



NPT NEWS IN REVIEW

Civil society perspectives on the 2013 nuclear Non-Proliferation
Treaty Preparatory Committee 22 April–3 May 2013



Reaching Critical Will

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

See reachingcriticalwill.org for information, statements, papers, reports, archived NPT News in Reviews, and more from the NPT.

Editorial: Rejecting the strategy of denial

Ray Acheson | *Reaching Critical Will of WILPF*

Outside of the Assembly Hall, delegates from the nuclear weapon states say that they recognize the humanitarian and environmental devastation caused by the use of nuclear weapons. They say that these consequences are so well known there is no longer any point in discussing them. In public, they say nothing. The interventions delivered by the five recognized NPT nuclear weapon states on Monday did not include any references to this topic. However, the majority of other delegations do want to talk about it, not least because it is the most realistic way to address nuclear weapons.

While possessors or those sheltering under nuclear alliances prefer to discuss their weapons in the abstract, as “deterrents” or as instruments of “national security,” the rest of us see these weapons for what they really are: instruments of death, destruction, manipulation, injustice. This is why 127 governments came to Oslo, Norway in early March. Following on from the discussion that began in Oslo, countless delegations at this PrepCom have expressed concern with the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. A joint statement is being prepared on this subject as well. “We cannot approach nuclear weapons through a strategy of denial,” argued Norwegian Ambassador Kongstad. “As long as the probability of a nuclear weapons detonation exists... it must be a humanitarian concern.” Likewise, Ambassador Otachi of Kenya argued that the policy of nuclear “deterrence” is the equivalent of threatening mass extinction.

Yet this basic understanding of the risks of nuclear weapons seems to have evaporated from the consciousness of those possessing the weapons. In its opening address, the US delegation relayed US Secretary of State John Kerry's comment that the NPT was “conceived in a different era when the hands of the Doomsday Clock pointed precariously towards disaster.” Yet the Doomsday Clock, which was set at 7 minutes to midnight in 1968 when the NPT was negotiated, now sits at 5 minutes to midnight.

The *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, which maintains the clock, explained that one of the biggest reasons for moving the clock closer to midnight in 2012 was the lack of progress on nuclear disarmament. Over the last two days, many governments have expressed their disappointment and frustration with this lack of tangible progress on nuclear disarmament. The delegations of Brazil and Ireland argued that while the NPT's non-proliferation provisions have successfully prevented acquisition of nuclear weapons, the treaty's disarmament provision has not achieved its objective. However, Ambassador Guerreiro of Brazil expressed confidence that the nuclear weapon states “will sooner or later” realize that it is in their security interest to live in a world free of nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately, 65 years after the first nuclear weapon test, those who possess nuclear weapons do not seem to have reached this conclusion. They seem more convinced than ever that nuclear weapons protect their interests. UK prime minister David Cameron's response to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's recent nuclear weapon test was to emphasize the need for retaining its arsenal, arguing it would be “foolish to leave Britain defenceless”.

In contrast, Ireland's Ambassador Corr argued, “Progress on disarmament would remove any possible perceived incentive for a State to respond to a nuclear weapons capability by developing its own retaliatory capability.” He called on the nuclear weapon states to instead engage in bilateral and multilateral negotiations for elimination of their arsenals. And, as Malaysian Ambassador Haniff noted, waiting on the nuclear weapon states to fulfill their commitments does not preclude us from pursuing nuclear disarmament. The majority of the world's citizens, as well as the majority of their governments, believe that nuclear weapons bring insecurity, not protection. It's time to reject the strategy of denial and take concrete action now address this threat once and for all. •

Side event report: Modernization and new weapon systems*Sofia Tuvestad | WILPF Sweden*

The International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES) arranged this side event in cooperation with the International Peace Bureau (IPB) as well as the World Future Council (WFC). Andrew Lichterman (Western States Legal Foundation) and Reiner Braun (IALANA/INES) were on the panel and Ingeborg Breines from IPB chaired the discussion.

