



# NEWS IN REVIEW



*Civil society perspectives on the second session of the Preparatory Committee  
for the 2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference  
28 April–9 May 2008*

## Reductions or redux?

*Ray Acheson, Reaching Critical Will*

On 30 April, the PrepCom heard the last of the general statements and moved onto cluster one issues, which are primarily related to nuclear disarmament and to the non-acquisition and transfer of nuclear weapons. Many states focused on the concept of security, with the representatives of Libya, Kuwait, and South Africa arguing that nuclear weapons foster insecurity and fuel conflict rather than increase stability. Switzerland's Amb. Streuli said that the possession of nuclear weapons also incites proliferation, arguing that it is an illusion "to believe that by their delays in honouring their commitment to nuclear disarmament, the Nuclear-Weapon States can expect the appeal of nuclear weapons for other states to diminish."

Quick to point out their disarmament measures, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States spoke about their reductions and holdings, and the UK also mentioned the work that its Atomic Weapons Establishment has undertaken on verification of disarmament.

However, the disarmament measures listed by the delegates did not paint the whole picture. As explained in the NGO presentations on Tuesday, France has reached the deployment stage of a major new effort to renew both its sea- and air-based nuclear capability. Russia is developing more capable road-mobile ICBMs and recently launched the first of its new class of SSBNs. In 2007, the UK parliament endorsed the government's plans to modernize and extend the service life of its Trident system to 2042. The US has continued life extension programs to modernize its existing stockpile and, in some cases, improve their military capabilities. China, which is the only nuclear weapon state currently qualitatively and quantitatively improving its arsenal, did not report on its actions.

Yet Dr. Chris Ford of the United States remarked, "We have, in fact, done more than merely 'pursue negotiations' on disarmament, the expression used in Article VI. The United States has taken effective measures toward nuclear disarmament, and we continue to do so." While recognizing and welcoming that the US and other nuclear weapon states have reduced their nuclear arsenals, reductions do not actually indicate they have taken effective measures toward nuclear disarmament.

In this context, the Canadian delegation emphasized, "Measuring disarmament merely in terms of the overall number of weapons eliminated has its limitations." Andrew Lichterman and Jacqueline Cabasso of the Western States Legal Foundation argued in 2004, "There is no way to reconcile this resurgence of nuclear weapons development with disarmament.... The approach taken by the United States towards its own disarmament obligations ... expects us to accept the possession and constant modernization of thousands of nuclear weapons for many decades to come as meaningful progress towards disarmament."

The reductions of the nuclear weapon states' arsenals come with a price not listed in the NPT. The US statement went on to emphasize that some of the neces-

sary conditions for achieving the goals of Article VI include developing "responsive production infrastructure"—the ability to build new types of weapons "on demand"—and to improve its non-nuclear forces. The non-nuclear weapon states would not have signed a treaty that said the nuclear weapon states can improve, modernize, and extend the lifetime of their nuclear weapons as long as they reduce their numbers. Nor would they have signed if it had said that in exchange for reductions in warhead numbers, the nuclear weapon states could develop their conventional forces to excessive levels, in addition to prompt global strike, anti-missile, and space weapon technologies.

This statement by the United States highlights the importance of both transparency and education. Transparency, through the reporting on holdings, acquisitions, and plans as called for by the New Agenda Coalition, Canada, and Brazil, would help ensure that information is available on a regular and accessible basis to both governments and citizens. Education would create the opportunity for people to develop critical thinking skills necessary to decipher and analyze this information, along with the deluge of media misinformation and government propaganda.

The written version of the US statement also emphasized their efforts to "sketch the conditions that would have to exist in order for nuclear weapons abolition to become a realistic and attractive policy choice for real-world decision-makers among the Nuclear Weapons States." In the Swiss statement on cluster one, Ambassador Streuli countered this view, stressing "it is becoming increasingly difficult to accept the argumentation of Nuclear-Weapon States which invoke the negative development of security conditions to justify their slowness in the matter of nuclear disarmament, while almost all Non-Nuclear Weapon States are experiencing the same conditions but nevertheless honour their pledge not to acquire nuclear weapons." In 1996, the Canberra Commission on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons emphasized, "Progress towards a nuclear weapon free world should not be made contingent upon other changes in the international security environment. Successful nuclear weapon negotiations will benefit other security related negotiations and progress in regional and other political and security related negotiations will enhance the prospect of building a nuclear weapon free world."

As an alternative approach to the question of "creating the proper security environment for disarmament," Japan's Ambassador Tarui emphasized the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education as a tool to working toward creating the conditions for a nuclear weapon free world. In a statement on behalf of twenty countries, he cited the UN Secretary-General's 2002 report on disarmament and non-proliferation education, which emphasized that in order to change concepts of security and threats, new thinking from governments and citizens alike is necessary. New and critical thinking is essential to move from a concept of state security to human security and from believing that nuclear weapons guarantee security to realizing they undermine it. •

**2 May 2008  
No. 4**

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The *News in Review* is a daily publication produced by the Reaching Critical Will project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

See [www.reachingcriticalwill.org](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org) for information, statements, papers, reports, archived *News in Reviews*, and more from the NPT.

