub-strategic nuclear weapons) on their soil as part of NATO's Cold War nuclear sharing agreements. It is generally understood that these weapons are militarily obsolete and are only politically relevant within NATO.

The removal of these weapons from European soil would mean a significant contribution towards both disarmament and non-proliferation, as the number of countries with nuclear weapons on their soil would immediately drop from fourteen to nine. A world free of nuclear weapons would be five steps closer.

While decisions about the future of battlefield nuclear weapons and NATO's nuclear sharing policy will be agreed within NATO, a number of states have reflected upon the need to reduce and eliminate these weapons at this Review Conference.

The Netherlands reminded us that “[w]hile the nuclear weapons states take the lead, we, the non-nuclear-weapon states, must also do our share.” Germany noted that these weapons have not been subject to any arms control mechanisms so far, and that they are “left-over from the Cold War. They no longer serve a military purpose and do not create security.”

Other states and groups of states, including the EU, Belgium, the Holy See, Iran, Ireland, Malta, Norway, Poland, and Sweden have called for reductions in sub-strategic arsenals. This reflects a

growing momentum within Europe to address the issue, which has manifested through op-eds and letters from Foreign Ministers.

Norway and Poland recently submitted a working paper “on a step-wise and balanced approach to eliminating tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.” The Netherlands is advocating “a phased approach” and Germany calls for “the role of nuclear weapons to be further scaled down in NATO's Strategic Concept”, and for “[c]onfidence-building measures and efforts to create transparency”. The EU, in its Council Decision, agreed to “the importance of further transparency and confidence-building measures in order to advance this nuclear disarmament process.” Nuclear hosting states could act on this agreement towards transparency by disclosing the status or details of their nuclear sharing agreements.

The EU statement to Main Committee I, encouraged the United States and the Russian Federation “to further develop the unilateral 1991/92 Presidential Initiatives and to include non-strategic nuclear weapons.” Almost two decades ago, these reciprocal unilateral initiatives resulted in significant reductions in both arsenals. With the growing international consensus that we must do more for a world free of nuclear weapons, similar steps now could advance that goal.

Increased transparency on the policies, and a reaffirmation of the 2000 agreement to reduce the reliance on nuclear weapons in security strategies, would help provide the political space for NATO to develop a new strategic concept without nuclear sharing. A clear signal from this Review Conference welcoming the end of NATO nuclear sharing policies would also reinforce this and we anticipate lively discussions on the issue in the weeks ahead. •

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Reaching Critical Will
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The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom or the Reaching Critical Will project.

NPT Working Paper Review

Reaching Critical Will has reviewed all of the working papers available on the UN Official Document System as of Saturday, 9 May. A brief overview of the forward-looking elements of each paper is available in RCW's Working Paper Review, available at www.reachingcriticalwill.org and in hard copy.



News in Brief

Ray Acheson | Reaching Critical Will of WILPF

Main Committee I

Action plans

- The NAM outlined its 3 phase disarmament action plan: 2010–2015, reducing nuclear threats and measures for nuclear disarmament; 2015–2020, reducing arsenals and promoting confidence; 2020–2025, consolidation of a nuclear weapon free world.
- The Philippines called for benchmarks and timelines for nuclear disarmament, which should be actualized through an NWC or series of agreements in accordance with article VI.
- Switzerland called for updating the 13 steps and going beyond, adding a timeline for implementation, supported the UNSG's call for an NWC, and called for the RevCon to reaffirm the objective of nuclear weapon free world.
- South Africa said the provisions of the NPT and the outcomes of 1995 and 2000 provide a blueprint for the process to reduce threat of nuclear weapons, deemphasize their importance, and lead to their elimination.
- Canada called for an action plan beyond 2010, highlighting Australia-Japan and NAC ideas and the UNSG's five-point plan.
- France called on all states to create conditions that will ultimately enable the elimination of nuclear weapons in a world that will guarantee peace and stability without setting off a new arms race.
- Japan highlighted Australia-Japan package proposal for action plan.
- The US said the Australia-Japan proposal is the most practical and realistic starting point.
- Brazil called for commitment to conclude an NWC.
- Italy called for an ambitious but achievable plan based on 13 steps.
- Argentina called for a continuous process of nuclear disarmament that would incorporate all nuclear weapon possessors.
- Iran called for an ad hoc committee in the CD to negotiate an NWC.

