May 2, 2005 No.1 a project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

## News in Review

Civil society perspectives on the Seventh Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty May 2-27, 2005

#### The World Is Watching

- Susi Snyder and Rhianna Tyson, WILPF

Today at the United Nations, high-level officials from across the globe will open the seventh Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), widely regarded as one of the most crucial reviews in the Treaty's 35-year-long history.

Close to 2,000 non-governmental organizational (NGO) representatives have registered for this Conference, dwarfing the number of those who attended the past Preparatory Committee conferences and even the 2000 Review Conference. These organizations are truly representative of civil society, comprising women, youth, hibakusha (atomic survivors), mayors, educators, physicians, indigenous people, grassroots organizers, nuclear lab watchers, think tank analysts, national lobbyists and any other group fearful of the wrath wrought by the nuclear age. They have come in droves to be the living proof that the world wants complete, irreversible, verifiable nuclear disarmament. Civil society attention to the efforts undertaken at this Review is tremendous, both in New

York and around the world. Those not able to come to New York are closely watching to see what happens- will there be a balanced outcome document, or will this Review Conference dissipate into an ineffective talk shop, paralyzed with inaction like so much of the international disarmament machinery?

Undoubtedly, "compliance" will be the most oft-heard word in the halls of the UN this year. It is understood that the US is likely to turn every discussion into one on Iran's and other Non-Nuclear Weapon States' (NNWS) compliance with the non-proliferation obligations, spelled out in Article II of the Treaty. Meanwhile, NNWS, impatient with the lack of progress on the disarmament front, will vigilantly highlight the need for Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) to comply with their disarmament obligations, articulated in Article VI. If a Final Document is to be reached, all States parties, led by the very capable President of the Review Conference, Ambassador Sergio Q. Duarte of Brazil, must strike a balance be-

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#### NPT by the Numbers

- 1,783: approximate number of NGO representatives registered for the 7th Review Conference
- 183: countries which do not possess nuclear weapons
- 60: years since the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings
- 35: years the NPT has been in force
- 5: number of States with a confirmed nuclear capability
- 1: number of States that have withdrawn from the NPT
- **0**: time remaining for NPT States parties to listen to the demand of the people and abolish nuclear weapons



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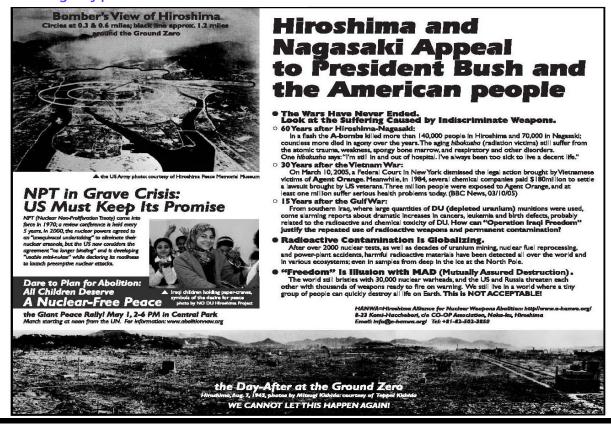
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If you would like to submit an article or graphic to the *News in Review*, contact the Editor.

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This advert was originally published in the New York Times.



Workshop organized by Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA) & NO DU Hiroshima Project

Rethinking "Radiation"
Inside and Out:
From HiroshimaNagasaki to Iraq

May 4, 3-6 pm Conference Room E This workshop aims to shed new light on the hazardous effects of radiation "inside and out": that is, thoroughly and taking into consideration not only "external radiation" but also "internal radiation" that has come to the fore in the controversies over the DU weapons.

Participants include:

**Dr. Helen Caldicott** (President, NPRI= Nuclear Policy Research Institute)

**Dr. Rosalie Bertell** (Former President, IICPH=International Institute of Concerns for Public Health)

**Dr. Jawad Al-Ali** (Director of the Cancer Center at the Basrah Teaching Hospital, Iraq)

Ms. Haruko Moritaki (Co-Director, HANWA)

**Dr. Katsumi Furitsu** (radiologist, Campaign Against Radiation Exposure)

Mr. Maki Sato (CADU-Japan)

Dr. Mitsuo Okamoto (Co-Director, HANWA)