## One minute to midnight

Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group

We have entered an era of global crises that have neither obvious ends nor easy solutions. These crises are not something that might happen in the future. They are present now and are growing in severity and import week by week.

These emergencies are plowing up prospects for “business as usual” outcomes in every field, including international security. In addition to the usual and predictable litanies of woe about nuclear proliferation, failure to disarm and so on, frightening and powerful realities—such as large-scale famine—are here now. The hoary assumptions, hesitations, complacencies, and gradualist priorities that states and NGOs alike have brought to nuclear diplomacy must be reexamined. We need to discard many of these assumptions or our efforts are going to end up being irrelevant and overtaken by events. History is speeding up.

Disarmament advocates can and must take heart even in the face of these events, most of which will be tragic. Humanity’s unprecedented crises make our work more imperative, meaningful—and yes, much more politically salient than ever. The turbulence of the times brings opportunities, provided we have the wisdom to see them and the gumption to seize them. And seize them now we must.

What are these emergencies? Here are four of them.

A long-expected crisis in the availability and price of grains, threatening starvation for millions of people, is now upon us. In the absence of rapid and effective new policies, very large numbers of people may be priced out of existence. At present there is little to stop famine from growing more widespread and pronounced, affecting literally hundreds of millions of people. Effective policies are available but so far we only hear of stopgap measures.

In the case of U.S. and European biofuel policies, terrible damage is being done. Prices communicate very quickly and compound with other market stresses, predictable and otherwise (weather, disease). Policies that convert billions of bushels of grain, other foods, and megatons of palm oil into fuel can kill more people, more quickly, than U.S. policymakers (to pick an especially benighted group) can imagine.

Second, petroleum production has been flat for the past three years and will begin its inexorable decline very soon, very likely within the next half decade. Exports (and therefore imports) will decline farther and faster than production as exporting states husband their resources and use more domestically. Prices are rising and will keep on rising. Supplies are now unreliable in many places and this will become more common, with dramatic consequences.

In North America, home of the current military hyperpower and would-be global hegemon, natural gas production is also dropping, masked for the time being by a steep decline in total industrial use. Prices are likely to rise, and shortages appear, far more suddenly than is the case with oil.

The economic, social, and political consequences of “peak oil” are starting to ramify through our economies. Their full impact is difficult to overstate. Obviously access to fuel is a potent cause of conflict within and between states. We do not have a lot of time to prevent this. Neither do we have a lot of time to sufficiently stigmatize nuclear weapons, and sufficiently damage nuclear weapons enterprises, so that nuclear war is taken “off the table” as a war planning option.

Third, the world’s climate has degraded past major tipping points and could pass an apocalyptic “point of no return” in just a few years if immediate and drastic action isn’t taken. Global environmental security is not just threatened. It’s been lost and must be regained, not only by reducing greenhouse gas emissions but also by active removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. The hour is very late.

Fourth, the crisis in global finance exported from America, and inextricable from these other crises, is much more than any cyclical adjustment. It is a global crisis of capitalism in which the very survival of civilization, billions of people, and most species, are at stake. In the U.S., the primary alternative to a “soft landing” seems to be accelerating economic and social decline accompanied by unpleasant political transformations and horrific foreign policies. The total U.S. debt, public and private, now exceeds \$50 trillion, making the United States a very dangerous country. It must be externally restrained; the prospects for internal democratic restraint are in grave jeopardy.

Disarmament advocates seldom if ever have had less time to act than today. In this context, a nuclear gradualism that leaves the basic legitimacy and ideas of nuclear militarism unquestioned (such as nuclear “deterrence,” so-called) does not serve us well.

Yet in the U.S., the business of arms control continues more or less unchanged—much as if the Cold War never ended. Nuclear deterrence is discussed not only as if it were real but as if it were good. We know that the assumptions of stability, control, predictability, and an all-defining single conflict that is primarily ideological in character, all of which help form the foundations of arms control as we know it, are false. We have not yet changed what we are doing to match these realities. All too often we are still fighting the struggles of 10, 20, and 30 years ago.

Still more insidious are assumptions of stability in our personal lives and careers. There is, in nearly all professional discourse, a deep-seated aversion to taking risks that could end one’s privileged and seemingly-empowered position. So people go along to get along. In the U.S., arms control is a largely-bureaucratic endeavor, and its mores and priorities also influence NGOs in many other countries. It is not the nuclear belligerency of the Bush administration (or the next administration) that is our central problem. It is our own lack of opposition.

Perhaps we need to examine whether more vague, aspirational platitudes endorsed by celebrities of various kinds (diplomats, scientists, etc.) will get us anywhere. I don’t know about other countries but here in the U.S. they have little or no value, either in actual policy forums or for organizing in civil society. We’ve done that work and done it well.

What’s missing is specificity. Global civil society is four-square with us already—we could hardly have more support. What has been lacking is true leadership on our part, leadership of the kind willing to call a spade a damn shovel, to do so in the places that actually matter and in a manner that will inform and awaken consciences. Generally speaking this can only be done by a conscious sacrifice of status and prestige.