Doctrine

- The NAM said the final document should note with concern the security doctrines of NWS and NATO and that it should agree nuclear weapons in security doctrines undermine disarmament commitment and spirit and letter of NPT.
- The Philippines and Switzerland urged NWS to adopt no first use policies.
- The NAC and Japan urged NWS to take further steps to diminish the role of nuclear weapons.

- Switzerland called for discussion on the legitimacy of the use of nuclear weapons.
- Canada said it will continue to work with NATO to advance common positions on Alliance nuclear posture and sub-strategic nuclear weapons in the context of the Strategic Concept Review, being "mindful of our collective security requirements and the long-term goal of achieving a world without nuclear weapons."
- France said the RevCon should call on NWS to adopt a "strict sufficient posture," limiting the use of nuclear weapons to when "vital interests" are attacked.
- The US said it wants to "extend forever the 65-year record of non-use of nuclear weapons."
- Brazil argued nuclear weapons are not needed to deter NNWS or terrorist attacks and thus nuclear deterrence doctrines only apply to NWS and their relations among themselves. It noted the concept of "undiminished security for all" is not for all if it is based on nuclear weapons and called for reduction of role for nuclear weapons in doctrine

Reductions

- The NAM, Philippines, NAC, Switzerland, South Africa, and the EU called for further nuclear arsenal reductions incorporating all types of nuclear weapons.
- South Africa and Argentina emphasized that reductions are not the same as elimination.
- Russia argued that elimination of nuclear weapons can only be discussed as ultimate goal under strict compliance with principle of security for all.
- Japan called for further bilateral and multilateral reductions.

Transparency, irreversibility, and verification

- The NAM, Philippines, NAC, Switzerland, South Africa, Japan, Brazil, EU, and Italy highlighted the importance of these principles as applied to nuclear disarmament.
- In a joint statement, Russia and the US said the reductions under new START will be verifiable and irreversible and demonstrate commitment to article VI and a NFWF.
- Canada said all states should report on their implementation of the 13 steps as everyone committed to do in 2000.
- France said all NWS should disclose the size of their nuclear arsenals.
- The US said the IAEA's verification experience can be applied to the disarmament process, noting that NWS may choose to place fissile materials

continued on next page



News in Brief (cont.)

under IAEA verification.

Nuclear sharing

- The NAM and Iran stressed the importance of implementing articles I and II and refraining from nuclear sharing.

Vertical and horizontal proliferation

- The NAM and the NAC said NWS should declare moratoria on upgrading and developing new missions for or new types of nuclear weapons.
- Switzerland said NWS should not increase their arsenals quantitatively or qualitatively.
- France and the US said stopping proliferation is necessary for disarmament.
- Indonesia said efforts against proliferation must be carried out with respect for multilateralism, and international law, and non-discrimination.
- Iran called for a prohibition on research, development, modernization, and production of new nuclear weapons or delivery systems and a ban on the construction of any new facility for such activities.

Operational status

- Switzerland and Brazil called for reductions in operational status of nuclear weapon systems.

Security assurances

- The NAM, Philippines, and Switzerland called for legally-binding NSAs.
- Japan called for stronger NSAs.
- Brazil called for resumption of discussion of NSAs in CD.
- Brazil and Argentina called for NWS to withdraw reservations from NWFZ treaties.
- France argued that more than 100 states benefit from French security assurances, noting that it is party to the largest number of NWFZ protocols.
- Indonesia noted that not all NNWS have NSAs through NWFZs because not all have entered into force.
- The EU argued that both positive and negative assurances can provide a positive role in NPT regime and can serve as incentive to forgo acquisition of WMD.

CTBT

- The NAM said CTBT cannot be used as an excuse for not eliminating nuclear weapons
- The Philippines, Switzerland, Austria, France, Russia, Brazil, EU, Italy, and Argentina urged ratification of CTBT by annex II states and/or moratoria on testing.
- South Africa welcomed the intention of the US and China to ratify the CTBT.
- The European Union called for completion of the CTBTO's verification regime and dismantlement of testing sites.