Ingeborg Breines opened the event by addressing the issue of military spending. Why are we not able to stop the misuse of resources, she asked, when we should be investing in social and sustainable development? Newly released data from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) shows military expenditure totalled US\$1.75 trillion in 2012, implying a fall of 0.5 per cent in real terms compared to 2011. However, as the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) said in a press release last week, spending on nuclear weapons remain exceptionally high. Nine states spend over US\$100 billion per year on their nuclear weapons, while projections indicate that by 2015 about one billion people will be living on an income of less than US\$1.25 per day (the World Bank's measure of extreme poverty).

Even if the numbers on military spending went down in 2012, there are indeed no guarantees that this reflects the beginning of a real disarmament process, said Breines. Rather on the contrary, the danger of nuclear war appears to be on the rise again, while the disarmament discourse has little trace of good faith negotiations, said Andrew Lichterman. Addressing the seemingly unstoppable power of the military-industrial complex, Lichterman argued that while labelling nuclear weapons as useless or outdated might work for advocacy arguments, it gives little analytical insights as to why these weapons are still here. We need to look at how technology development drives social change, he continued, pointing towards the close inter-linkages between war-making and capital accumulation.

As Reaching Critical Will argues in its newly released report "Still assuring destruction forever" on modernization of nuclear arsenals, a small number of states have decided that in the midst crisis, they will retain nuclear weapons for "security". China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, India, Israel, Pakistan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States are preparing to spend an estimated US\$1 trillion on nuclear weapons over the next decade. These weapons are used as political tools to manipulate international relations, and in addition to detract from the resources available to tackle ecological, economic, and energy crises, the nuclear discourse

continuously reinforces the institutions that benefit from weapons and war.

Lichterman wrote the chapter on US modernization for that publication, in which he notes that there is little public debate about US nuclear weapon policies or spending in the United States. In order to address the misuse of resources, Lichterman argued, civil society should work for the creation of an independent disarmament discourse that would have the potential to benefit the absolute majority of people all over the world whose interests or needs are certainly not being met by the military-industrial complex.

Reiner Braun spoke on "the world debates over drones" that is taking place, as these weapons become a tool of "personalized 'surgical' warfare". People are excluded from the decision-making chains and become dependent on (an imperfect) technology, said Braun, arguing that this is only an intermediate step towards more autonomous systems and weapons. He thus very timely touched upon the development of fully autonomous weapons, or "killer robots," an issue that is addressed in a new international campaign launched at the day of the event. Human Rights Watch, Article 36, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom are amongst the organisations backing the new Campaign to Ban Killer Robots, setting out to ban the kind of fully autonomous weapons that are in development in several countries and could be deployed within the next couple of decades (see www.stopkiller-robots.org). •

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Reaching Critical Will
 A programme of the Women's International
 League for Peace and Freedom

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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 programme.



Side event report: Practical steps towards transparency in nuclear disarmament

Benedetta Cavagna di Gualdana | *Reaching Critical Will of WILPF*

This side event was organized by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). It featured Ambassador Mari Amano of Japan, Pavel Podvig of UNIDIR, and Phillip Shell and Tamara Patton of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

Ambassador Amano focused his opening remarks on the importance of transparency for nuclear disarmament. He drew attention to a proposal from 2008, where Japan suggested that the nuclear weapon states (NWS) should make all nuclear disarmament measures public, such as progress on reductions of stockpiles, deployed warheads, and delivery systems. According to Ambassador Amano, transparency in disarmament processes is crucial in order to establish trust.

Dr. Podvig talked about a project called “A new START model for transparency in nuclear disarmament”. The project was inspired by the Action 21 of the 2010 NPT Action Plan, which calls for the NWS to develop a standard reporting form. According to Dr. Podvig, there have been improvements in the level of transparency amongst the NWS, especially for the United States and Russia through the New START process. However, Dr. Podvig explained that definitions of warheads still vary between countries, making transparency more difficult. He suggested that the defini-

tion of a warhead in New START could be applied to other NWS as well.