*continued on next page*



*One minute to midnight (cont.)*

For one thing we need to get out of the United Nations and go to the nuclear labs and plants. Talk directly to the workers there. Because the healthy human conscience cries out against mass slaughter, and against the threat of mass slaughter, the transmission of nuclear weapons ideology from year to year, from manager to worker, and from generation to generation is fragile and deeply problematic. It is very sensitive to rhetoric, intervention, and of course to the direction of funding. The PrepCom is very important, but when it's over we need to bring our concerns directly to the labs and plants just as Gandhi went to the mills of Lancashire. Very few of the people at the American nuclear labs and plants actually want to make weapons of mass destruction. They want good jobs, of course. Congress could help provide those jobs, but their elected representatives find it simpler and easier to speak for laboratory management. We can help them. The U.S. nuclear weapons program of today is primarily a jobs program.

We needn't linger over victories that are in essence already won, such as the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). In the U.S., enormous hand-wringing continues over whether the U.S. will always be able to "certify" its nuclear arsenal (as if that were an appropriate goal) and ratify the CTBT. A host of issues are related to these. This swamp of issues, seemingly unresolved, is the primary breeding ground for pestilential ideas like the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) and so many others. For example, a possible "master deal" is under development in some circles that would advance the RRW, CTBT ratification, the construction of new weapons factories and more, together.

These issues are "unresolved," and such deals attractive, only because we allow them to be. There are no technical obstacles, only political ones.

In this regard we need to consider whether the U.S. will

ever conduct another nuclear test under any circumstances whatsoever. Think about it. Nuclear testing is deeply contrary to U.S. interests and almost everyone whose opinion matters understands this. What's missing, again, is firm opposition—and a willingness to have a debate in the glare of domestic and international opinion. The "threat" of nuclear testing is a political bluff that should be straightforwardly called, even ridiculed, at every occasion—not assigned to panels of interest-conflicted scientists for more secret study. This bluff can be called in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) context as well as in Congress. Doing so is the fastest, surest path to CTBT ratification.

A great deal of fine work has been done by NGOs and diplomats within the NPT framework. Our greatest technical, legal, and diplomatic expertise relating to nuclear weapons and related issues can be found in these circles. How can these talents, and centuries of combined experience, find the most traction?

I think a clue lays in the potential interplay between specific domestic nuclear decisions and international actors in highly-intrusive forums, which in the U.S. at least we have not had. Why not? Why is the U.S. in particular, and most other nuclear weapon states as well, virtually free from the detailed analyses, site visits, and examinations foisted upon states defined as potential proliferators? Hypothetical future nuclear weapons of a decade from now are indeed a proper concern, but what about the real weapons of today and tomorrow?

The NPT's disarmament requirement famously lacks detail and implementing institutions. International civil society can and should provide that. With near-total international popular, as well as legal, stigmatization of nuclear weapons, very productive efforts could be made with no further legal or diplomatic basis. •

**Abolition 2000-Europe General Assembly**

Friday, 2 May 2008, 3:00-5:00 pm  
NGO Room, United Nation, Geneva

**Agenda:**

- 1- News of the network
- 2- Abolition 2000-Europe and PNND
- 3- Abolition 2000-Europe and BANG
- 4- Abolition 2000-Europe and the World Court Project
- 5- Meeting at the EU parliament, July 1st 2008
- 6- project of campaign on the NWC in the EU
- 7- update secretariat organisation
- 8- odds and ends

Contact person: Dominique Lalanne  
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"Your book contains  
**a mine of useful information...**"  
—FW de Klerk

"Warmest congratulations on your capacity to go  
**straight to the heart of these complex issues...**"  
—Robert J. O'Neill, A.O.

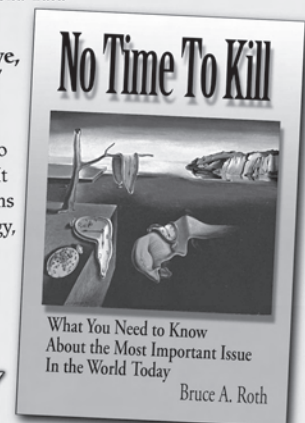
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# **The Middle East: Nuclear Future or Nuclear Free?**

Nuclear weapons and energy issues in the Middle East have featured prominently in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review process. Implementation of the 1995 Middle East Resolution and the controversy over existing, planned, and suspected nuclear programmes have far-reaching regional and global implications.