FMCT

- The NAM urged an FMCT to be negotiated on basis of Shannon mandate.
- The NAC said pending an FMCT, NWS should irreversibly and verifiably place excess materials under IAEA control.
- Switzerland, Austria, France, Brazil, European Union, Italy, Argentina called for negotiations on FMCT and/or moratoria on fissile material production.
- Canada said disarmament is advanced by reducing and securing fissile materials.
- France called on states to dismantle fissile material production facilities.
- The US said it hoped the IAEA would be given mandate to verify non-production of fissile materials under the FMCT.

Missiles, missile defence, and space weapons

- The NAM said the final document should voice concern about national missile defence as further causing an arms race and nuclear proliferation.
- Russia highlighted its draft PPWT submitted with China to the CD.
- Russia reiterated its proposal to internationalize the INF Treaty.
- The EU called for a start to consultations on a treaty banning short- and intermediate-range missiles ground-to-ground missiles and universal adherence to the Hague Code of Conduct against ballistic missile proliferation.

Machinery

- Canada argued that consensus has become an obstacle to starting disarmament work in CD and said that work on landmines, cluster munitions, and the arms trade show that the CD does not have a monopoly on multilateral negotiations.

Civil society

- Indonesia highlighted the role of global civil society in advocacy and promoting an environment that supports nuclear disarmament. •



Arms Down!

Sameer Kanak | Reaching Critical Will of WILPF

On Friday, Religions for Peace held an event called "Arms Down! Religious Youth respond to Nuclear Weapons in dialogue with a Hibakusha". Moderated by Allison Pytlak, RFP Disarmament Program Coordinator, the dialogue opened with comments from Dr. William F. Vendley, RFP Secretary-General, followed by hibakusha Ms. Michiko Kodama. She was addressed by Omar Harami, Taoufik Hartit, Soher el Sukaria, and Reverend Ryoichi Fukada.

Ms. Pytlak began by introducing Religions for Peace, focusing on outlining "Arms Down!", the youth-based disarmament initiative of RFP. Mr. Vendley addressed the present RevCon, noting, "we are all seized by the urgent challenge" of abolishing nuclear weapons. Vendley also called for "a firm, radical commitment" to a nuclear weapons convention.

Vendley then addressed the need to advance nuclear non-proliferation and then go further, to an idea of "shared security". He charted the progress of security from state security to human security, which protects people within states as well. Mr. Vendley said that religious leaders felt that this "is not enough". Shared security, Mr. Vendley said, is based off of the concept that "your well being is my well being [...] I am no safer than the most vulnerable among us," and that nuclear weapons highlighted the truth of these concepts starkly. He highlighted the importance of youth to disarmament and peace.

Ms. Kodama survived the Hiroshima bombing at age 7. She noted that the survivors and their descendants still suffer from its effects. She stated that many of her teachers and fellow students had "burned to ashes, and blown away in the wind." The day of the bombing, she "saw a horrible scene I could not have imagined existing in this world. I saw people whose sore-covered skin slipped were slipping from their bodies [...] whose eyes were popping out [...] whose intestines were exposed and hanging out, but were still trying to escape." Coming home, she saw relatives and friends fleeing to her home. Ms. Kodama spoke of her "favorite elder cousin [...] her whole body was inflamed, and she could barely reach our house [...] maggots started breeding on her burned body;" her cousin died in her home at 14. Ms. Kodama paused to reflect that "war is cruel, because it makes people numb."

Representatives of RFP's global youth network made a statement in response to Ms. Kodama. Omar Harami, a Palestinian Christian, noted that despite the lesson of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, "we have failed [...] Genocide and oppression has continued

and still does, as does war." Taoufik Hartit, a German Muslim, thanked Ms. Kodama for bearing "witness of one of the biggest crimes of humanity." Returning to shared security and religion, he said that all faiths "teach us the inner peace and the outer peace." Soher el Sukaria, an Argentine Muslim, highlighted conventional disarmament, as Latin America has massive problems related to small arms. Ryoichi Fukada, a Japanese New Religion adherent, called attention to their initiative, "working towards nuclear abolition to save lives." Ms. Pytlak invited global youth network members in the audience to discuss challenges they were facing in their home countries. Catherine Njunguna of Kenya noted the extreme numbers of small arms being shipped to Africa as "the rest of the world just watches." Lama Azab of France addressed pride of nuclear weapons ownership, even though nuclear weapons "promote insecurity, not pride."