**Dr. Nobuo Kazashi** (workshop's coordinator: Director, NO DU Hiroshima Project)

In addition, three leading visual journalists in Japan, Mr. Takashi Morizumi, Mr. Naomi Toyoda, and Ms. Hiromi Kamanaka, will make a brief introduction of their pioneering works on the nuclear and DU problems.

http://e-hanwa.org/ http://www.nodu-hiroshima.org/

## Appeal of Hiroshima Peace Delegation to the NPT Review Conference: Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Bombing

Hiroshima and Nagasaki will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Atomic Bombing on August 6th this year. When the late Pope John Paul II visited Hiroshima in 1981, he said: "To think about Hiroshima is to deny a nuclear war". Has humanity thought seriously about Hiroshima, learned a real lesson from the Atomic Inferno, and succeeded in building a peaceful global society without nuclear weapons? Unfortunately, the answer is NO. On the contrary, the United States and the Soviet Union, joined by other big powers, took part in the nuclear arms race accumulating more than 69,000 nuclear warheads by 1986. True, the nuclear arms race has subsided since the end of the Cold War, and the total number of nuclear warheads has decreased, yet the Green Earth is still surrounded by more than 30,000 nuclear warheads as of early summer

In addition, since the 9/11 incident the Bush administration has become ever more dependent on nuclear weapons under the pretext of "war on terror" and has started developing usable mini-nukes such as earthpenetrating bunker-busters. As if to underscore such a project, they have made an open unhesitating declaration to resume nuclear experiments, which have ceased since 1992. The US Senate's refusal to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the one-sided American abrogation of the ABM Treaty with Russia clearly shows the Bush administration's posture of heavily relying on nuclear weapons. This all contradicts the ground swell of history toward the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Another grave concern of ours is the militarization of space, i.e. taking up once more the Strategic Defense Initiative originally proposed by President Reagan. This project is a sheer hallucination, and it was once pronounced dead, but the Bush admini-

stration is resuscitating the ghost. The project has nothing to do with the peace and security of the world, or even that of the American people. Although it may bring even greater profits to the US weapons industries, it will be worse than useless for Americans and world citizens. Moreover, as the weaponization of space involves the use of plutonium, a single accident may cause irreparable disaster for all life on earth.

Also, according to Iragi medical doctors who visited Hiroshima a few times before the Iraq War serious health problems are bedeviling a great number of people in Iraq (and in former Yugoslavia) as the possible result of the use of depleted uranium (DU) weapons. In these areas where chemically poisonous and radioactive DU weapons were used by American and British troops, macabre diseases have been spreading, and particularly among children, there are countless cases of leukemia and cancers. At the same time, it is possible that exposure to the radioactive pollution caused by weapons made from depleted uranium may have caused serious health hazards suffered by the American and European soldiers alike who took part in military operations in these areas, and serious abnormalities in some of their children.

Certainly, we cannot tolerate terrorism of any kind. In particular, we would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the victims and the bereaved of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. As citizens of Hiroshima we are sensitive enough to share the sorrow of the family members who lost their loved ones. At the same time, however, what we would like to share is that terrorism has to be addressed not by military retaliation, but by police and legal institutions reinforced by international solidarity. Violent retaliatory actions solve nothing but rather increase terrorism. In fact, the present situation in Iraq vividly illustrates the point.

The world remembers the humanitarian aid by the US at a time when people were suffering from the devastation brought on by WW II. Neither have we forgotten the fair and generous economic policy of the US, which helped Germany and Japan recover from misery and achieve the economic miracle. In contrast, however, we deplore that the unilateral behavior of the Bush administration, ignoring the UN and deriding international law, in the last four and half years has not only increased violence and terrorism in the world but significantly impaired the prestige of the US as the champion of democracy.

We, the hibakusha and citizens of Hiroshima, desire a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, wars, and terrorism. As we are visiting New York city at this occasion of the Review Conference of the Non Proliferation Treaty, we strongly urge that all nuclear weapons states critically reflect on their poor records of implementing the "unequivocal undertaking" of nuclear disarmament agreed upon in 2000. We implore you to reconfirm the commitment to make every effort to accomplish substantial nuclear disarmament by the Review Conference of the NPT in 2010.