Please join us for a discussion of these issues and to learn about regionally-based civil society efforts and recommendations. Topics will include the following:

## **The NPT and the Middle East**

Merav Datan, Mideast Political Advisor, Greenpeace International

## **Peaceful Energy for the Middle East**

Paul Horsman, Programme Director, Greenpeace Mediterranean

## **Nuclear Issues in the Israeli Media**

Theodora Karchovsky, Communications Officer, Greenpeace Med, Israel

## **"According to Foreign Sources"**

Sharon Dolev, Disarmament Campaigner, Greenpeace Med, Israel

**Facilitator:** Rhianna Tyson, Senior Officer, Global Security Institute

**Monday, 5 May 2008**

**1:15 – 2:45**

**NGO Room (Room VIII)**

**Palais des Nations**

**Geneva**

For further information, please contact:

Merav Datan [merav.datan@greenpeace.org](mailto:merav.datan@greenpeace.org), Mobile: +31 6 25 03 10 08



## Disarmament and non-proliferation education seminar

*Linnéa Lagergren, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*

The Japanese mission and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research organized this side event in order to highlight progress made in promoting non-proliferation and disarmament education as a contribute toward raising awareness on the issue in the NPT context. The panel, chaired by Dr. William Potter of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), Monterey Institute of International Studies, included: Ambassador Sumio Tarui of Japan; two Hibakusha Tanaka Terumi of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers and Shigeko Sasamori of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Projects, UN education consultant Dr. Kathleen Sullivan; CNS visiting fellow and high school teacher Nelly Porseva; and UN disarmament intern and Monterrey Institute student Elena Hushbeck.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Tarui talked about the importance of education passing knowledge and experience of the immense destructive power of nuclear weapons to succeeding generations. In this context, he emphasized the average age of the Hibakusha was now 74. Promoting his government's goal of raising the profile of education as a non-proliferation and disarmament priority, the Ambassador said that education is one of the most practical measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons and urged the development of effective methods of education.

Tanaka Terumi and Shigeko Sasamori, survivors from the US atomic bombings of Nagasaki and Hiroshima respectively, shared their experiences of the attacks. They also emphasized the importance of carrying their own and others' stories forward, as well as to educate young people about the impact nuclear weapons have on humans.

Kathleen Sullivan talked about the Cyberschoolbus, a disarmament and non-proliferation education portal hosted by the UN, which serves to promote education of international issues and provide educational resources. Dr. Sullivan demonstrated several projects related to disarmament education, which included using new technologies to draw young people into the stories and to create virtual communities. She also emphasized the use of artifacts that one can see and touch in telling stories and spreading knowledge and understanding.

Nelly Porseva spoke about her experiences teaching non-proliferation and nuclear issues to high school students in Russia, as well as the student visits to "closed cities". She stated that influencing children means influencing the future, meaning it is important to help them develop critical thinking and get the "whole picture". This, in turn, is crucial toward spreading the knowledge to the rest of the society.

Elena Hushbeck shared her experiences from the use of participatory learning through simulation models. She pointed out the relevance of this kind of education to the current global climate and the possibility of creating a forum where issues not ready to be negotiated in real life can be explored. Such simulations are not only tools for students, but are used to help policy practitioners deal with aspects of real problems facing the world.

PrepCom attendees will have the opportunity to experience a live simulation game on Saturday, when members of the European youth network BANG and others simulate the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention on Saturday, 3 May, 10am to 6pm at the Ecole Internationale de Genève, La Grande Boissière, 62 Route de Chêne (tram #12). •

## World Court Project to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

A global citizens' coalition working for good-faith implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligation upheld by the International Court of Justice

NGOs are invited to take part in a workshop

## Organising for a Return to the International Court of Justice

Sunday 4 May, 1 rue de Varembe, Geneva, conference room, 10:00-3:00

In 1996 the International Court of Justice confirmed that all states are legally obliged to pursue negotiations **in good faith** on nuclear disarmament.

The World Court Project now plans to ask the Court whether the nuclear states are complying with their Good Faith obligation and to explain what compliance would require. We believe this will bring more legal pressure on the minority of states with nuclear weapons to keep their promise to work towards a world free from the menace of nuclear weapons.

Our workshop will consider:

- working with governments to return to the ICJ
- outreach to organizations and individuals
- working with other campaigns
- disseminating the theme of "Good Faith".

**Co-sponsors:** International Peace Bureau; International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms; International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War; World Court Project UK; Western States Legal Foundation; International Law Campaign; Lawyers' Committee on Nuclear Policy; International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility; Abolition 2000 Europe.



## Engaging youth for nuclear disarmament

Jacqueline Leahey, *Reaching Critical Will*

In an initiative to engage youth in the nuclear debate, the World Council of Churches (WCC) hosted a panel discussion considering the economic, political, moral, and religious aspects of nuclear weapons. The General Secretary of the WCC, Samuel Kobia, recalled that the WCC has long advocated for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As early as 1954, the WCC called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and in 1961, advocated the "no first use policy" and for nuclear weapons free zones.

Mr. Stephen Schwartz (Monterey Institute of International Studies) discussed the cost implications of nuclear developments, explaining that the United States has spent approximately USD 6 trillion on its nuclear arsenal and is currently spending around USD 55 billion per year. Mr. Schwartz encouraged youth to engage in the nuclear debate by paying attention to nuclear issues and getting informed; channeling frustration and anger towards incremental and constructive responses; informing friends, family, and co-workers; writing to legislators, newspapers, magazines, and blogs; and voting for change.