Mr. Fukada and Ms. Pytlak explained an Arms Down! petition asking countries to rededicate 10% of their "bloated military budgets" towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Ms. Pytlak invited Ms. Kodama to be the first hibakusha to sign, and she did so as the event concluded. •

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Principles, Values, and Global Security—A New Framework for the Future

Allison Pytlak | Religions for Peace

In Buddhism, the world and everything in it is connected and relative, like large fishing net. And the knots that hold the net together are where the people are. This means that each person is linked to one another so that the actions of one affect the well-being of many.

This was how Venerable Gijun Sugitani, the chief priest of the temple Enjuin in Tokyo, began his presentation to those assembled for a side event convened by Religions for Peace and the International Peace Institute on 5 May. Entitled “Principles, Values and Shared Security—A New Framework for the Future, the event was an opportunity for introspective dialogue between religious leaders, believers, and representatives of faith-based and secular NGOs. Together they considered questions of religion, security, and nuclear weapons.

The event was divided into two roundtable discussions. The first one invited leaders of three religious traditions—Christianity, Buddhism, and Islam—to respond to a series of questions about how their faith has at times supported the use of nuclear weapons, or at other times opposed their use, and what common ground exists between the religions that might help to advance the goals of the Nuclear NPT. The discussion was moderated by Mrs. Judith M. Hertz of the Union for Reform Judaism and a member of the Religions for Peace World Council and its Women of Faith Network. Speakers included Bishop Gunnar Stalsett, the Bishop Emeritus of Oslo; Venerable Gijun Sugitani, Co-Chair of the Religions for Peace Standing Commission on Disarmament and Security; and Mr. Ibrahim Ramey, Director for Civil and Human Rights at the Muslim America Society.

Each speaker indicated that there is very fertile common ground and an imperative to work together against nuclear weapons. As Bishop Stalsett remarked, “There are some things that are so obvious that we don’t need theology.” Many felt a two-tiered effort is required—one that connects to people in communities, and that simultaneously mobilizes religious leaders within national political processes. As Mr. Ramey pointed out, “Four in ten Americans do not know that their government possesses nuclear weapons. We need to change this.”

The second roundtable took as its premise that the discourse of national security needs to be complemented by a more holistic understanding of what it means to be safe, and that this understanding is best expressed in the notion of shared security. Shared security is a notion that was endorsed by over 800 religious leaders during the last Religions for Peace World Assembly in 2006. It recognizes that each

person’s vulnerability is an invitation to approach others with compassion. Our interrelatedness calls for cooperation to protect against security threats.

This roundtable was moderated by Dr. William F. Vendley, Secretary General of Religions for Peace. The speakers were Dr. Ninan Koshy, the former Chair of the World Council of Churches Commission on International Affairs; Rev. Tyler Wigg-Stevenson, Director of the Two Futures Project; and Mr. Jonathan Granoff, President of the Global Security Institute. Dr. Koshy’s statement balanced on shared security as “timely, appropriate, enriching, and inspiring”. Rev. Stevenson expressed the implicit arrogance of the creation and use of nuclear weapons. Mr. Granoff’s strong closing presentation broadened the discussion to illustrate that shared security is a framework applicable to solving other problems such as climate change and poverty. In this spirit of this interconnectedness, he highlighted that it may be time for a new strategy that goes beyond simply calling for nuclear abolition, and that economic arguments may be the strongest ones. He referred specifically to divestment and the establishment of ethical guidelines for investment. •

Planning for nuclear disarmament now (cont.)