Phillip Schell then spoke about the complexity of defining intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM), and heavy bombers in an international environment. As an example, he pointed out that China has its own way to define the different typologies of bombs, which makes it difficult to understand the quantities of its nuclear arsenal. Mr. Shell stated that transparency is a crucial measure because it would help increase confidence between parties and encourage dialogue and cooperation.

Finally, Tamara Patton explained how the use of open source resources to help verify information and increase transparency. Due to existing US policy on this topic, it is possible to map all its continental nuclear facilities in Europe. In addition to finding such facilities through, for example, Google Earth, Ms. Patton noted that it is now possible to follow a launch in France of a M51 testing on YouTube. She highlighted that even if China has revealed less information about its arsenal compared to the other NWS, it is improving and it is making more information public. •



Side event report: The “Teutates” Treaties between the UK and France*Sofia Tuvestad | WILPF Sweden*

This side event was arranged by Christian CND (UK), Abolition 2000 (France), and Armes nucléaires STOP (France). The panel included Ambassador Jo Adamson, UK Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament; Ambassador Jean-Hugues Simon-Michel, France Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament; Peter Burt, Director at Nuclear Information Service UK; and Dominique Lalanne from Abolition 2000 (France). Caroline Gilbert from Christian CND chaired the discussion.

As part of their 2010 agreement on bilateral defence and security cooperation, France and the UK have agreed on a joint nuclear weapons research programme to be carried out during the next 50 years. Ensuring safety and reliability, improving expertise in countering nuclear terrorism, as well as saving costs for nuclear research, are some of the expected results from this “sub-treaty” on nuclear stockpile stewardship. The panel addressed the content and possible implications of the joint programme, as well as its compliance with the NPT and the CTBT.

Peter Burt gave a presentation on facts and figures of the nuclear research sub-treaty. By modelling performance of nuclear weapons, he said, the UK and France will be able to keep undertaking nuclear research without conducting the kind of testing they are obliged to refrain from as signatories of the CTBT. Research and development will be carried out at two radiographic and hydrodynamic facilities; at the division of military applications of the Commissariat à l’énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives in Valduc (experiments on warhead materials and parts); as well as at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (development of radiographic analytical equipment to be used in experiments in Valduc). The facilities are planned to be operational from 2015, and thereafter developed step-by-step.

While the set-up costs for the joint nuclear research programme will be significant, and the total costs are expected to add up to hundreds of millions Euro, the project is still expected to save the UK and France substantial costs in the longer term. The kind of hydrodynamics research that will be undertaken builds on the use of explosives, or extremely high power X-rays, enabling researchers to test properties of materials at high temperature and pressure. Researchers can thus analyse the data and model how a component or warhead would behave during a real nuclear explosion.

The Q & A centred largely on whether France and the UK are respecting their obligations under the NPT and the CTBT in their development of new nuclear

research facilities and experiments. Members of the audience raised concerns about the risk of this long-term programme having a negative impact on possibilities for disarmament. Ambassador Adamson replied that France and the UK are acting in line with existing international obligations, as the nuclear research programme is about “responding to safety responsibilities” and the testing experiments will not go against the provisions of the CTBT. In response to questions on the risk of halting disarmament, and contradicting article VI of the NPT, Ambassador Adamson said that while the UK is committed to the long-term goal of disarmament, maintaining deterrence is “fully consistent” with their obligations under the NPT, pointing as well to the warhead reductions that the UK has carried out.

However, as Peter Burt pointed out, conducting a joint nuclear research programme on the safety and liability of your nuclear weapons basically means you are ensuring these weapons function the way they are designed to. And needless to say, a “well-functioning” nuclear weapon will have devastating and unacceptable humanitarian consequences if ever used, which should lead nuclear weapon states towards disarmament rather than new testing experiments. •



Side event report: Reducing the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines

Katherine Prizeman | *Global Action to Prevent War*

The Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), a cross-regional group of ten countries convened at the Ministerial level, hosted a panel discussion on the topic “Reducing the role nuclear weapons in military doctrines.” NPDI focuses on non-proliferation and disarmament steps through a range of fora. Such measures have included transparency and accountability, fissile materials, and verification as well as other initiatives to take forward the specific actions contained in the 2010 NPT Action Plan adopted at the previous Review Conference.

