



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

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## Articles

### **Amid Turmoil, a Nuke-Free Middle East May Be in Jeopardy**

UNITED NATIONS - A proposed international conference on a nuclear weapons-free Middle East, tentatively scheduled for 2012, may be in jeopardy amid the growing political turmoil sweeping across the Arab world - and Israel's fears of negative fallout on its own security. The proposal for the long-outstanding meeting was endorsed by 189 member states at the Review Conference on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) held at the United Nations in May last year. The Israeli government, while criticising the outcome document of that Review Conference, left the door open for participation in the 2012 conference.

But the political uprisings in the Arab world, including the ouster of the Israeli-friendly Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak, have triggered expressions of Israeli concern - specifically its own security in an increasingly hostile environment.

Israel has privately expressed the view that its undeclared nuclear weapons are the best guarantee of its security. The changing political environment, including a strongly pro- Palestinian government in Cairo, may justify its refusal even to participate in the conference aimed at making the region nuclear weapons-free.

**Read more on page 2** or <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=55429>

### **The Ten Bring Nuke Abolition Back on Global Agenda**

BERLIN - Heart-rending images of Fukushima disaster and a tidal wave of popular uprisings in the Arab world threatened to blur the compelling need for a nuke liberated Middle East as part of a world free of nuclear weapons. A transcontinental 10-nation initiative seeks to jolt the international community out of a mind numbing stupor.

While pointing to "the danger to humanity posed by the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons and the necessity to address increased proliferation risks, to decrease nuclear arsenals, to strengthen nuclear security and to improve nuclear safety," foreign ministers of 10 non-nuclear states have pledged "to promote the creation

of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East."

In doing so, short of stressing the critical role of the global civil society, they have indirectly endorsed key aspects of the Peace Proposal 2011 launched in January by Daisaku Ikeda, president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) Buddhist organisation based in Tokyo, with some 12 million members around the world.

Complete elimination of all atomic weapons -- and not just nuclear disarmament -- with the civil society playing a significant role, is the only absolute guarantee against the threat of nuclear weapons, the Peace Proposal stated.

**Read more on page 4** or [http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=396:ten-bring&catid=16:nuclear-abolition-news-and-analysis&Itemid=17](http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=396:ten-bring&catid=16:nuclear-abolition-news-and-analysis&Itemid=17)

**[Translations | Adaptations Go to page 8](#)**

**[Civil Society's Perspective Go to page 11](#)**

**[What Others Say Go to page 14](#)**

**[Visit Compilation of Articles April 2009-March 2010](#)**

[http://www.nuclearabolition.net/documents/Beyond\\_Nuclear\\_Non-Proliferation.pdf](http://www.nuclearabolition.net/documents/Beyond_Nuclear_Non-Proliferation.pdf)  
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## Articles

### Amid Turmoil, a Nuke-Free Middle East May Be in Jeopardy

By Thalif Deen

UNITED NATIONS, Apr 28, 2011 (IPS) - A proposed international conference on a nuclear weapons-free Middle East, tentatively scheduled for 2012, may be in jeopardy amid the growing political turmoil sweeping across the Arab world - and Israel's fears of negative fallout on its own security.

The proposal for the long-outstanding meeting was endorsed by 189 member states at the Review Conference on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) held at the United Nations in May last year.

The Israeli government, while criticising the outcome document of that Review Conference, left the door open for participation in the 2012 conference.

But the political uprisings in the Arab world, including the ouster of the Israeli-friendly Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak, have triggered expressions of Israeli concern - specifically its own security in an increasingly hostile environment.

Israel has privately expressed the view that its undeclared nuclear weapons are the best guarantee of its security.

The changing political environment, including a strongly pro- Palestinian government in Cairo, may justify its refusal even to participate in the conference aimed at making the region nuclear weapons-free.

Hillel Schenker, co-editor of the Jerusalem-based Palestine-Israel Journal, told IPS it is clear the conference cannot succeed unless both Israeli and Iranian representatives participate, "and this requires a careful, sophisticated approach".

While Israel is an undeclared nuclear power in the Middle East, Iran is being dubbed as a would-be nuclear power, according to experts in the region.

Asked about the impact of the ongoing Arab social revolutions, Schenker said the sense of uncertainty and the apparent end of the status quo only serve to reinforce the need to move forward towards a Middle Eastern regime for security and cooperation.

He said the movement towards the proposed conference now depends on the appointment of a U.N. envoy, who will then meet with the relevant governments and representatives of concerned civil society in the region, to set the format and shape of the conference, and to determine its location.

A sceptical Peter Weiss, president of the Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy and a member of the executive committee of Americans for Peace Now, told IPS, "My own view, as of now, is that little of consequence is likely to come from it, because Israel will be the last country in the world to give up its nukes."

"The Israeli government will probably not attend or, if it does, will pose conditions for getting rid of its nukes which they know the other countries can't accept," he added.

Weiss, who contributed an article to a special issue of the Palestine-Israel Journal - "A Nuclear-Free Zone in the Middle East: Realistic or Idealistic?" - said the fact that the issue was published at all - besides public conferences in Jerusalem and London - shows there is some movement in Israel on the topic.

He said four or five years ago, the subject of Israel's nuclear weapons was completely taboo.

Meanwhile, the United States, which traditionally throws a protective arm around Israel, has already laid down a condition in advance of the pre-conference preparations. ➔



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## Articles

Last July, when Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu met with U.S. President Barack Obama, he was assured that the 2012 conference would not single out Israel.

A White House statement also insisted the conference would only take place "if all countries feel confident they can attend, and that any efforts to single out Israel will make the prospects of convening such a conference unlikely."

Schenker told IPS it is clear that while asking Israel to sign the NPT and open its nuclear facilities for inspection may be one of the end goals of the process, it is a non-starter at this stage if people want to convene an inclusive conference with any chance of success in 2012.

The basis for a successful conference in 2012 is a two-track process, based upon the Arab Peace Initiative, which was adopted at the Arab League Summit conference in Beirut in 2002, and has until now been reaffirmed every successive meeting, he said.

He said one track should discuss ways to advance towards Israeli- Palestinian and Israeli-Arab comprehensive peace, and the other track should discuss ways to advance towards a Middle Eastern regional security and cooperation regime, which will include a nuclear and mass destruction weapons free zone.

Asked whether the nuclear meltdown in Japan would have an impact on the upcoming conference, Schenker said it only serves to heighten awareness about the need for creating a Middle Eastern regional security regime which deals with nuclear questions.

While the Israeli print and electronic media is usually focused primarily on internal issues, or issues which relate directly to the country, the drama in Japan, and particularly at the Fukushima reactor, has been in the headlines for weeks.

Even Netanyahu declared that he was less enthusiastic about nuclear energy than he was before, Schenker added.

Schenker said he has personally participated in a number of relevant initiatives linked to the topic, including a meeting of concerned Israelis, mainly academics and security people, convened by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (close to the German Social Democratic Party), which discussed possible formulas that could enable Israel to participate in the 2012 conference.

Secondly, a civil society CSCME (Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Middle East) initiative in Germany in January 2011, which took place parallel to the "Jasmine Revolution" in Tunisia, with the participation of representatives from Israel, Iran, Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Kuwait.

And thirdly, the Horizon 2012 conference project on the Japanese Peace Boat in the Mediterranean Sea, in March 2011, with civil society participants from Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, the United Nations and European representatives of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW).

He said an Iranian accepted the invitation but was unable to participate because he did not obtain the necessary visa from the Greek embassy in Tehran.