Ms. Marie Dennis (Pax Christi International) described the urgent and enormous threat facing the next generation and noted that the nuclear crisis was a breathtaking indictment on the current generation's legacy. From an ethical standpoint, the possession and threat of nuclear weapons are considered an affront to humanity and a gross misuse of power and status. Ms. Dennis argued that the moral dimension is an indispensable tool of every nation's strategic policy toolbox when considering nuclear threats or use. Meticulously considering the criteria of just war (*jus ad bellum*) principles, Ms. Dennis concluded that the ethical, moral, and humanitarian costs would outweigh any legal justification to wage a nuclear war.

Reverend Kurozumi (Shinto Leader and Religions for Peace, Japan) appealed to the concept of "shared security" as distinct from national security, which is primarily characterized by self-interest and state-focused security threats. Rev. Kurozumi advocated a holistic approach in the form of a peace-building initiative that would be presented to the G8 Summit in Hokkaido in 2008. To address the structures of violence and global instability in which nuclear weapons exist, Rev. Kurozumi supported a united front of both civil and religious organizations.

Representing the youth at the PrepCom, Mr. Noel Turner (BANg) advocated three ways or pillars through which youth could and should become engaged in nuclear issues: information and discussion; empowerment; and meditation. Firstly, the youth should be informed and knowledgeable on matters relating to nuclear weapons, including the NPT. Recognizing that it was ignorance rather than indifference that inhibits youth from becoming interested or engaged in nuclear issues, Mr. Turner endorsed government-sponsored education programs to promote political discussion and critical thinking on world events within the school curriculum. Secondly, younger generations could be empowered through establishing organizations like BANg, disseminating online information, creating discourse with other youth, and influencing politics through joint actions. Finally, Mr. Turner reminded the youth of the value of silence, through meditation, in order to hear their inner voices and overcome egotism, personal gain, and deadlock in the interest of helping others. Accordingly, a generation equipped with these three pillars could dwarf the achievements of history and achieve peace in the world. •

## How NGOs can mobilize for a NWC?

Tim Wright, *International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons*

It has been little over a year since the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was launched, and much progress has been made since then. Active national campaigns have emerged in many countries, mainly European, and on 30 April they met to share ideas and enthusiasm.

Tilman Ruff from Australia described his vision for the campaign as a vehicle that would allow different groups with their own specific agendas to work together for the ultimate goal of a nuclear weapon free world. That goal, he argued, is best achieved through a nuclear weapons convention (NWC).

I provided an update of the Australian campaign, drawing particular attention to the new government's pre-election commitment to "lead the international agenda for a nuclear weapons convention," and I spoke of the materials we have produced—a foldout, mini-magazine, DVD, and education booklet—which are appropriate for international distribution.

Various representatives from the United Kingdom informed the group that an ICAN working group had been set up there. It is focused on generating parliamentary support for a NWC and opposition to the renewal of Trident. ICAN in the UK has produced a four-page summary of the model NWC and intends to produce an even briefer summary for use by the general public.

ICAN has begun to take greater prominence in France, where meetings were held in 20 cities or towns to discuss the model NWC. Mouvement de la Paix organized a meeting with parliamentarians to explain and promote the model NWC, and

*continued on next page*

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY **ican**



The **international** campaign to abolish nuclear weapons (**ican**) celebrates its anniversary this week.

Launched in Vienna at the 2007 NPT PrepCom, ICAN continues to spread across the world.

To learn more, visit: **www.icanw.org**





*How can NGOs mobilize for a NWC? (cont.)*

ICAN in France intends to launch a postcard campaign urging French President Nicolas Sarkozy to support an NWC.

A very active ICAN group was launched in Norway with a petition containing the faces of 100 prominent people—artists, former political leaders, musicians, and authors—who support an NWC. ICAN in Norway persuaded the Foreign Ministry to translate the model NWC into Norwegian and to host an international conference on a vision for a nuclear weapon free world. This conference was attended by several nuclear-armed states.

ICAN in Sweden have begun to translate some of the English campaign materials into Swedish, and medical student activist have held Target X demonstrations and “Nuclear-Weapon-Free—My Cup of Tea” events to generate support for an NWC.

A representative from the Netherlands expressed hope that ICAN would become central to the campaign for nuclear disarmament in that country, and noted an effort to persuade former leaders to sign on to a statement similar to the one made in the Wall Street Journal by former US leaders George Schultz, Henry Kissinger, and others.

Alyn Ware, who was involved in drafting the model NWC, provided some advice for promoting the NWC to parliamentarians and diplomats. He said that the focus should not simply be on those who oppose it or are unsure about it, but efforts must also be made to ensure that those who support it are doing so actively. He argued that the NWC is far from being a “pie in the sky” idea, especially given it now has support from China, India, Pakistan, and North Korea.