Three panelists, Dr. George Perkovich, Dr. Sergey Rogov, and Dr. Bruno Tertrais, presented varying opinions on the feasibility of reducing the role of nuclear weapons in national military doctrine and how this doctrine relates to the global discussion on nuclear military posturing. They questioned the level of importance and impact of nuclear military doctrine in policymaking, as well as how to reinforce the positive in order to move nuclear weapons states towards zero reliance on these weapons. They also explored a wide range of possible doctrines, from no first use and unambiguous negative security assurances (NSAs) to a broader retaliatory posture or possibility of massive preemptive nuclear strike. While the panelists represented varying degrees of credulity in ending nuclear “deterrence” and reducing the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines, it is clear that continued reliance on such weapons in these policies will only further inhibit the goal of nuclear abolition.

Professor Gareth Evans, Chancellor of the Australian National University, provided an overview of the nuclear postures of the nuclear weapon possessing states. He noted that China represents the so-called “gold standard” doctrine with a clear-cut no first use policy and unconditional NSAs with none of the other nuclear states adopting comparable policies. Moreover, he noted that India has embraced a no first use policy and Pakistan has embraced NSAs. With regards to the two largest nuclear arms possessors, Professor Evans noted that any change in nuclear posture since the start of the Obama administration has been much more aspirational than substantive, while the Russian government’s policy covers the use of nuclear weapons against any weapon of mass destruction attack on it or its allies as well as a conventional attack under which its existence is threatened. Professor Evans recommended that NPDI formally endorse a sole purpose posture, i.e. that nuclear weapons only be used to deter a nuclear attack, especially given the fact that seven of NPDI member states operate under the US nuclear umbrella.

The presentations from Drs. Perkovich and Dr. Rogov focused mainly on the policies of the US and Russia, respectively. Dr. Perkovich noted that the role of nuclear weapons in US military doctrine is related primarily to the “real need” of the US to protect allies to which it is committed. He offered the examples of Estonia and the Republic of Korea, but did welcome the role of NPDI in initiating an international conversation on some standard for nuclear-armed states (although not necessarily a sole purpose posture). During his remarks, Dr. Rogov spoke of the changing security landscape due in large part to a changing multipolarity as well as new non-nuclear strategic means such as cyber-weapons. Dr. Rogov seemed less convinced of a possible role for NPDI in reducing the role of nuclear weapons in doctrines in the context of the US and Russia. He noted that he believed it very unlikely that these states would go below 1,000 warheads if other nuclear-armed states did not engage in a process similar to the START agreements. Dr. Tertrais made the argument that nuclear “deterrence” would have to be substituted for another type of weapon, for example cyber weapons, and went so far as to say that any reduction of the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines could make nuclear disarmament more difficult. He concluded that reducing the role of nuclear weapons would be difficult and perhaps not a worthwhile endeavor as once a government allows for caveats in nuclear “deterrence” it inherently affects the credibility of the principle writ large.

While some of the panelists indicated that reducing the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines would be futile or even detrimental to the larger nuclear disarmament objective, this is an incorrect conclusion. If nuclear-armed states are genuinely committed to nuclear disarmament, continued reliance on nuclear weapons in military and security policies is simply incompatible with this objective. Stated military doctrine may not always be exactly in line with policymaking, but reducing the role of these weapons in stated doctrine certainly represents an important part of reducing the overall reliance on nuclear weapons and the perceived military “prestige” that goes along with possessing them. •





IPFM
INTERNATIONAL PANEL
ON FISSILE MATERIALS

Increasing Transparency of Nuclear-warhead and Fissile-material Stocks as a Step toward Disarmament

A Briefing by the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM)

Speakers: Zia Mian
Pavel Podvig
Frank von Hippel

The IPFM will present proposals for how nuclear weapon states could make progress towards meeting their obligations under the “Action Plan on Nuclear Disarmament” agreed in the 2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference by increasing the transparency of their nuclear-warhead and fissile-material stocks.