The goal of all of these meetings was to discuss formulas to enable a successful conference in 2012. ■



NUCLEAR ENERGY  
Nuclear Weapons



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### The Ten Bring Nuke Abolition Back on Global Agenda

By Ramesh Jaura\*



BERLIN - Heart-rending images of Fukushima disaster and a tidal wave of popular uprisings in the Arab world threatened to blur the compelling need for a nuke liberated Middle East as part of a world free of nuclear weapons. A transcontinental 10-nation initiative seeks to jolt the international community out of a mind numbing stupor.

While pointing to "the danger to humanity posed by the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons and the necessity to address increased proliferation risks, to decrease nuclear arsenals, to strengthen nuclear security and to improve nuclear safety," foreign ministers of 10 non-nuclear states have pledged "to promote the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East."

In doing so, short of stressing the critical role of the global civil society, they have indirectly endorsed key aspects of the Peace Proposal 2011 launched in January by Daisaku Ikeda, president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) Buddhist organisation based in Tokyo, with some 12 million members around the world.

Complete elimination of all atomic weapons -- and not just nuclear disarmament -- with the civil society playing a significant role, is the only absolute guarantee against the threat of nuclear weapons, the Peace Proposal stated.

Though the ten foreign ministers, who conferred on April 30 in Berlin, disregard the critical role of the global civil society, they have vowed to "actively promote disarmament and non-proliferation education, based on our conviction that education is a powerful tool for mobilizing further disarmament and non-proliferation efforts globally by enhancing awareness and understanding among our citizens."

The Ten say: "We welcome and support the renewed call for the total elimination of nuclear weapons as the only guarantee against their use or threat of use, and consequently see the need to further reduce the numbers of nuclear weapons as well as their role in security strategies, concepts, doctrines and policies."

Referring to security strategies that buttress nuclear doctrines, Ikeda argued in his Peace Proposal: "It is necessary to thoroughly challenge the theory of deterrence upon which nuclear weapons possession is predicated: the assumption that the maintenance of security is realized through a balance of terror."

In their 'Berlin Statement', the foreign ministers of Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates reaffirm their "joint intention to work towards achieving nuclear disarmament and a strengthening of the international non-proliferation regime," by working on "specific actions aimed at reinforcing states' export control systems which play an important non-proliferation role."

The foreign ministers of ten countries stretching across continents and regional blocks refer to the joint statement adopted at their first meeting in New York on September 22, 2010, on sidelines of the UN General Assembly. The meeting was co-hosted by the foreign ministers of Australia and Japan.

Ikeda pointed out in his Peace Proposal that "enduring regional stability in the Middle East is unthinkable without denuclearization," and called for creating "conditions propitious to negotiations for a Middle East free of all weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons".

Such conditions must be created without any loss of time, he said, adding: "It is . . . far from certain that the international conference on establishing a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East agreed to by last year's NPT Review Conference will in fact be held as scheduled in 2012, much less that it will produce a successful outcome." ☹



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APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Articles

The uncertainty about the 2012 conference on the Middle East underlines the need for further efforts to create the conditions for dialogue, said Ikeda.

Apparently sharing SGI president's concern, the Ten assure: "We intend to promote the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free-zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among states of the region concerned, and in accordance with the 1999 Guidelines of the UN Disarmament Commission, convinced that such zones strengthen global as well as regional peace and security, reinforce the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contribute to the achievement of nuclear disarmament."

"In this respect," they underline "the crucial need to promote the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, in line with pending requirements for the organization in 2012 of the special conference agreed at the 2010 NPT Review Conference."

The landmark NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was convened in May 2010 at the UN headquarters in New York.

The NPT, which came into force in 1970, is one of the United Nations' main set of rules regarding nuclear disarmament and the prevention of proliferation. 190 states are party to the treaty, but four nations that are known or believed to possess nuclear weapons -- India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel -- have not endorsed it.

The Ten feel "encouraged by recent developments, in particular the entry-into-force of the U.S.- Russian New START Treaty and the stated intention of both parties to continue the process of reductions, stressing the need to include all categories of nuclear weapons."

German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle was, however, more specific in his opening remarks at the Berlin conference: "We expect the nuclear weapon states to honour the commitments they entered into at the NPT conference last May."

And: "We would welcome a faster pace in nuclear disarmament and a reduced role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines. The world must not lose the momentum that has carried disarmament since President Barack Obama's speech in Prague (in April 2009)."

Westerwelle applauded Russia and the U.S. for returning to the negotiating table. "This is good news for all of us," he said. "Bilaterally, the process seems well on track. Multilaterally, we seem closer to derailing."

Australian Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd appeared to share this view when he pointed out that one year after the latest review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, "We have seen very little practical work done."

But the Ten are optimistic, as Westerwelle put it, that "in the weeks and months to come, our initiative can be instrumental to restart multilateral negotiations. Together we can better overcome entrenched positions, especially at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva."

The joint effort reflects "the importance of an issue that has a direct bearing on the future of humankind," said Mexican Foreign Minister Patricia Espinosa commenting the initiative launched in Berlin.

The Berlin Statement says, the consensus reached in May 2010 by the NPT Review Conference on the forward-looking Action plan proves that cooperative, multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation efforts can work if there is the necessary political will.

"Our objective is to maintain the momentum of that successful outcome and to expedite its implementation," the Ten state. With that purpose they have adopted four concrete proposals for action on key elements of the Action plan. ☺



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## Articles

### FISSILE MATERIAL

1. Halting the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons by agreeing on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT): Such a treaty would curb the risk of future nuclear arms races and reduce the danger of non-state actors getting such material into their hands. It would complement ongoing efforts to secure vulnerable nuclear material across the globe.

FMCT is "an indispensable step on the way towards a nuclear weapon free world," the Ten say, adding: "We are deeply disappointed that one year after the NPT Review Conference, which called in its Action plan for the immediate negotiation of an FMCT in the Conference on Disarmament (CD), this has not been implemented."

Without naming any countries blocking an accord, the Berlin Statement acknowledges that the security requirements of all states must be addressed in the course of negotiations, but underlines that "there is no reason and no excuse for further delay."

The signatories of the Statement led by Australia, Japan and Germany have initiated intensive efforts to overcome the current deadlock -- caused mainly by Pakistan -- in Geneva Conference on Disarmament.

"However, if the CD, in its 2011 substantive session, remains unable to find agreement on launching FMCT negotiations, we will ask the UN General Assembly, which is already seized of the matter under agenda item 162 entitled 'Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations', to address the issue and consider ways to proceed with the aim of beginning negotiations," the Ten announce.

### CTBT

2. Entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) opened for signature 15 years ago: The foreign ministers call on all States which have not yet done so to sign and ratify the CTBT.

"We are encouraged by the commitment expressed by the United States and by Indonesia to ensure ratification of the Treaty. We believe that an effective end to nuclear testing will enhance and not weaken our national as well as global security and would significantly bolster the global non-proliferation and disarmament regime," notes the Berlin Statement.

"We are committed to universalizing the Treaty and to promoting its early entry-into-force. Utilizing various diplomatic opportunities we will urge states that have not done so to sign and ratify the Treaty and promptly complete the steps necessary to bring it into force. We are committed to support the Preparatory Commission of the CTBT-Organization in setting up an effective monitoring and verification system and commend the work already accomplished," the foreign ministers pledge.

### TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

3. Transparency and accountability in the nuclear disarmament process: At the May 2010 NPT Review Conference, the nuclear weapon states committed themselves to speed up progress on tangible steps leading to nuclear disarmament, and to report back to NPT member states. As a confidence-building measure, the Conference encouraged the nuclear weapon states to agree as soon as possible on a standard reporting form.

Foreign ministers of 10 nations say: "We are developing a draft of a standard reporting form which could be used by the nuclear weapon states in meeting that commitment. We will invite the nuclear weapon states to examine our proposal at their Paris meeting in June (2011)." The proposal sets out the Ten's expectations regarding information that they would like to see all states possessing nuclear weapons provide. "We believe that reporting on the basis of a standardized format, as encouraged in the Action plan adopted by the Review Conference, would build international confidence and help to create a climate conducive to further disarmament. We consider it essential to increase transparency and accountability in the nuclear disarmament process." ➔





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## Articles

### COMPLIANCE

4. Verifying states' compliance with their nuclear non-proliferation obligations: The Berlin Statement underlines that an effective non-proliferation regime is a joint security interest of all nations. Accordingly, the Ten recognise the important role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in verifying states' compliance with their nuclear non-proliferation obligations.

They highlight the fact that with the entry into force of the IAEA Additional Protocols for the United Arab Emirates in December 2010 and for Mexico in March 2011, all countries belonging to the Ten's cross-regional initiative implement Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements and Additional Protocols, which they regard as the necessary verification standard.

The foreign ministers call on all states, in line with the Action Plan of the May 2010 NPT Review Conference, to conclude and bring into force Additional Protocols in order to give the IAEA the additional authority it needs credibly to deter and detect violations of non-proliferation obligations.

The Ten add: "We will continue to advocate bilaterally and multilaterally for the universal application of the Additional Protocol in our respective regions. We offer to share experiences and best practices in the conclusion and implementation of the Additional Protocol with all interested parties, and are ready to provide legal, and other, assistance."

The Ten will take stock of progress on Berlin proposals at their meeting on sidelines of the UN General Assembly in September 2011. Turkey will host the next ministerial meeting of the initiative in 2012. ■

\*Jamshed Baruah contributed to this article. (Media Network GC Council/30.04.2011)

TOWARD A NUCLEAR FREE WORLD
A A A

- Home
- Japanese
- Arabic
- Chinese | Hindi | Urdu
- Dutch
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Swedish
- Turkish
- Sitemap

### Nuclear Abolition News and Analysis

**Five Reasons Why Israel Should Back Nuclear Weapons Ban**

Nuclear Abolition News | IDN  
By Frederick N. Mattis\*  
IDN-InDepth NewsViewpoint

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland (IDN) - For abolishing nuclear weapons, a major obstacle is presumed to be Israel. If it is posited (as I submit it should be) that a nuclear ban treaty [convention] would require accession by all states before entry into force, then let it be further assumed that all states have joined a nuclear ban -- except Israel.

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Nuclear Abolition News Analysis  
By Ramesh Jaura\*

BERLIN - Heart-rending images of Fukushima disaster and a tidal wave of popular uprisings in the Arab world threatened to blur the compelling need for a nuke liberated Middle East as part of a world free of nuclear weapons. A transcontinental 10-nation initiative seeks to jolt the international community out of a mind numbing stupor. [P] [GERMAN](#)

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## Translations | Adaptations

### Amid Turmoil, a Nuke-Free Middle East May Be in Jeopardy - I

#### Arabic

**أسئلة وأجوبة**

- ◀ مقابلة مع عالم الاقتصاد البنيني المعروف روبرت ريبينو: قطاع الطاقة ينفق الملايين لشراء السياسة لتضليل الأمريكيين
- ◀ أستاذ علم الاجتماع دوفينتورا دي سوسا سانتوس: "البشرية تحتاج إلى ثورة القاهرة في كل مكان"
- ◀ الشعوب قادرة على التغلب على النيبرالية الجديدة: "ثورة تونس ومصر ليست مجرد فوران في غلابة"
- ◀ لقاء مع المعارض التونسي محمود بن رمضان: "تونس صرخت للديمقراطية، لكن الأيام السوداء لا تزال ماثلة"
- ◀ مقابلة مع الكاتب واللاهوتي البرازيلي ليوناردو يوف: "هذه المرة لن تكون هناك سفينة توح"

**المزيد <<**

**تحقيقات خاصة**

- ◀ مؤتمر الأمم المتحدة المعنى بأقل البلدان نموا في العالم: "نموذج التنمية فشل ولابد من تغييره"
- ◀ زويزة سياسية في باكستان اثر عملية اغتيال بن لادن: المعارضة تطالب بتسريح رؤساء الدولة والحكومة والقوات المسلحة
- ◀ مواقع على شبكة انترنت في الصين: انقر هنا لنبيع وشراء كلتي بشرية!
- ◀ التحضير لقمة دولية في أسبانيا: قروض صغيرة لإنقاذ 875 مليون فقيرا في العالم
- ◀ خاصة في الكونغرس واللوبي الموالي لإسرائيل: إرتياب متزايد في واشنطن تجاه سياسة الحكومة المصرية

**المزيد <<**

**أصوات الشعوب**

- ◀ مؤتمر الأمم المتحدة المعنى بأقل البلدان نموا في العالم: "نموذج التنمية فشل ولابد من تغييره"
- ◀ التحضير لقمة دولية في أسبانيا: قروض صغيرة لإنقاذ 875 مليون فقيرا في العالم
- ◀ نحو 3,5 مليون مواطن يعانون من سوء تغذية حادة: كارثة مجاعة جديدة في كوريا الشمالية
- ◀ مؤتمر تحرير الشرق الأوسط من السلاح النووي، في خطر: "إسرائيل، آخر من بنوي التخلي عن الأسلحة الذرية"
- ◀ زعيم حركة عمال الريف المعدمين: "البرازيل ليست بحاجة للسموم لإنتاج الغذاء"

**المزيد <<**

مؤتمر تحرير الشرق الأوسط من السلاح النووي، في خطر

**"إسرائيل، آخر من بنوي التخلي عن الأسلحة الذرية"**  
**يقدم تاليف ديبن/وكالة انتر بريس سيرفس**

الأمم المتحدة، مايو (أي بي إس) - أعرب خبراء دوليون عن مخاوفهم من تعثر المؤتمر الدولي المقترح بشأن تحرير الشرق الأوسط من الأسلحة الذرية والمقرر مجديا عقده في عام 2012، أساسا بسبب عدم إستعداد إسرائيل الجادي للتخلي عن سلاحها النووي.

وكانت الحكومة الإسرائيلية قد إنتهت إفتراح عقد مؤتمر دولي لمناقشة إخلاء الشرق الأوسط من الأسلحة الذرية، والذي إعتزمه 189 دولة أثناء المؤتمر الاستراتيجي لمعالجة عدم انتشار الأسلحة النووية الذي عقد في الأمم المتحدة في مايو من العام الماضي. ومع ذلك، فقد تركت الباب مفتوحا أمام إحتمال مشاركتها فيه.

لكن الثورات الشعبية والانتفاضات السياسية في المنطقة العربية، التي شملت الإطاحة بصديق إسرائيل الرئيس المصري المخلوع حسني مبارك، أثار قلقا متزايدا في إسرائيل حول أمنها وسط بيئة معادية، خاصة وأنها قد أعربت في محادثات خاصة عن أن أسلحتها النووية غير المطلنة هي أفضل ضمان لأمنها.