However, as the Brazilian ambassador pointed out, the vast majority of non-nuclear weapon states “have never put their non-proliferation duties on hold, conditioning their fulfilment to indefinite, more favourable international conditions.” The international community cannot leave it up to the nuclear weapon states to decide when they are ready to disarm. Allowing these states to retain their nuclear weapon capabilities, accepting their reliance on nuclear weapons as a form of security and defence, and remaining silent when they develop new weapons and facilities might be the greatest challenge to international peace and stability that the world is facing. In one of the NGO presentations, Rebecca Johnson from the Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy argued, “if we postpone the elimination of nuclear weapons until the world has achieved some ideal threshold of peace and stability, we will get neither disarmament nor security.” And when Mr. Taniguchi Sumiteru, a survivor from the nuclear bombing in Nagasaki, presented his story to the Review Conference, and an image of his burnt back was held up in front of us, it was clearer than ever that nuclear weapon attacks are a violation of international humanitarian law and must be outlawed immediately. •



The Federation of American Scientists Paths to Zero

Screening with Discussion

The world's combined stockpile of nuclear weapons - more than 24,000 - remains at a frighteningly high level despite being two decades past the end of the Cold War. FAS Vice President Ivan Oelrich explains the history of the nuclear armed world in the new documentary film **Paths to Zero**. Please join FAS for the screening of the film followed by a discussion of how we can move down a global path to zero nuclear weapons.

For more information, please visit: www.fas.org.

What: Film Premier with Discussion

When: Tuesday, 11 May 2010

Where: Conference Room A, North Building

Time: 10 am - 12 pm

In 1945, FAS was founded by scientists who worked on the Manhattan Project and created the first atomic bomb. FAS provides decision-makers and the public with analysis and research in international security, education technologies and earth systems.



NWC in Brief: Banning the most destructive weapons of all

Tim Wright | ICAN

If there was a single message to come out of the NPT Review Conference on Friday, it was this: There are treaties outlawing anti-personnel landmines, cluster munitions, biological weapons, and chemical weapons. Why should it not be possible to negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons, the most destructive weapons of all?

In Main Committee I, Brazil joined the growing call for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, arguing that a successful Review Conference outcome is predicated on the definition of clear objectives on a number of points, including a commitment to the goal of concluding a Nuclear Weapons Convention “outlawing this category of weapons entirely, with a well-defined timeframe, in line with the Chemical and Biological Weapons Conventions”.

Civil society presentations

On Friday, non-government organizations also had an opportunity to take part formally in proceedings at the Review Conference. The urgent need for a convention was the overarching theme of the presentations. Our keynote speaker, Jody Williams — an ICAN supporter who shared the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize for her involvement in the successful campaign for a mine ban treaty — said this to diplomats:

“It is time for all governments to come together — with the support of civil society around the world — to chart our course to a nuclear-free future by beginning the negotiation of a comprehensive treaty banning the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of nuclear weapons. Now. Not in years or decades. Now.”

Dr. Rebecca Johnson, vice-chair of ICAN, also urged states parties to begin the process for a convention. “Our route, timing and even humanity’s survival will depend on whether we can commit ourselves to this journey now,” she said. “This NPT Review Conference needs to agree on the treaty destination and set in motion the preparatory process and plans to get there as quickly as humanly possible.”

Building the movement

Dozens of peace and anti-nuclear groups belonging to the Abolition 2000 network — whose goal is to ensure genuine human security for all peoples — met on Saturday to develop an action plan towards a peaceful, nuclear-free world. The groups adopted a declaration, which stated: “Building on the groundswell of international public opinion, we call on all governments to begin negotiations on a Nuclear Weapons Convention to ban all nuclear weapons by 2020.” •

Getting to a Middle East nuclear weapon free zone

Emma Bjertén | Reaching Critical Will of WILPF

Daisy Alliance held an event Friday morning to discuss the establishment of a nuclear weapon free zone (NWFZ) in the Middle East. The panel aimed to seek solutions and overcome previous stalemates.

Dr Michael Yaffe, professor at the National Defense University in Washington, argued that the Israeli government relies on nuclear weapons for its security because it doesn’t believe it can rely on other states. Dr. Avner Cohn, a Senior Research Fellow with the center for International Security Studies at University of Maryland, said that a common view in Israel is that they’ve been accepted as a state because of the possession of nuclear weapons. Dr. Gawdat Bahgat, who is a professor at the National Defense University in Washington D.C, and Dr. Cohn said that Israel believe other countries would have attacked them if they didn’t possess nuclear weapons.