**Wednesday, May 24, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
Room VI, Palais des Nations, United Nations, Geneva**



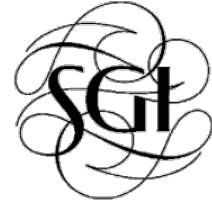
Side event report: *The Ultimate Wish: Ending the Nuclear Age*

Gabriella Irsten | *Reaching Critical Will* of WILPF

The Ultimate Wish: Ending the Nuclear Age is a film directed by the three-time Oscar nominee Robert Richter. It was presented at the NPT by the Nagasaki Youth Delegation. The film focuses on the stories of Nagasaki and Fukushima survivors. Through their stories, the links between nuclear weapons and nuclear power are revealed. The film also features international experts discussing the justification of nuclear weapons, the post-cold war situation, the link between nuclear power and nuclear weapons, and other related topics.

The film included footage from the United States when Japan surrendered in the Second World War, depicting how the nuclear bomb was portrayed as a peace tool. The film also questions the role that the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bomb had on Japan's decision to surrender. Research has shown that the two bombs dropped on Japan by the US did not significantly influence the Japan but that it rather was the declaration of war from the Soviet Union that that led Japan to surrender.

The film clearly showed that the nuclear issue is personal for all and should therefore not be treated as an abstract matter. It demonstrates the importance and relevance of the current growing debate about the humanitarian consequence of nuclear weapons. The Hibakusha, the survivors of the atomic bombings in Japan, will soon all be gone and with them the human experience of these devastation consequences. •



Nuclear Abolition: A Time for Boldness and Hope

Friday 26 April 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
NGO Room (Room XVI)

The Non-Proliferation Treaty has been in force for 43 years, yet there are still nearly 20,000 nuclear weapons in the world. Panelists will discuss the need for civil society and



governments to engage in bold initiatives that will make nuclear disarmament a reality, and the importance of not losing hope in working for nuclear disarmament.

Speakers on the panel include:

David Krieger, NAPF President
Kimiki Kawai, SGI Program Director, Peace Affairs
Alice Slater, NAPF New York Director
Jean-Marie Matagne, ACDN
Mayra Castro, BANG

CIVIL SOCIETY PRESENTATIONS TO THE NPT PREPCOM!

WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL 2013 | 10:00-13:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL

Keynote speaker

Ward Wilson, author of *Five Myths about Nuclear Weapons*

Panel event featuring:

Tim Wright, ICAN Australia (moderator)
Beatrice Fihn, Reaching Critical Will of WILPF
Cesar Jaramillo, Project Ploughshares
Robert Mtonga, IPPNW Zambia
Katherine Prizeman, Global Action to Prevent War

Statements from

Hibakusha, Youth Delegates, Mayors, Parliamentarian



News in Brief*Beatrice Fihn, Mia Gandenberg, Gabriella Irsten, and Ray Acheson | Reaching Critical Will of WILPF***Disarmament**

- Brazil, Iran, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, and Mexico, among others, expressed concern with the slow progress in nuclear disarmament.
- Belarus, Ecuador, Ireland, Malaysia, and Sweden expressed concerns about the continued high-alert levels of nuclear weapons.
- Iran, Kazakhstan, Malaysia called for negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention.
- NPDI, Canada, Ireland, Malaysia, and Netherlands called for NWS to agree on a reporting form.
- NPDI, Denmark, Ecuador, Iran, Ireland, Netherlands, and Qatar called for reducing the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines.
- NPDI and Netherlands urged the inclusion of non-strategic weapons in any future disarmament processes.
- Iran called the development of missile defence, the nuclear agreement between the UK and France, and the sale of a submarine from Germany to Israel violations of the NPT.
- Netherlands welcomed establishment of the open-ended working group on nuclear disarmament.
- Belarus, Iran, and Lesotho expressed concerns over nuclear weapon modernization programmes.