والآن من المعتقد أن المناخ السياسي المتغير في المنطقة ومقدم حكومة مؤيدة للفلسطينيين في مصر، قد يبرر رفض إسرائيل المشاركة في مؤتمر يهدف إلى تحرير الشرق الأوسط من الأسلحة النووية.

وعن هذا أعرب بيتر فايس، رئيس لجنة المحامين المدعين بالسياسة النووية وعضو اللجنة التنفيذية لهيئة "الأميركيون من أجل السلام الآن" عن شكوكه في نتائج مثل هذا المؤتمر، قائلا "من وجهة نظري، من غير المرجح أن يأتي منه الكثير، فإسرائيل هي آخر بلد في العالم قد تتخلى عن أسلحتها النووية".

وأضاف في حديثه لوكالة انتر بريس سيرفس أن "الحكومة الإسرائيلية ربما لن تحضر (المؤتمر)، وإذا فعلت ذلك فسوف تعرض شروطا للتخلص من أسلحتها النووية تترك جيدا أن الدول الأخرى لا يمكن أن تفعلها".

ومن جانبه، صرح المحرر المشارك لمجلة فلسطين وإسرائيل ومقرها القدس هليل شنكر، لوكالة انتر بريس سيرفس أنه من الواضح أن المؤتمر المقترح عقده في العام المقبل لمناقشة هذه القضية لا يمكن أن ينجح إلا إذا شاركت فيه كل من إسرائيل وإيران، الأمر الذي "يطلب مقاربة حذرة ومحفدة".

ففي حين ان إسرائيل هي قوة نووية غير مطلنة في الشرق الأوسط، يردد بعض الخبراء أن إيران يمكن أن تصبح قوة نووية أيضا. وقال شنكر ردا على سؤال حول تأثير الثورات الشعبية العربية، أن الشعور بعدم اليقين ونهاية الوضع القائم، يعزز الحاجة للمضي قدما نحو نظام للأمن والتعاون في الشرق الأوسط.

وأضاف ان التحرك نحو عقد المؤتمر المقترح لتحرير الشرق الأوسط من السلاح النووي يعتمد الآن على تحيين مبعوث للأمم المتحدة، يلتقي مع الحكومات المعنية وممثلي المجتمع المدني في المنطقة، لتحديد شكل المؤتمر ومقره.

وفي الوقت نفسه فرضت الولايات المتحدة، التي عادة ما تحيط إسرائيل بذراعتها الوافية، شرطا مسبقا للأعمال التحضيرية للمؤتمر المقترح. ففي يوليو الماضي، عندما إجتمع رئيس الوزراء الإسرائيلي بنيامين نتنياهو مع الرئيس الأمريكي باراك أوباما، أكد ان المؤتمر لن ينفرد بإسرائيل.

وشدد بيان للبيت الأبيض على أن المؤتمر المقترح سوف يحد فقط "إذا كانت جميع البلدان تنشر بالشفة في انه يمكنها المشاركة، كما أن أي جهود للاستفراد بإسرائيل سيحتمل إحتمال عقد مثل هذا المؤتمر أمرا غير مرجح".

وفي هذا الشأن قال شنكر لوكالة انتر بريس سيرفس أنه أصبح من الواضح أن التفكير في مجرد مطالبة إسرائيل بالتوقيع على معاهدة حظر الانتشار النووي وفتح منشآتها النووية للتفتيش، لن يوفر للمؤتمر أي فرصة للتجاح.

وشرح أن إمكانيات إنجاح مؤتمر عام 2012 تكمن في عملية ذات مسارين، ومبنية على أساس مبادرة السلام العربية التي اعمدت في مؤتمر القمة العربية في بيروت عام 2002 والتي تم التأكيد عليها في كافة المؤتمرات اللاحقة.

وقال أن أحد هذين المسارين ينبغي أن يناقش السبل الكفيلة بالتقدم نحو سلام شامل بين الإسرائيليين والفلسطينيين وعرب إسرائيل، في حين يجب أن يتناول المسار الآخر مناقشة سبل المضي قدما نحو تحقيق نظام للأمن والتعاون الإقليمي في الشرق الأوسط، بما يشمل تحرير المنطقة من الأسلحة الذرية وغيرها من أسلحة الدمار الشامل.

Read more <http://www.ipsinternational.org/arabic/nota.asp?idnews=2159>

Page 8





# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Translations | Adaptations

### Amid Turmoil, a Nuke-Free Middle East May Be in Jeopardy - II

JAPANESE



アラブ民衆蜂起で中東非核地帯はどうなる

【国連 IPS=タリフ・ディーン】

アラブ世界において政治的騒乱が広がり、それが自国の安全に与える影響についてイスラエルが神経質になる中、2012年に暫定的に開催が予定されている中東地域非核化をめぐる国際会議の行く末が危ぶまれている。



資料：Wikimedia Commons

長く待ち望まれていたこの会議の提案は、2010年5月に国連本部で開かれた核兵器不拡散条約（NPT）運用検討会議において189の加盟国が承認したものである。

イスラエルは会議の最終文書を批判しつつも、2012年会議の参加問題については、結論を下さずにいた。

しかし、イスラエルに対して友好的だったエジプトのホスニ・ムバラク大統領の失脚など、アラブ世界において政治的騒乱が広がるにつれ、イスラエルの懸念は深まってきた。とりわけ、ますますイスラエルにとって敵対的になる環境下での自国の安全について神経質になっている。



イスラエルは、非公式な場では、未申告の核保有こそが自国の安全保障を確保する最良の方法であるとの立場を示してきた。

かなりパレスチナ寄りの政権がエジプトで誕生するなど、政治的環境の変化は、中東非核化を目指した会議へのイスラエル不参加を正当化するものとなるかもしれない。

Read more [http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=386:arab-world&catid=2:japanese&Itemid=3](http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=386:arab-world&catid=2:japanese&Itemid=3)



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Translations | Adaptations

### The Ten Bring Nuke Abolition Back on Global Agenda

#### German

##### **ABRÜSTUNG: Zehn Staaten mahnen in Berlin atomwaffenfreie Region Nahost an**

Von Ramesh Jaura

Berlin, 2. Mai (IPS\*) – Im Schatten der politischen Krisen in den autoritär geführten arabischen Mittelmeerstaaten haben die Außenminister von zehn nichtnuklearen Staaten auf einer Konferenz in Berlin dazu aufgerufen, alles zu unternehmen, damit die Region Nahost zur atomwaffenfreien Zone wird.

Wie die Außenminister von Australien, Chile, Deutschland, Japan, Kanada, Mexiko, Niederlanden, Polen, Türkei und Vereinigten Arabischen Emiraten (VAE) am 30. April in einer gemeinsamen Stellungnahme betonten, ist es dringend erforderlich, Atom- und andere Massenvernichtungswaffen aus der Region zu bannen. Ein atomwaffenfreier Naher Osten sei zudem ausschlaggebend für die im kommenden Jahr geplante Sonderkonferenz, auf die sich die Teilnehmer der Konferenz zur Revision des Atomwaffensperrvertrags im Mai 2010 in New York geeinigt hatten.

Dem 1970 in Kraft getretenen Vertrag zur Nichtverbreitung von Atomwaffen (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty - NPT), wie der Atomwaffensperrvertrag offiziell bezeichnet wird, gehören insgesamt 190 Länder an. Vier Staaten, die Atomwaffen besitzen oder besitzen sollen, sind dem Abkommen nicht beigetreten: Indien, Pakistan, Nordkorea und Israel.