The session opened up discussions for how to implement the 1995 Middle East resolution and whether Israel should join the NPT. Dr. Cohn argued that there is no legal or political way to make Israel join the NPT. However, he found it important to engage the Israelis and not leave them outside. He requested honesty and truth when talking about nuclear weapons in the Middle East. He said it is crucial for Israel to acknowledge their nuclear arsenal.

Dr. Yaffe discussed the importance of confidence-building measures to move beyond earlier stalemates. He questioned whether one should have a peace agreement before starting negotiations, or if the negotiations could work as a confidence-building measure and lead to peace agreements. Dr. Bahgat pointed out that nuclear weapons are bad in the hands of anyone and argued that both Iran and Israel would benefit from a NWFZ in the Middle East. •



Nuclear weapons production in the age of Obama

Nickolas Roth | Alliance for Nuclear Accountability

At the panel discussion titled "Nuclear Weapons Production in the Age of Obama: Community Experts Reporting on Continuing U.S. Nuclear Weapons Production" held last week, members of directly affected communities discussed environmental, health, legal, and international security impacts of warhead production in the United States. Three speakers of the speakers came from communities in the United States that are home to nuclear weapons production facilities.

Marylia Kelley, Executive Director of Tri-Valley CAREs in Livermore, California, moved to Livermore more than two decades ago originally not knowing there was a nuclear weapons lab in her town. Over the years, she has helped to shed light on Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's (LLNL) track record of contaminating the surrounding community. The lab has been responsible for releases of radioactive materials like uranium and tritium, as well as a large number of industrial contaminants. The park where her son grew up playing was contaminated with plutonium. "Since the 1960s," she said, "the Livermore Lab has released approximately one million curies of radiation in the environment, roughly equivalent to the amount of radiation deposited by the U.S. atomic

bombing of Hiroshima."

Ms. Kelley described the U.S. nuclear weapons labs as the driver behind the Obama administration's plan to increase funding for nuclear weapons and build new bomb factories. She described the labs as being the "taproot of funding" for nuclear weapons. The labs survival is linked to continuing nuclear weapons work. She said the nuclear weapons labs mistake "personal security with national security."

Jay Coghlan is the Executive Director of Nuclear Watch, New Mexico, which watchdogs the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Mr. Coghlan discussed the details of the Obama administration's new nuclear weapons "modernization" plan. He voiced concerns that significant changes to warheads under the new Stockpile Management program could jeopardize confidence in the nuclear stockpile to the point where a return to nuclear testing could be possible. Some of the warhead modifications, he said, would actually add new military capabilities. Mr. Coghlan also discussed the three new bomb plants being proposed in Los Alamos, New Mexico, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Kansas City, Missouri. These new facilities would give the United States the capacity to build 80 new warheads per year.

continued on next page



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Dr. Jane Goodall

Assistant-Secretary General
Thomas Stelzer

Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, Special Adviser to the
 Secretary-General

Chaired by GSI President
Jonathan Granoff



Nuclear weapons production (cont.)

Ann Suellentrop, representing Physicians for Social Responsibility and Kansas City Peace Works in Kansas City, Missouri, is a nurse who recently learned last that all of the non-nuclear components for U.S. nuclear weapons are made at a factory in Kansas City (called the Kansas City Plant or KCP). Since then, she has led an effort to expose the environmental contamination and health impacts of the KCP. One KCP worker, who is gravely ill today, stepped in radioactive material, but was never told. The daycare center in the factory is contaminated with carcinogenic material. The entire area underneath the factory is contaminated with Polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs, a known carcinogen. She said that current employees want to speak out, but are threatened or intimidated into not talking. Ms. Suellentrop's work has helped to give sick workers a voice and pressure the U.S. government into committing to clean up the old KCP.

John Burroughs, Executive Director of Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy, described how efforts to modernize nuclear weapons facilities and delivery vehicles would impact U.S. commitments under the nuclear NonProliferation Treaty. He brought up two specific points about article VI of the treaty. The first was that article VI required a cessation of the nuclear arms race. This cessation applied to both qualitative and quantitative improvements in nuclear stockpiles.

U.S. plans for new production facilities, modernized warheads, and new delivery vehicles would allow for significant qualitative improvements in U.S. nuclear weapon systems.