Humanitarian consequences

- Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Iran, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, NPDI, Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden expressed concern with the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.
- Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Ireland, Kenya, and Norway welcomed Oslo and Mexico conferences.
- Norway reported from the Oslo conference of 4-5 March, emphasizing the conclusion no state or international body could address the immediate humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation in any meaningful way.
- Brazil and Ireland said P5 absence from Oslo was missed opportunity and encouraged them to participate.
- Denmark said this focus will not undermine multilateral or bilateral nuclear disarmament mechanisms or reinterpret IHL.

- Jordan said the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be contrary to IHL while Kazakhstan also included “development and production” as incompatible with such laws.

Non-Proliferation

- Ireland highlighted that progress on nuclear disarmament would remove incentives for any states wanting to develop nuclear capabilities.
- Kenya said nuclear weapon use provides a strong incentive for proliferation.
- Canada, Netherlands, and Sweden welcomed the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on FMCT.
- Canada called on states in South Asia to declare a moratorium to the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons.

Iran

- NPDI, Belgium, Denmark, and Netherlands regretted the lack of advancement in the latest E3+3 meeting and/or urged Iran to respond seriously to the offer put on the table by the E3+3.
- Iran argued it was “paying heavy price” for its membership and full commitment to the NPT and noted that others outside the treaty are exempted from any inspection and sanctions, but still are receiving full nuclear cooperation of Western countries.

DPRK

- Denmark, Ireland, NPDI, Netherlands, Brazil, Spain, Kyrgyz Republic, Belgium, Canada, the Republic of Korea, and Mexico condemned the DPRK’s nuclear test and called on the DPRK to comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions.
- Ireland and Lesotho highlighted the connections between the DPRK’s interest in nuclear weapons and the myth of nuclear deterrence.

Middle East WMD free zone (MEWMDFZ)

- Lesotho, Denmark, Malaysia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, the NPDI, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ecuador, Spain, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Ukraine, Costa Rica, Nigeria, and Chile expressed disappointment with the failure to hold the MEWMDFZ.
- Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, NPDI, Brazil, Kyrgyzstan, Canada, and Lesotho expressed support for continued work on preparing for the conference.
- Iran believed the “unilateral decision” by the US to postpone the conference was a setback to the NPT.

continued on next page

Side event report: Advances in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education

Anina Dalbert | *Reaching Critical Will of WILPF*

This side event took place at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and was co-organized by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Ban All Nuclear generations, and the Graduate Institute Student Association.

Testimonies of Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) Mr. Fujimori Toshiki and Mr. Kunihiro Sakuma of the Japan Confederation of A-and H- Bomb Sufferers' Organization (Nihon Hidankyo) strongly opened this event. Mr. Fujimori was a four-month-old baby when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 and it is a miracle that he survived the bombing and the head injuries from which he suffered as a consequence. From his seven family members, only one of his sisters and he are still alive. All others either died from the blast or later on died of cancer, presumably caused by the exposure to the radiation.

Mr. Kunihiro was very young himself, too. He and his family were further away from ground zero. However, on their way to a shelter they were exposed to the black rain from the radioactive dust shortly after the explosion. As a result of this, he suffered from serious liver and kidney dysfunction a few years later and his mother from breast cancer and various other diseases.

Their powerful messages afterwards were very similar. They strongly condemned nuclear weapons and stressed that they cannot coexist with human beings. Both stressed that passing on the A-bomb experience of the Hibakusha is an essential element in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education. The average age of the survivors is over 78, so not many will still have the chance to learn directly from the Hibakusha about their horrible experience. The Nihon Hidankyo organization and the Hibakusha demand the end of all nuclear weapons immediately. All speakers agreed that we must keep spreading the message of Hibakusha.