Der Berliner Erklärung zufolge zeigt der auf der NPT-Revisionskonferenz in New York verabschiedete Aktionsplan, dass gemeinsame multilaterale Bemühungen um die atomare Abrüstung und Nichtverbreitung von Atomwaffen funktionieren können, wenn der politische Wille vorhanden ist, betonte Außenminister Guido Westerwelle, der zu der Konferenz eingeladen hatte.

Die Umsetzung des Aktionsplans durch vier Maßnahmen erreicht werden: 1. durch die Aufnahme von Verhandlungen über ein Produktionsverbot von spaltbarem Material; 2. die Ratifizierung des Nuklearen Teststoppvertrags durch weitere Staaten und ein möglichst baldiges Inkrafttreten dieses Abkommens; 3. durch mehr Transparenz hinsichtlich der Nuklearwaffenarsenale und abrüstungspolitischen Anstrengungen der Atommächte; und 4. durch die Ratifizierung eines Zusatzprotokolls der Internationalen Atomenergiebehörde (IAEA) durch weitere Partner.

##### Spaltbares Material

Ein Abkommen über ein weltweites Verbot der Herstellung von Spaltmaterial für Kernwaffen (Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty - FMCT) könnte die Risiken eines nuklearen Wettrüstens und auch die Gefahr verringern, dass spaltbares Material in die Hände nichtstaatlicher Akteure gelangt. Es würde die Bemühungen um die Sicherheit dieser spaltbaren Materials nachhaltig unterstützen. FMCT sei ein "unverzichtbarer Schritt auf dem Weg zu einer kernwaffenfreien Welt", heißt es in der Erklärung der zehn Staaten. Man sei zutiefst enttäuscht, dass dies ein Jahr nach der NPT-Revisionskonferenz, die in ihrem Aktionsplan zu sofortigen Verhandlungen für ein FMCT aufgerufen hatte, noch nicht geschehen sei.

Ohne explizit Länder beim Namen zu nennen, die ein solches FMCT-Abkommen torpedieren, räumten die Außenminister der zehn Länder zwar ein, dass die Sicherheitsanforderungen aller Staaten im Verlauf der Verhandlungen berücksichtigt werden müssten. Allerdings "gibt es keinen Grund und keine Entschuldigung für eine weitere Verzögerung".

Die Unterzeichner der Berliner Deklaration unter Federführung Australiens, Deutschlands und Japans haben neue Anstrengungen unternommen, um die Genfer Abrüstungskonferenz aus der von Pakistan verursachten Sackgasse zu führen.

Für den Fall, dass sich die Genfer Abrüstungskonferenz in ihrer substanziellen Sitzung 2011 auch weiterhin nicht in der Lage sieht, ein Abkommen über den Start von FMCT-Verhandlungen zuwege zu bringen, wollen die zehn Staaten die UN-Vollversammlung einschalten.

##### Nuklearer Teststoppvertrag

Die Berlin-Erklärung würdigte die Bereitschaft von USA und Indonesien, den Nuklearen Teststoppvertrag (Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty – CTBT) zu ratifizieren: "Wir sind der Meinung, dass ein wirksames Ende von Atomtests unsere nationale und globale Sicherheit stärker und nicht schwächen und das globale Regelwerk der Nichtverbreitung und Abrüstung stützen wird."

In der Erklärung bekräftigten die zehn Außenminister ihren Willen, sich für ein baldiges Inkrafttreten der CTBT einzusetzen. Darüber hinaus kündigten sie an, auf diejenigen Staaten einzuwirken, die das Abkommen noch nicht unterzeichnet und ratifiziert haben, dies nachzuholen.

Read more [http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=399:zehn-staaten&catid=5:german&Itemid=6](http://www.nuclearabolition.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=399:zehn-staaten&catid=5:german&Itemid=6)



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Civil Society's Perspective

### Setting sights on 2012

IPPNW | April 15, 2011 | By Hillel Schenker

While all eyes are focused on Libya, Syria and other regional venues of political drama, Israelis have probably forgotten – if they were ever aware – that, at last May's Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, it was resolved that in 2012 an international conference would be convened to discuss "the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region, and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States." The resolution also called upon Israel to sign the NPT and open its nuclear installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The 2012 conference, which is to be organized by the secretary-general of the United Nations, the United States, United Kingdom and the Russian Federation, was the subject of a three-day conference held recently on the Japanese Peace Boat – a unique Japanese NGO based on an ocean liner.

Given that their country is the only one to have suffered a nuclear strike, the Japanese are particularly sensitive about this topic, and the current mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been at the forefront of activity to promote a nuclear-weapons-free world.

With their thoughts on the Fukushima reactor and their families back home, the Japanese arrived in the Mediterranean Sea in mid-March to convene an onboard conference with civil-society representatives from Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and India, as well as leaders of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (winners of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize) from Greece and Switzerland, and the UN.

Of particular interest were the participation of Dr. Mohamed Shaker, a longtime diplomat who is today chairman of the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs, and former Egyptian ambassador to the U.S. and arms control negotiator Dr. Nabil Fahmy; former Indian navy chief Adm. Ramu Ramdas; and Dr. Randy Rydell, a senior official at the UN Office of the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.

The most serious prior attempt to confront the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East took place between 1992 and 1995, when 14 regional actors participated in the Arms Control and Regional Security Working Group talks, in the wake of the Madrid peace conference. The primary reason for the collapse of those talks was a fundamental disagreement between the Egyptians and the Israelis about priorities. The Egyptians said the creation of a Middle East Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone was the first order of business, while the Israeli delegation insisted that comprehensive Israeli-Arab peace was the precondition for such a zone. That is still the Israeli policy. It is also clear that the Israeli government is not ready to change its current policy of nuclear ambiguity, and that it will not sign the NPT or open its nuclear installations to international inspection at this time.

However, this doesn't mean that nothing can be done. A tool exists today that didn't exist at the time of the ACRS talks – the Arab Peace Initiative (sometimes known as the Saudi Initiative). The API, which was signed by 22 Arab states and supported by 57 Muslim countries, including Iran, expresses a general Arab and Muslim readiness to recognize and establish normal relations with the State of Israel, based on the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, alongside Israel.

Originally passed at the 2002 Beirut Arab League Summit Conference, the API was reaffirmed at the 2007 Riyadh Summit.

Although it doesn't mention the nuclear question or weapons of mass destruction, the API can be a framework for a parallel two-track discussion. One track would discuss methods of moving toward Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Arab comprehensive peace, while the second would discuss ways of advancing a Middle Eastern security regime, which would include a nuclear- and WMD-free zone. This would be the way of getting beyond the Egyptian-Israeli bind of which comes first, the chicken or the egg. ➡



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Civil Society's Perspective

I was particularly impressed by the fact that one of the Egyptian representatives aboard the Japanese Peace Boat said that she is very aware of Israel's security concerns and that the proposals must be framed to take them into account. Everyone agreed that for the 2012 conference to have any chance of success, a formula has to be found to ensure that both Israel and Iran would participate in it. An Iranian was invited and agreed to participate in the meeting at sea, but due to bureaucratic problems, was unable to attend.

The 2012 conference will not have the unrealistic goal of producing a treaty, but rather of discussing the dynamics of how to make progress toward a nuclear- and WMD-free zone, while also relating to the need to progress toward comprehensive peace in the region.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will soon appoint an envoy, who will consult with all of the states in the region about how to prepare for conference, meet with both government and civil society representatives, and discuss a proposed venue. Since the Israeli government has not said it would attend, but has left the door open, now is the time to brainstorm and develop innovative ideas which will provide constructive input to the process of creating a successful conference in 2012.