We dare to say that the policy of nuclear deterrence is nothing but "state terrorism" with the weapons of the devil and Hiroshima cannot accept this evil of "state terrorism". It would be impossible to prevent the appearance of new nuclear weapon states and to maintain the NPT regime as long as a group of specific states claim the legitimacy of keeping nuclear weapons in a world where nations, big or small, ought to be treated equally under international law. Are these "privileged" nations who advocate the evil of "state terrorism" qualified to criticize the evil of the terrorists? We

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#### Who's Who: The Netherlands' Chris Sanders

1. Many analysts and experts are saying that the NPT is at its greatest crisis in history. Do you agree with that statement? Why or why not?

Although there is no denying the fact that the NPT RevCon is facing serious and difficult problems, The Netherlands believes that the NPT will remain the cornerstone of the non-proliferation regime and the foundation for all other initiatives against the proliferation of nuclear weapons (e.g. export-controls, P.S. I.). The fact that the last session of the PrepCom failed to make any substantive recommendations to the RevCon, does not necessarily mean that the RevCon will fail. We faced a similar challenge in 2000.

## 2. What is the greatest priority for your delegation at this Conference?

Transparency and accountability are very important issues for The Netherlands, but of course we take a broad look at all the interrelated subjects, among which there should be a good balance. We want to make progress on all outstanding matters and we recognise that different countries have different interests. We are ready to work in a spirit of compromise in order to achieve the best possible outcome for all member states.

# 3. In your view, what would be the best outcome of the Conference? The worst?

The best outcome in the view of The Netherlands would be an outcome that takes into account all different interests. We think this can be achieved if the following conditions' are met, preferably in a Final Document that is adopted by consensus:

- reconfirmation of the NPT as the cornerstone of the global system of non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and of the central role of the IAEA in this regard.
- reconfirmation of the 'Principles and Objectives' and the '13 practical steps', emphasising the agreements



"An outcome that will not reconfirm the agreements of 2000-and take into account new developments since—would in our view be a serious setback to the NPT."

made at the RevCon 2000 preventing nuclear proliferation and promoting nuclear disarmament.

– new agreements to tackle the threat of (clandestine) nuclear weapon programmes.

An outcome that will not reconfirm the agreements of the RevCon 2000 and take into account new developments that have occurred since 2000, would in our view be a serious setback to the NPT.

4. In your view, how can NGOs be more effective at these NPT meetings?

The Netherlands highly values the work of NGO's, not only in the context of the RevCon but in all disarmament and humanitarian subjects. NGO's already play a very effective role and we would certainly like to involve them as much as possible in our work. At the upcoming RevCon there will be many briefings by the NGO's. The effectiveness of NGO's might even be further enhanced by offering (also) a more concise programme in order to allow not only large delegations, but also smaller delegations to take part in the discussions.

## 5. How did you get interested in disarmament and non-proliferation issues?

I have been interested in international security since my years at university in the sixties in Amsterdam. Throughout my career I have dealt with those issues, disarmament and non-proliferation as part of the broader picture of international security. I am convinced that security is the primary value for human beings, without which other ambitions and challenges cannot be adequately pursued.

Chris Sanders is the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva. You can contact him at the Mission in New York at: netherlands@un.int, or by telephone at (212) 697-5547, or by fax at: (212) 370-1954.

www.reachingcriticalwill.org

#### What's On: Calendar of Events for Today

Daily morning interfaith prayer vigil

Where: Ralph Bunche Park, 42nd Street, 1st Avenue

When: May 2-6, 7:30 AM

Contact: Caroline Gilbert, Christian Campaign for Nu-

clear Disarmament

Website: www.ccnd.gn.apc.org

**Swords Beaten into Plowshares: Atomic Art** 

Where: Visitors Lobby, United Nations

When: May 2- June 9 Contact: Rosé Cohen

Website: http://newartsweb.com/atomicartist/

**NGO Orientation Session** 

Where: United Nations Church Center (44th street and

1st avenue), Boss Room, 8th floor When: Daily, 8 AM- 9 AM Contact: Rhianna Tyson, WILPF Website: www.reachingcriticalwill.org

Lifting the Shadow:Toward a Nuclear Weapons

Where: City University of New York, at 365 5th Ave-

nue (at 34th street) When: 9-10 AM

Free World

Contact: Michael Flynn, mflynn@jjay.cuny.edu

How to Make the NPT Review Conference Successful

Where: Conference Room VIII

When: 1 PM

Contact: Zack Allen, Middle Powers Initiative

Website: www.middlepowers.org

Hibakusha Speak Out --- Meet the 35 of 600,000 people exposed by the Hiroshima / Nagasaki bombs