Dr. Burroughs said that these new investments are also contrary to U.S. commitments under article VI to "pursue negotiations in good faith." Good faith is a fundamental principle of international law. "Essentially, this means that, if you say you will do something, you do it." Finally, Dr. Burroughs said that, by increasing its capacity to build new nuclear weapons, the United States was circumventing its commitment to irreversible reductions.

All of these speakers were affiliated with the U.S. NGO, the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, a national network of three-dozen grassroots and national groups representing the concerns of communities near U.S. nuclear weapons sites that are directly affected by 65 years of nuclear weapons production and waste contamination.

Nickolas Roth is the program director for the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability. •



Come and observe how

We Negotiate a Nuclear Weapons Convention

Tue, 11 May 2010, 10 am - 1 pm, 3 - 6 pm; Wed, 12 May 2010,, 10 am - 1 pm, 3 - 6 pm

Salvation Army, International Social Justice Commission
221 East 52nd Street, (between 2nd and 3rd Ave, 10 minutes walk from UN)

Chair on afternoons: **Ambassador Alfredo Labbé, Chile**

Participants: **more than 30 German and international university students**

In a simulation, more than 30 young people negotiate a Nuclear Weapons Convention. In four sessions, they will negotiate Articles IX (Nuclear Weapons) and X (Nuclear Materials) of the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention.

Come to observe for an hour or the whole day!

Contact: Regina Hagen, INESAP Disarmament Consultant and simulation organizer (Technische Universität Darmstadt); tel 347-419 39 18





What's On Today's Calendar of Events

Abolition Caucus

Where: Conference Room A, North Lawn Building
When: 8:00–8:50

Off-the-record government briefing for NGOs: Ambassador John Duncan on behalf of the Western Group

Where: Conference Room A, North Lawn Building
When: 9:00–9:50
Contact: Ray Acheson, Reaching Critical Will

The Prospects for Ratification of START and CTBT

Where: Beekman Tower Hotel, 3 Mitchell Pl, 49th & 1 Ave
When: 9:00–10:30
Contact: Meri Lugo, Arms Control Association

Main Committee II

Where: Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building
When: 10:00–13:00

International Youth Meeting

Where: Conference Room A, North Lawn Building
When: 10:00–13:00
Contact: Nina Eisenhardt, Ban All Nukes generation

Bad Faith: Disarmament rhetoric vs. reality - How hypocritical "disarmament" initiatives are enabling militarism abroad and at home

Where: Conference Room A, North Lawn Building
When: 13:15–14:45
Contact: Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group

Sustainable Security and the 21st Century

Where: Conference Room 2, North Lawn Building
When: 13:15–14:45
Contact: Rhianna Tyson Kreger, Global Security Institute

Presentation of a study on nuclear deterrence/ delegitimizing nuclear weapons

Where: Conference Room B, North Lawn Building
When: 13:15–14:45
Contact: Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN

Nexus between science and diplomacy: Role of the CTBT

Where: Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building
When: 13:15–14:45
Contact: CTBTO Preparatory Commission

iGSE Panel on the detection of clandestine nuclear materials production

Where: Church Center, 777 UN Plaza, 2nd Floor
When: 13:15–14:45
Contact: Simon Hebel, iGSE

Main Committee II

Where: Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building
When: 15:00–18:00

Main Committee III

Where: Conference Room 2, North Lawn Building
When: 15:00–18:00

Prospects for a shift in NATO's nuclear posture in 2010

Where: Conference Room A, North Lawn Building
When: 15:00–17:00
Contact: Paul Ingram, BASIC

Nuclear Crossword

Across

2. Which country is the third largest user of nuclear power?
5. Was the name of the first nuclear weapon test?
8. Which machine spins the gas to create nuclear fuel?
9. Electromagnetic radiation of high frequency (two words)?
10. The US have nuclear weapons deployed in ____ European NATO members states.

Down

1. Which leader said "we had to prove that we are not eunuchs" after the explosion of five nuclear devices?
3. Which article refers to an "inalienable right" of non nuclear weapon states to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes?
4. What was the code name of the first nuclear weapon ever tested?
6. The first Conference of States Parties to Nuclear Weapon Free Zones was held in this country.
7. In the first Review Conference in 1975, the NPT had ____ parties.