*Hillel Schenker is co-editor of the [Palestine-Israel Journal](#) and is a member of IPPNW's Israeli affiliate.*

*Original at <http://peaceandhealthblog.com/2011/04/15/setting-sights-on-2012/> ■*

## Tunisia revolution: a new outlook



13 April 2011 - ICAN Europe-Middle East-Africa representative Arielle Denis participated in an NGO delegation to Tunisia from March 31 to April 4. This World Social Forum NGOs delegation organized the meeting of civil society representatives from abroad with the major actors of the Tunisian revolution who got rid of 23 years of dictatorship and initiated major changes in the Arab world.

The delegation went to Tunis, Kasserine, where most of the

fighters occurred during the revolution, and Sidi Bouzid, where the revolution started. This gathering was, for ICAN, an opportunity to raise awareness on the issues and opportunities linked to the upcoming 2012 Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone conference and establish key contacts in the area.

Ben Ali's regime had corrupted the development of the Tunisian society at all levels. As the Tunisians are recovering their voices after a revolution that caused a few hundred victims, the country is looking for new rules, but the situation remains very unstable.

The wish to create organizations, to strengthen existing organizations, to build or join national or international networks is often formulated as such among the people, youth, women, artists, lawyers, journalists.

Not as a priority but as a strong concern, the whole question of peace and disarmament, energy and the nuclear power issues - already planned by Ben Ali's government - are part of the debate among the committed people, with a high level of concern on issues related to the actual situation in Libya, the violence in the Arab world, and the building of peace and disarmament in the Mediterranean region and Middle East. ■





# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## Civil Society's Perspective

### Activists challenge NATO nuclear weapons

29 April 2011 - On April 15-17 Arielle Denis, ICAN-Europe Senior Campaigner, attended the annual meeting of the international network of "No to Nato – No to War" in Dublin. More than 150 representatives from different countries shared their input on the new Nato strategic concept and the militarist vision of security it entails, and decided on joint actions in view of the 2012 Nato summit which will take place in the US.



Presently, Nato nuclear policy is questioned by some of its most important members. As a recent [IKV Pax Christi report](#) highlighted half of the 28 member states would agree to the withdrawal of tactical US nuclear weapons from the European soil, and 9 more would not be opposed to such a choice. In the course of the meeting, joint actions were decided. **Source:** <http://www.icanw.org/node/5647> ■

<http://www.nuclearabolition.org>



**NUCLEAR ABOLITION DAY**  
Global Day of Action – 25 June 2011


**Our goal: a treaty to outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons**



home    about the day    your action ideas    register an action    view actions


**WHO**

The leaders of the US, Russia, the UK, France and China are meeting in Paris to discuss their nuclear arsenals.



**WHAT**


Thousands of people around the globe will take part in actions to build support for negotiations on a treaty banning all nuclear weapons.



**WHEN**


Saturday  
25 June 2011

**WHERE** Globally



**WHY**

There are still more than 20,000 nuclear weapons in the world today. A single bomb is powerful enough to obliterate a city, killing millions in an instant. Abolishing nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used again.




**Log in** You need to be logged in to Facebook to see your friends' activity

- ACTION 1: Organize a flash mob | Nuclear Abolition Day, 25 June 2011**  
42 people shared this.
- ACTION 4: Write to your mayor | Nuclear Abolition Day, 25 June 2011**  
18 people shared this.
- ACTION 2: Email the P5 leaders | Nuclear Abolition Day, 25 June 2011**  
29 people shared this.
- ACTION 8: Fold paper cranes | Nuclear Abolition Day, 25 June 2011**  
16 people shared this.

Facebook social plugin

**Why do we need a treaty to abolish nuclear weapons?**  
from ICAN



00:49    vimeo





# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## What Others Say

### **Immediate action needed to end atomic threat**

**By Douglas Roche | Edmonton Journal April 27, 2011**

*The following is an excerpt from the concluding chapter of Edmontonian Doug Roche's new book, *How We Stopped Loving the Bomb*. Roche, who was recently nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for his disarmament work, is a former Progressive Conservative MP, a former Canadian ambassador for disarmament and a retired member of the Canadian Senate. *How We Stopped Loving the Bomb* is published by James Lorimer & Co*

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We stood on the stage, our arms interlinked. Keijiro Matsushima, an 81-year-old survivor of the Hiroshima bombing, had just told the audience at a conference in Hiroshima in July 2010 about his experience of the attack when he was 16. A slight, balding figure, Matsushima said he suddenly looked up from his classroom desk. "Suddenly, there was an orange-and-yellow flash followed by a huge explosion and intense heat wave. I jumped under my desk. There was blood all over me. I said, 'I'm going to die.' " Had he been on the other side of the room, where the ceiling collapsed on students, he would have. He crawled outside, found a friend with skin peeling away and took him to the Red Cross hospital. "The whole city was on fire. Many people crawled to the riverbank for water. I was able to find my mother. We had no place to go. The next day, disease set in and many more died."

Mayor Tad Akiba called me to the stage a few minutes later to receive an Honorary Citizen of Hiroshima award for my work on nuclear disarmament. I immediately called Matsu shima back to the stage and we embraced as I told the audience: "He is my brother. I, too, was 16 when the bomb exploded. He has suffered enormously. Now I must help him to ensure that this never happens again."

My visit to Hiroshima a few days before the 65th anniversary of the Aug. 6, 1945, bombing brought me back face-to-face with the hibakusha (survivors of the atomic blasts) and, in the museum, with the terrible scenes of suffering. Once more, I saw the photos of whole blocks completely obliterated, the charred clothing and the depictions of survivors, their burnt skin hanging from their arms and heads. A human shadow etched in stone is still visible; the victim, who had been sitting on stone steps 260 metres from the blast, burned to a crisp. In a two-kilometre radius from the centre the earth was so scorched that the city appeared to have been buried in molten lava. What made the horror even more unbearable was a huge globe in the centre of the museum showing all the places nuclear weapons are stored today, ready to inflict the same suffering all over again.

Steve Leeper, a 62-year-old American fluent in Japanese brought in by Akiba to head the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, escorted me through the museum. Leeper's father was a missionary and his mother was an anti-Vietnam war activist. Though born in Illinois, he spent his early childhood in Japan and returned there as an adult to work as a translator and auto-industry consultant.

In 2002, Akiba asked him to represent the fledgling Mayors for Peace organization at the United Nations, and then appointed him as the first foreigner to oversee Hiroshima's museum and memorials. In entrusting stewardship of the symbol of Hiroshima's annihilation to a citizen of the country that dropped the bomb, Akiba said this about the past and the future: reconciliation is essential to find peace in the world and Hiroshima must never happen again.

Leeper's innate gentleness has helped him to be accepted by his Japanese colleagues and, perhaps more importantly, led him to find a way past the disputatious questions of Japan's imperial past with its own military cruelties -the attack on Pearl Harbor -and whether the U.S. should have used the atom bomb.