For those who argue that a NWC is premature, or that they prefer a step-by-step approach to nuclear disarmament, we should point out that the General Assembly resolution relating to the NWC merely calls for “negotiations leading to a nuclear weapons convention”. Therefore, there is no good reason for states to oppose it. Mr. Ware said that the NWC would not weaken the Non-Proliferation Treaty, but would rather be a way of implementing Article VI. •

**Mayors for Peace events**

*Emma Rosengren, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*

**Protecting cities from the scourge of war**

Mayors for Peace coordinated this workshop, chaired by international coordinator Aaron Tovish, which included approximately 20 participants from France, Italy, Palestine, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Belgium, Japan, and Croatia. Mr. Tovish encouraged the participants to tell their own stories about how war has had an impact on their lives.

One participant, Marchina Bruno from Gossago, Italy, explained the situation in his region where a base storing nuclear weapons is located. According to Mr. Bruno, it is important to emphasize that nuclear arms are stored in many cities, directly threatening city inhabitants. He also pointed out that even though a country may not be presently involved in war itself, we can never let ourselves forget about the consequences of previous and present wars, and we have to continue working for disarmament.

Dr. Elias Rishmawi, City Council Member in Beit Sahour, Palestine, shared his experiences of war. To him, war is a reality affecting the daily lives of people in his region. People lack not only the right to move, but also basic needs such as food supplies and health care. According to Mr. Rishmawi it is necessary to broaden the definition of war to include interventions that destroy countries from the inside, even though it is not direct warfare.

Jackie Cabasso, US coordinator of Mayors for Peace and executive director of the Western States Legal Foundation, spoke of her experiences in the United States, where huge amounts of economic resources are spent on the military budget. Since nuclear weapons exist within the military discourse, she thinks that it is necessary to challenge this entire discourse in order to promote peace.

The interesting descriptions presented by the participants were followed by a theoretical presentation by Dr. Robin Coupland, a medical adviser in assistance division of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Dr. Coupland made a connection between moral, legal, and public health approaches to nuclear

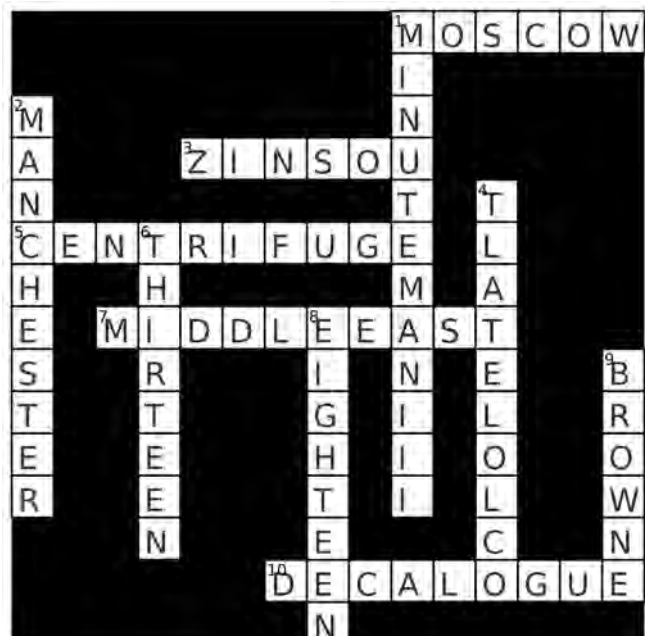
*continued on page 9*

**Cryptoquote**

The following jumbled sentence is a quote by a Nobel laureate author. Each letter represents another letter - and there is a pattern! The first to decipher the quote, name the author, and tell a member of the Reaching Critical Will team will receive a prize.

RUVEHU JXU JUHHYVOYDW FHEIFUSJI  
DEM QLQYBQRBU JE XKCQDYJO, MU IUU  
ULUD CEHU SBUQHBO JXQJ FUQSU YI  
JXU EDBO WEQB MEHJX IJHKWWBYDW  
VEH. JXYI YI DE BEDWUH Q FHQOUH RKJ  
Q TUCQDT JE RU CQTU RO QBB FUEFBUI  
JE JXUYH WELUHDCUDJI - Q TUCQDT JE  
SXEEIU TUVYDYJYLUBO RUJMUUD XUBB  
QDT HUQIED.

*Answers from yesterday's crossword puzzle:*



## News in Brief

Michael Spies, Arms Control Reporter

## Proposals made during the Cluster 1 Discussion:

- Finland, on behalf of a group of a states, called for an enhanced focus and for the PrepCom to deliver a strong message on non-strategic weapons in the context of the NPT review and through bilateral US-Russia negotiations. The group's statement acknowledged US-Russian reductions agreed to in 1991, but called for this arrangement to be codified in a binding agreement, which would also covers land-based weapons.
- Germany proposed a forward looking "New Implementation Baseline" to be agreed upon in 2010. To be introduced in a working paper, the approach is to consist of a comprehensive but realistic dual-track approach, designed to strengthen non-proliferation and to give new momentum to nuclear disarmament. The disarmament track would be based on the principle of incrementalism and include measures on non-strategic weapons, legally-binding assurances, and other issues.
- Japan announced the submission of a new working paper on non-proliferation and disarmament education, which suggests promotion of public awareness on the role of the NPT in international security and on the challenges it faces. Japan's intension, in part, is to create international conditions to facilitate additional progress toward non-proliferation and disarmament goals.
- The Republic of Korea suggested that the 2010 Review Conference should review each of the 13 steps and bring them up to date to reflect changes in the international security environment.
- The New Agenda Coalition suggested a reporting mechanism for the arsenals of the nuclear weapon states would be a substantive confidence-building measure, if it were to provide information on the current status of their holdings, future plans for further reductions, and efforts to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons in their security doctrines. The Coalition further suggested that under such a mechanism, non-nuclear weapon states party to an alliance with a nuclear weapon state should report on steps taken to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons in their collective security doctrines.