Where: UN Church Center (44th and 1st), 2nd floor

When: 1-4 PM

Contact: Michiko Kaketsuka, Hidankyo

**Inter-faith Service** 

Where: United Nations Church Center Chapel (44th

street and 1st avenue) When: 1:30-2:45 PM

Contact: Robert Smylie, World Council of Religions

for Peace

Website: www.wcrp.org

Women's Strategy Session for the NPT

Where: the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 1199th Branch Hall at 310 West 43rd St

When: 2-4 PM

Contact: Emiko Hirano, New Japan Women's Associa-

tion

**Rejecting the Logic of Counter-Proliferation** 

Where: UN Conference Room E

When: 3-6 PM

Contact: Sam Akaki, CND-UK

http://www.cnduk.org

French nuclear policy - does it really foster disarmament and non-proliferation?

Where: UN Church Center (44th and 1st), 2nd floor

When: 4.30-7 PM

Contact: Jean-Marie Matagne, ACDN

Honoring Fifty Years of Struggle: A Reception for Nihon Hidankyo (The Japan Confederation of A & H Bomb Sufferers Organizations)

Where: City University of New York, at 365 5th Ave-

nue (at 34th street) When: 6-7 PM

Contact: John Steinbach, Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace

Committee

Evening performance art concert with Hibakusha testimony, featuring Barry Crimmons, Stephan Smith,

Marilyn Hacker and Carolyn Forche.

Where: City University of New York, at 365 5th Ave-

nue (at 34th street) When: 7-10:30

Contact: John Steinbach, Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace

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tween these core issues under the NPT.

Throughout these next four weeks, States parties will be examining ways to strengthen the Treaty, hopefully in all its aspects. The 2002 withdrawal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea marred the world's faith in the Treaty's efficacy, leaving wounds which have engendered many substantive discussions on the issue of withdrawal and ways to prevent or ameliorate possible future withdrawals. Among the proposals to strengthen Article X include a German-French proposal which requires countries that withdraw from the NPT to return nuclear technology that was given to them under Article IV of the Treaty.

Other pertinent issues also warrant substantive focused discussions, including negative security assurances, the Middle East, verification, nuclear testing, universality and the nuclear fuel cycle. The Conference will have the opportunity to debate the various proposals put forth by governments, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, which tackle each of these issues as a way to strengthen the Treaty as a whole.

Then of course, there is the issue of the 13 Practical Steps, a unanimously agreed upon plan of action adopted at the 2000 Review Conference. Some, including the US and France, are insisting that this consensus-based agreement is no longer relevant and should not be regarded as a road map to a nuclear weapon-free world, as many hoped it would be. Yet the majority of the world's governments, empowered with the full support of the NGOs, refuse to let this hard-won agreement be cast aside by the States which continue to revere these genocidal, ecocidal and suicidal weapons as vital to their national security.

As of yet, however, no agreement has been reached on an agenda. Lack of consensus on this primary procedural task may negatively affect the amount of time paid to these critical issues.

However, if the people of the world have any say in the matter- as is our right- the Review Conference will fulfill the mandate conferred upon it by the Strengthened Review Process; it will look back at the past five years, assess the efficacy of the Treaty, and seek ways to turn this thirty-five-year old agreement into a true vehicle for freeing our world, forevermore, from the plague of

nuclear weapons.

- Susi Snyder is the Secretary-General of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. susi.snyder@wilpf.ch. Rhianna Tyson is the Project Manager of the Reaching Critical Will project of the WILPF UN Office. rhianna@reachingcriticalwill.org.



# ReachingCriticalWill.org is the place to turn to during the NPT Review Conference.

You can find:

- all governmental statements
  - working papers
    - reports
    - non-papers
  - archived issues of the News in Review
- educational resources on the NPT
  - NGO campaigns
- Contact database of NGOs around the world
  - resources on gender and disarmament
  - post-Review Conference analysis

and much, much more.
For more information, email
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### Workshop on Depleted Uranium

Organized by International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (ICBUW)

Tuesday, May 3, 2005 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Conference Room E, United Nations

The so-called Depleted uranium (DU) is the nuclear waste produced in the process of making nuclear weapons and nuclear fuels. Using, testing and producing DU weapons can cause radiation contamination, and bring about seriously harmful effects on the environment and the people exposed to it. In this workshop, we will discuss the impacts of DU weapons on health and the issues regarding its victims in order to advance international cooperation to extend relief to the victims and to ban uranium weapons as swiftly as possible.