Leeper's concern is less about berating past military actions and more about preventing future horrors by the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. He says his appointment is proof that Hiroshima does not seek revenge, but reconciliation. Soon, there will be no living hibakusha to give their testimony; and yet their story must not die with them. Leeper's challenge is to find new ways to make the Hiroshima experience meaningful to coming generations of the Japanese themselves and people around the world. The visitor leaves the museum with these words inscribed on a painting of greenery: ➡



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## What Others Say

That autumn  
in Hiroshima where it was said  
"For seventy-five years nothing  
will grow"  
new buds sprouted  
in the green that came back to life  
among the charred ruins  
People recovered  
their living hopes and courage

All around the Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima has been rebuilt into a modern city of 1.6 million people. The broad avenues and traffic jams are like those of cities everywhere. Life is fast paced. The people of Hiroshima don't go around feeling sorry for themselves.

The bustling activity reminded me of my first visit nearly three decades ago, and I told the story at a reception Akiba hosted that evening.

On that first visit I had toured the museum with some friends, which, by the end of the day, had thoroughly depressed us. When we returned to the hotel, a concierge told us there would be a baseball game that evening: Hiroshima vs. Tokyo. On an impulse, we took a cab to the stadium, bought baseball caps and joined in the enthusiastic Japanese chants. The game (it ended in a tie) refreshed us.

Back at the hotel, I realized we had just received a lesson in hope from the Hiroshima people. The evening had not been frivolous, but had offered us a release from the horror of the day and allowed our minds to focus on the future. Hiroshima had rebuilt itself: life went on. The people of Hiroshima have taught the world to have hope.

Hope, of course, needs action to take it beyond mere aspiration. That is why the Hiroshima conference, dedicated to the total abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020, appealed to governments to start negotiations immediately for an international ban. "To this end, governments that have expressed their desire for a comprehensive legal process, in partnership with like-minded NGOs, should convene a special disarmament conference in 2011 to facilitate the start of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention."

The major governments hate any thought of a timeline attached to nuclear disarmament, so Akiba's 2020 vision has, until now, been largely disregarded. But persistence is paying off. The world now knows that Akiba is serious and has 4,000 mayors behind him. While it would be practically impossible to get to zero nuclear weapons by 2020, it is entirely feasible to achieve a convention or framework agreement by that date.

"If 2020 is somehow 'premature,' " asks Sergio Duarte, UN High Representative for Disarmament, "when should the world expect nuclear disarmament to be achieved?"

At the very least, Duarte argues, the nuclear weapons states should make a non-binding political declaration of their willingness to eliminate all their nuclear weapons by an agreed year. "If nuclear disarmament is approached simply as an 'ultimate goal,' then no one should be surprised if compliance with non-proliferation commitments will one day also be viewed as only an ultimate goal." The double standard of trying to stop the spread of nuclear weapons while allowing the nuclear powers to retain theirs must stop.

The actual date on which the world reaches zero nuclear weapons -whether it is 2020 or 2030 -cannot be foretold. What is critical is to start down that path now with an agreed determination to get to the end point. This is why starting negotiations now on a Nuclear Weapons Convention is so important. If a comprehensive course to elimination is not charted and is only incremental, disconnected steps will continue, the goal will fade from sight. Both 2020 and 2030 will come and go and the nuclear powers will simply perpetuate their modernization programs. Benchmarks with timelines are essential to keep the process moving. ➡



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

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## What Others Say

U.S. President Barack Obama, UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon, Akiba, two-thirds of all national governments, public-interest groups comprising people old and young, of all cultures, races and religions -all seek a nuclear-weapons-free world. The evidence that most countries in the world have stopped loving the bomb and want a global ban is mounting daily. A worldwide movement to eliminate the means of human destruction is gathering speed.

But the opponents of this movement -the nuclear weapons states -still have the upper hand because they are in positions of power. They have so perfected the art of lying that they have turned the doctrine of nuclear deterrence into gospel. A compliant mainstream media, with fewer and fewer journalists willing to expose the falsity of the nuclear weapons defence, or even willing to counter a corporate mentality that sees anti-nuclear protesters as marginal malingerers, gives support to the lagging establishment thinking.

Former U.S. president Dwight Eisenhower was right when he said that every gun "steals" from the poor, but this thought, meant to uplift, is now submerged in the new age of fear of attack. The maintenance of nuclear weapons in the name of security is a sham foisted on a public confused about how to find human security in a globalized world.

The conscience of humanity is, finally, awakening to ban this blatant evil. A spate of art, films, books, the Internet and all forms of modern communication is inspiring growing numbers of people within all civilizations that the threat of mass killings cannot be tolerated.

The abolition of nuclear weapons is no longer just a lofty goal, a noble aspiration, an idealistic thought. It is the paramount human rights issue of our time. Peace is impossible as long as the threat of nuclear war hangs over our heads. A Nuclear Weapons Convention prohibiting the production as well as the use of all nuclear weapons in all circumstances is urgently needed.

It will be constructed once the public rebels against the weapons that would destroy all life.

**Source:** <http://www.edmontonjournal.com/news/Immediate+action+needed+atomic+threat/4679857/story.html> ■

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## **Promises, promises: A progress report one year after the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit**

**By Fissile Materials Working Group  
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists | April 6, 2011**

Two years ago in Prague, President Barack Obama laid out his vision of a world free of nuclear weapons. Recognizing that this would not likely be achieved in his lifetime, he outlined practical steps by which the international community might strive for greater security in a world where nuclear weapons still exist.

One of these steps was the four-year goal to secure all loose nuclear material -- almost immediately after his speech, concerns about nuclear terrorism and nuclear material security were prominent on the international agenda.

To further that agenda, Obama hosted the first Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, DC, in April 2010, one year after his Prague speech. The summit was part of an international effort to improve the nuclear material security regime and all 47 attending nations endorsed the four-year plan to secure all vulnerable nuclear material.

Participants signed a joint communiqué and work plan outlining steps that they would take toward this end, and agreed to meet again in 2012 in Seoul, South Korea.

Many states also made specific national commitments to improve nuclear security within their own borders. Twenty-nine nations made [over 50 commitments](#) in a wide variety of areas, including promises to give up fissile material stockpiles, sign relevant international agreements, tighten export controls, and provide funding for global nuclear security efforts. ➔



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**Commitments on track.** One year after the 2010 summit, countries are faring reasonably well in their efforts to meet summit commitments. It is striking that roughly 60 percent of the national commitments made in Washington have been completed. Kazakhstan [secured](#) enough highly enriched uranium (HEU) and weapons-grade plutonium to make 775 nuclear weapons, and Russia [ended](#) plutonium production and signed a plutonium disposition protocol with the United States. In the midst of chaos after an earthquake, Chile [removed](#) all of its remaining HEU and returned it safely to the United States.



President Obama in Prague in April 2009

Credit: [www.meaus.com/00142-obama-prague-2009.htm](http://www.meaus.com/00142-obama-prague-2009.htm)

Many countries have made progress on their commitments. Ukraine [removed](#) over half of its HEU in 2010, putting the nation on track to meet its pledge to eliminate all HEU by the 2012 summit, and China [signed](#) a memorandum of understanding with the United States to establish a Center of Excellence in China to promote nuclear security best practices.

In short, states are accomplishing what they promised to do in Washington last April. Moreover, there are indications that the summit process is having an impact beyond the countries that attended. Last December, Belarus -- which was not represented at the 2010 summit -- [promised](#) to give up all of its HEU by 2012 in the hopes of being invited to Seoul in 2012.