## Other Highlights of the Cluster 1 Discussion:

- In a joint statement, Japan announced that twelve additional states—bringing the total to twenty—had joined its initiative to promote non-proliferation and disarmament education through the NPT review process.
- The United Kingdom provided an update on its "disarmament laboratory" efforts.
- Australia voiced support for the eventual goal of a nuclear weapons convention.

## Highlights from Day Three of the General Debate:

## Article III- Safeguards and Compliance

- Kyrgyzstan and Belgium called for the Additional Protocol to become the verification standard.
- Libya reaffirmed that the IAEA is the only body with competence to deal with safeguards issues. Libya also called on all states to conclude an Additional Protocol.
- Austria called for the Addition Protocol to become the safeguard standard in the context of a new framework on security, centered around its ambitious proposal for multilateralization of the fuel cycle.
- The League of Arab States delivered a veiled critique of the United States for promoting the primacy of non-pro-

liferation over the other two pillars of the Treaty. The League strongly criticized making the Additional Protocol a condition of supply, calling such proposals unacceptable, especially in light of the Treaty's lack of universality.

## Article IV- the Nuclear Fuel Cycle

- Libya said the Treaty should not be reinterpreted in a way that undermines Article IV.
- Belgium said the issue of rights and responsibilities under the Treaty, as well as various proposals on the fuel cycle, needed further study.
- Austria elaborated on its two-step proposal for extending multilateral control to the fuel cycle, stating that under the plan states would retain full rights. Austria also indicated the plan would be market-neutral.
- Namibia said that fuel cycle proposals on the table deserved further attention, but that the views of all states should be taken into consideration given the legal, technical, commercial, and economic ramifications of the issue.

## Article VI- Disarmament

- Belarus accused the United States of violating the 1994 Budapest Memorandum of Understanding on Security Assurances by imposing economic sanctions in 2007.
- Five delegations called for the entry into force of the CTBT; three delegations called for negotiations to commence on an FMCT.

## Military Research

Monday, May 5, 2008

10:15 – 12 am

Palais des Nations, Room XXV, Building E

Moderated by **Regina Hagen**  
Coordinator, INESAP

Speaker:

**Dr. Stuart Parkinson**

Executive Director, Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR)



Dr. Stuart Parkinson outlines new research from Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR). This includes statistics from across the industrialised world showing a massive imbalance between government R&D spending for military purposes and that for social and environmental purposes.

**The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of WILPF or the Reaching Critical Will project.**

If you would like to submit an article or graphic to the *News in Review*, please contact the editor:  
info@reachingcriticalwill.org





Mayors for Peace events (cont.)

arms prevention. His message to the Mayors was that they should use all these approaches when they promote nuclear disarmament.

In another part of Red Cross Museum, an exhibition called IN-SECURITY Le Dilemme Nucléaire is open for visitors. The exhibition will continue until 27 July 2008, and is definitely worth a visit! See [www.micr.org](http://www.micr.org) for more information.

**2010-2020: from Survival to Success!**

Mayors for Peace and the Middle Powers Initiative co-organized this event, sponsored by the Mission of Mexico, in order to launch the next phase of the Mayors' 2020 vision campaign for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the fulfillment of the NPT. Mayors for Peace international coordinator Aaron Tovish described the Mayors' Disarmament Protocol, which sets 2015 and 2020 as intermediate and final benchmark dates for the achievement of the total elimination and dismantlement of nuclear weapons. Panelist included: Jim Wurst, program director of the Middle Powers Initiative; Marian Hobbs, co-president of the Parliamentary Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament and former New Zealand Disarmament Minister; CD Ambassador Hamid Eli Rao of India; and Mayor Tadotoshi Akiba of Hiroshima.

Mr. Wurst spoke about the issue of credibility and how to continue promoting the fulfillment of NPT after four decades, in a world where a lot of money is still being spent on nuclear weapons. He stated that the real problem is that some states refuse to live up to the NPT, not the goals themselves. According to Mr. Wurst, improved NPT governance, the commencement of negotiations on disarmament measures, entry into force of the CTBT, and further establishment of nuclear weapon free zones are some measures that must be prioritized in order to improve future outcomes within the NPT framework.