#### Panelists include:

On the health effects and the victims of DU weapons:

Dr. Rosalie Bertell: Former President, International Institute of Concerns for Public Health (IICPH)

Ms. Melissa Sterry: DU-exposed veteran of the Gulf War I

Ms. Carol Dwyer / Ms. Gretel Munroe: Grassroots Actions for Peace, from the communities neighboring the manufacturer of DU weapons

On the policy, research and compensation for the victims:

Ms. Pat Dillon: Connecticut Legislator, who introduced a bill requiring to test veterans upon returning from Iraq.)

Mr. Chris Balance: Scottish Parliamentarian

On ICBUW campaign in US, Japan and in the world:

Ms. Tara Thornton: Military Toxics Projects (MTP)

Dr. Nobuo Kazashi: Director, NO DU Hiroshima Project

Mr. Shingo Fukuyama: Secretary General, GENSUIKIN (The Japan Congress Against A- and H-Bombs)

Dr. Katsumi Furitsu: Campaign Against Radiation Exposure (CARE)

For further information about the workshop, please contact Military Toxics Project: http://www.miltoxproj.org/email: mtp@miltoxproj.org/

For information about ICBUW: http://www.bandepleteduranium.org/

#### Appeal of Hiroshima continued from page 3

cannot accept the US proposal to undermine the NPT agreement by means of its "nuclear review posture" under the pretext of "war on terror." Such an act violates the disarmament obligation stipulated in Article VI of the Non Proliferation Treaty.

The only way to avoid a nuclear catastrophe is to pay proper respect to worldwide law and order enshrined in the UN Charter through which gradual and complete nuclear disarmament may eventually be accomplished. The NPT serves only as the first step, but it is nevertheless the only international treaty on nuclear weapons and has to be respected as such. The international society,

therefore, has the responsibility to implement concrete measures aimed at accomplishing the following objectives: 1) gaining greater international respect for the NPT; 2) treating all nations equally, with none privileged and none discriminated against; 3) the prohibition of pre-emptive nuclear strikes; 4) a halt to the development, experiment, and production of nuclear weapons; 5) reinforcement of the NPT agreement by ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; and 6) taking all nuclear warheads off hair trigger alert

We, the *hibakusha* and citizens of Hiroshima, come to the UN at this 60th year since the Atomic Bombing. We urgently demand with "a burning spirit of Hiroshima" that

the US and other nuclear weapon states promote more effective moves toward nuclear disarmament, realize a total and complete nuclear disarmament in the early years of the 21st century, and make utmost efforts to prepare a truly peaceful world free of nuclear weapons, free of wars, and free of terrorism.

 The Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA)

E-mail kenren.h@proof.ocn.ne.jp URL http://e-hanwa.org/

#### The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

invites you to attend a panel discussion on

# Reviving Nuclear Disarmament in the Nonproliferation Regime

Wednesday, May 4, 2005 1:15 - 2:45 pm Conference Room 4, United Nations

Opening Remarks by Eminent Journalist Walter Cronkite

Panelists Include:

Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, Independent International Security Analyst Hon. Marian Hobbs, New Zealand Minister for Disarmament Dr. David Krieger, President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Hon. Douglas Roche, Chair of the Middle Powers Initiative

The seventh Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) offers a decisive opportunity to advance international peace and security. The NPT is at a crossroads. In order to strengthen the NPT, we must build stronger and more equitable nonproliferation and disarmament regimes on a global scale. Both sides of the NPT bargain are equally important and mutually reinforcing. Preventing nuclear proliferation cannot be guaranteed without nuclear disarmament, and nuclear disarmament cannot succeed without preventing nuclear proliferation.

Please join us for this important panel discussion which will identify current nuclear proliferation threats and offer recommendations to strengthen the Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as the overall nonproliferation and disarmament regimes.



For more information on this event, please contact the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Advocacy and Research Director Carah Ong at (202) 543-4100 ext. 105 or by email at cong@napf.org.

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