**Further work to be done.** This is not to say that the world's nuclear security regime is close to being perfect. There will clearly be much work left to do even if all of the commitments made in Washington are met. Participating nations should consider two things in particular:

First, they should conduct and publicize a transparent review of participants' commitment implementation progress at the 2012 summit. Currently, observations about commitment progress are made principally from open sources including newspaper articles and press releases from government agencies, as governments are often hesitant to discuss internal nuclear material security procedures. Nevertheless, an open discussion of what summit goals countries have accomplished by 2012 will be essential if the international community is to have a clear picture of where global nuclear security efforts stand.

Second, summit attendees should think of the next summit as an opportunity to push the nuclear material security agenda forward. The Washington summit was extremely important in terms of bringing attention to this issue, but it focused principally on achieving compliance with existing nuclear material security arrangements. As the 2012 summit approaches, countries should consider what new initiatives, funding pledges, and collaborations could be launched.

The progress made so far demonstrates the ability of the summit process to generate concrete outcomes and improvements in global nuclear security. The summit process is a unique and promising vehicle for advancing efforts to prevent nuclear terrorism; governments should take heed and invest the time and resources to ensure that it can live up to that promise.

*Editor's note: Rob Golan-Vilella, Michelle Marchesano, and Sarah Williams wrote this column. Golan-Vilella is a Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellow at the Arms Control Association (ACA). Marchesano is a senior budget policy analyst at Partnership for Global Security (PGS). And Williams is a Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellow at the Center for Science, Technology and Security Policy (CSTSP) at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Williams is also the coordinator of the Fissile Materials Working Group, and her comments are in that capacity and do not reflect the opinions or position of CSTSP or AAAS. The three are authors of an upcoming report on the Nuclear Security Summit commitments, which will be published by ACA and PGS on April 11, 2011. The report will be available on ACA's website.*

Source: <http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/fissile-materials-working-group/promises-promises-progress-report-one-year-af> ■



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

## What Others Say

### **Ban welcomes extension of UN body dealing with weapons of mass destruction**



26 April 2011 –Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today welcomed the 10-year extension of a committee tasked with monitoring a United Nations resolution seeking to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

“Concerted international cooperation and action remains vital to the prevention of proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery to terrorists and other non-State actors,” a [statement](#) issued by Mr. Ban’s spokesperson stated.

Last week the Security Council extended until 25 April 2021 the mandate of the committee established pursuant to [resolution 1540](#) (2004), which imposes binding obligations on all States to establish controls preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and their means of delivery.

In addition to monitoring the resolution, the so-called 1540 Committee encourages greater international cooperation on issues related to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to promote universal adherence to existing non-proliferation treaties.

Last week’s resolution also requested the Secretary-General to establish a group of up to eight experts to assist the committee.

“The Secretary-General will continue to give priority to disarmament and non-proliferation issues and is ready to work actively with the Security Council to promote international efforts to achieve the objectives of resolution 1540 (2004),” today’s statement added.

Source: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=38193&Cr=non-proliferation&Cr1=#> ■

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## **Disarmament Commission Failed to Capitalize on Momentum Created By Achievements of 2010, Says Chairman as Session Concludes**

### **Delegates Express Regret over ‘Paralysis’ while Nuclear Threat Still Looms**

The Disarmament Commission had failed to capitalize on the momentum created by a host of achievements in the disarmament field of during 2010, Hamid al-Bayati ( Iraq), its Chairman, said today as the body concluded its twelfth consecutive fruitless substantive session.

“The Commission... missed a good opportunity to build on the positive developments witnessed during the past year,” said the Chairman, referring to recent agreements including the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) between the United States and the Russian Federation and the August 2010 entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. He noted that delegations had frequently cited those achievements, among others, throughout the Commission’s three weeks of intensive deliberations.

He said the Commission had also failed to signal the end of its long period of stagnation, noting that, at the conclusion of yet another unsuccessful three-year cycle of work, its credibility was now seriously threatened. Echoing calls by several delegations during past, equally unproductive sessions, he said the Commission had reached the point where it must reconsider a debate on its working methods, which was needed to ensure that the Commission “fulfills its solemn mandate from the General Assembly”. ➡





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## What Others Say

Despite those shortcomings, however, he commended the efforts of the Commission's three Working Groups, the reports of which were presented today. While none of them had been able to reach a consensus on their respective outcome documents, their deliberations — particularly those in Working Groups I and II — had built a potential foundation for consensus in the Commission's next cycle, he said.

Presenting the reports were Knut Langeland (Norway), Chair of Working Group I, on "Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons" (document A/CN.10/2011/CRP.3); Kayode Laro, (Nigeria), Chair of Working Group II, on "Elements of the draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade" (document A/CN.10/2011/CRP.4); and Liseth Ancidey (Venezuela), Chair of Working Group III, on "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons" (document A/CN.10/2011/CRP.5).

As the Commission adopted the reports, by consensus, the three Chairs said they were purely organizational in nature as they lacked any substantive outcomes.

Also today, Hervé Djokpe (Benin), the Rapporteur of the Commission, presented the draft report on the Commission's 2011 substantive session (document A/CN.10/2011/CRP.2), stressing that its lack of concrete recommendations reflected the complexity of the issues at hand, rather than any deficiency in the work of the Commission or its Working Groups.

After adopting each chapter individually, the Commission adopted the draft report as a whole, without a vote, as orally revised.

In successive statements, delegates described the lack of progress as "regrettable", and expressed their hopes that future substantive sessions would find more areas of common ground. "We stand before the same predictable results, as usual," said Mexico's representative, adding that it was inadmissible that the Commission continued to suffer its current "paralysis" while the world still faced the serious threat of nuclear weapons.

Hungary's representative, speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that both the deliberative and the negotiating bodies set up under the auspices of the General Assembly had once again fallen short of their agreed goals. To achieve them, the Commission should hold discussions on more specific subjects and limit its agenda to no more than two carefully chosen items, he added.

However, other delegations disagreed with the idea that deficient working methods were to blame for the shortfalls. Cuba's representative — stressing that the Commission's lack of success was not an isolated incident but the symptom of a recurring problem — said that blaming the working methods was a distraction from the real issue: an unacceptable number of nuclear weapons on the planet. In that light, the current lack of progress could not "give rise to resignation", and the aims of the Fourth Decade for Disarmament could not be questioned in any way, he said, proposing the adoption of an international convention to eliminate nuclear weapons within 25 years.

Norway's representative said discussions had been substantive, which fulfilled at least part of the Commission's mandate. "At least we tried," he said, urging Member States to "think outside the box" about making the best use of the Commission in the future.

Indonesia's representative, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, agreed that the deliberations of the three Working Groups had been very important and substantive, despite their inability to make recommendations. The Movement hoped for a more results-oriented session in 2012 and called for greater political will, flexibility and cooperation by all States in that regard.

Also offering closing remarks were representatives of Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sweden and Spain.

Source: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2011/dc3293.doc.htm> ■



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## What Others Say

### Hiroshima's Atomic Bomb Dome Makes Google Street View

By Steve Levenstein



*Dome in its post-war condition to stand as a living testament to the horror of nuclear conflict."*

The Atomic Dome isn't the only Hiroshima landmark to appear on Google Street View. Special collections of seven different locations in Hiroshima Prefecture have recently been added, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and high & low tide scenes of the "floating" Itsukushima Shrine to name just a couple. (via [Google Japan](#))

Source: [http://inventorspot.com/articles/hiroshimas\\_atomic\\_bomb\\_dome\\_makes\\_google\\_street\\_view](http://inventorspot.com/articles/hiroshimas_atomic_bomb_dome_makes_google_street_view) ■



<http://www.peoplesdecade.org>

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