Ms. Hobbs gave a speech which reflected her practice as a disarmament minister with experience in government-to-government negotiations. She expressed conviction that working together with parliamentarians around the world in the interest of nuclear disarmament could create room for new participants within the disarmament movement. She emphasized that broadening discussions is urgent, so that citizens and parliamentarians have a possibility to influence future disarmament outcomes. In this context, Ms. Hobbs highlighted the international movement against cluster munitions as a good example of international campaigning, which has seen civil society and governments closely collaborating toward a common goal.

Representing a non-NPT nuclear weapon possessor, Ambassador Rao reaffirmed that India pays serious attention to the goal of nuclear disarmament, which has great democratic domestic support in India. However, the achievement of this goal requires adequate verification, which is a task that concerns the entire international community. Ambassador Rao referred to the Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan presented to the United Nations General Assembly in 1988, which offered a holistic framework for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. According to Ambassador Rao, there is an urgent need for a non-discriminatory international convention with binding commitments based on international consensus. As a concluding remark, he defended India's nuclear power program, stating that India needs such plants in order to reach its development goals.

Mayor Akiba insisted that abolition is the only solution to the problem with nuclear weapons. In an inspiring speech, he depicted the Kyoto Protocol and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines as symbols of urgent global issues that have been addressed and agreed upon. According to Mayor Akiba, the landmines campaign in particular should be used as a model for change in the disarmament field, as it shows that worldwide public opinion can make a difference. •

**Negotiations for a Nuclear Weapons Convention****A Simulation Game****Saturday, May 3, 2008****10 am - 6 pm**

Ecole Internationale de Genève

La Grande Boissière,

62 route de Chêne (tram #12)

Chair: **Ambassador Alfredo Labbé** of ChileParticipants: **50 youths and university students**

A Simulation Game for negotiations on a Nuclear Weapons Convention for young people. Similar to a Model UN, the young people will negotiate Articles I (General Obligations) and IV (Phases for Implementation) of the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention (UN document A/62/650).





# NEWS IN REVIEW



## What's On

### Today's Calendar of Events

#### Proposals for a Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty and its Verification: Progress Report from the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM)

IPFM and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Where: Room IX

When: 8:00 - 10:00am (breakfast provided)

Contact: Frank von Hippel and Dorothy L. Davis, IPFM

Website: [www.fissilematerials.org](http://www.fissilematerials.org)

#### The US-India Nuclear Deal and the NPT: The Role of Nuclear Weapons States and Non-Weapon States

Where: NGO Room

When: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Contact: Philip White, Abolition 2000 US-India Deal Working Group

Website: [cnic.jp/english/topics/plutonium/proliferation/usindia.html](http://cnic.jp/english/topics/plutonium/proliferation/usindia.html)

#### Working Toward a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Nuclear Threat Initiative, and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Where: Assembly Hall

When: 1:15pm - 2:45pm

Contact: Nicolas Gerard, UNIDIR

Website: [www.nti.org](http://www.nti.org) and [www.unidir.org](http://www.unidir.org)

#### Abolition 2000-Europe General Assembly

Where: NGO Room

When: 3:00 - 5:00pm

Contact: Dominique Lalanne, Abolition 2000-Europe

Website: [www.abolition2000europe.org](http://www.abolition2000europe.org)

#### NWC Simulation Game - Preparations (closed workshop)

Where: NGO Room

When: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact: Regina Hagen, INESAP

Website: [www.inesap.org](http://www.inesap.org)

### On the Weekend

#### Saturday, 3 May

##### Abolition 2000 Annual General Assembly

Where: 1, rue de Varembe, conference room

When: 10:00am - 6:00pm (TBC)

Contact: Anthony Salloum

Website: [www.abolition2000.org](http://www.abolition2000.org)

##### Ban All Nukes generation (BANg) Model Convention

Where: Ecole International de Genève, La Grande Boissière, 62 route de Chêne, 1208 Genève

When: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Contact: Nina Eisenhardt, BANg

Website: [www.geneva.bang-europe.org](http://www.geneva.bang-europe.org)

#### Sunday, 4 May

##### Organizing for a Return to the International Court of Justice on the Nuclear Disarmament Obligation

Where: 1, rue de Varembe, conference room

When: 10:00am - 3:00pm

Contact: John Burroughs, International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms and World Court Project to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

Website: [www.lcnp.org](http://www.lcnp.org)

## Nuclear Wordsearch

n p b e t e l a n e s r a  
m l u r s u a y o t d m d  
o u a m n g s e i e a e f  
u t t t o o e d t a p a u  
s o i f i l s v n l c u i  
s n o i t a n d e t i n u  
i i l s c c r t v r v h n  
o u a s e e e g n r i s c  
o m u i p d i o o h a f e  
l c n l s e s i c b m l y  
a a c e n t r i f u g e t  
g d h c i g e t a r t s n  
w a r h e a d s c c t a p

Decalogue  
Strategic  
Convention  
Centrifuge  
Inspections  
Warheads  
Launch  
ICBM  
United Nations  
Arsenal  
START  
Fissile  
Verify  
Depleted  
Plutonium

See page 7 for the answers to yesterday's crossword puzzle and a CRYPTOQUOTE puzzle for the weekend.