Mr. Hiroshi Taka, Representative Director of the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo), highlighted that many Japanese were exposed to the atomic bombs, that the people from the Marshall Islands experienced radiation due to nuclear tests, and that many Japanese also suffered from the Fukushima disaster. He said this has led to a very strong demand from Japanese civil society to abolish all nuclear weapons. Even though these weapons are still a tremendous danger and exist in great quantity, Mr. Hiroshi is convinced that there is an historic momentum now. In his opinion, the focus on humanitarian consequences is a step in the right direction.

The final panelists, Mr. Alyn Ware, Director of Basel Peace Office, and Dr. William Potter, Founding Director James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, touched upon some of their experience with disarmament and non-proliferation education. They said that all governments have an obligation to implement the General Assembly resolution on this topic. States are also asked to report back to the UN on disarmament education, but unfortunately no more than ten fulfilled that obligation last year, which was the most ever.

The message of the side event was clear: more efforts are needed to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education. Simulating disarmament negotiations was mentioned as one of the very effective and useful tools to do so.

Ms. Angela Kane, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, was also present and stressed the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation in the closing remarks of the event. •

News in Brief, continued

Nuclear testing

- Kazakhstan highlighted the International Day against Nuclear Tests and the ATOM project.
- Iran criticized sub-critical nuclear testing.

Nuclear weapon free zones (NWFZ)

- Denmark supported an Arctic WMD free zone.
- Kazakhstan, Nigeria, and Thailand urged NWS to sign relevant protocols to their respective NWFZ treaties.

Nuclear energy

- Kenya said the consequences of an accident at a nuclear power plant could also be a humanitarian catastrophe.

Export control

- The Netherlands expressed support for an international export mechanism adopted by all countries in order to maintain appropriate and effective international control for nuclear and related dual use goods.

Civil Society

- Malaysia, Lithuania, Netherlands, and NPDI recognized the importance of civil society participation in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. •





NOW AVAILABLE! PICK UP YOUR COPY TODAY OUTSIDE THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Reaching Critical Will has published a new report on nuclear weapon modernization, *Still assuring destruction forever*.

All nuclear-armed states have plans to modernize their nuclear weapons, delivery systems, and related infrastructure. They will spend billions of dollars over the next few years extending the lives of these weapons of terror.

In 2012, Reaching Critical Will published the first report on global nuclear weapon modernization. Non-governmental researchers and analysts, leading and knowledgeable experts about nuclear weapons programmes and policies, provided information on the plans of China (Hui Zhang), France (Hans Kristensen), India (M.V. Ramana), Israel (Merav Datan), Pakistan (Zia Mian), Russia (Pavel Podvig), the United Kingdom (John Ainslie), and the United States (Andrew Lichterman). *Still assuring destruction forever* provides an update of the summaries of each of the countries covered by the 2012 report.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

When	What	Where	Who
7:45	Interfaith prayer vigil	Pregny Gate	Christian CND
8:00-8:50	Abolition 2000	Room XVI	Abolition 2000
9:00-9:50	Government briefing for civil society: Costa Rica	Room XVI	Reaching Critical Will
10:00-13:00	Civil society presentations	Assembly Hall	
10:00-13:00	Strategy of the anti-nuclear weapons movement	Room XVI	IALANA, INES, IPB
13:15-14:45	Civil society's role in banning nuclear weapons	Room XVI	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)
13:15-14:45	Reducing alert rates of nuclear weapons	Assembly Hall	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
13:15-14:45	Joint US/Russia New START Implementation Briefing	Room XI	Bureau of Arms Control, Verification and Compliance, US Department of State
15:00-18:00	Plenary: Cluster one	Assembly Hall	
15:30-17:30	Increasing transparency of nuclear-warhead and fissile-material stocks as a step toward disarmament	Room XVI	International Panel on Fissile Materials
18:00-19:00	Preparing for simulated negotiations of a nuclear-weapons convention	Room XVI	Regina Hagen