



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

People's Decade for Nuclear Abolition
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Number 05 | 2010

A Monthly Newsletter for Strengthening Awareness of Nuclear Abolition.

This page includes independent news coverage which is part of a project supported by Soka Gakkai International

This newsletter brings you independent news by IPS correspondents, in-depth reports and analyses by partners as well as columns by experts, news from international NGOs and a review of the global media for a glimpse of what is happening on the ground. Join us in helping strengthen awareness about the abolition of nuclear weapons – and encourage your friends and colleagues to subscribe to this free monthly newsletter.

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Kazakhstan Leads Battle to Ban Nuclear Testing

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The Arabs and the Race to Nuclear Hell

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Peace Signals from U.S. Nuclear Footprint Sites

History is in the making with two sites where the United States left its indelible nuclear footprints -- the Bikini Atoll in the Marshall archipelago and Japan's legendary city of Hiroshima -- sending new signals.

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Compilation of Articles April 2009-March 2010

This document is part of a project aimed to strengthen public awareness of the urgent need for nuclear abolition. The Tokyo-based Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a Buddhist association, and the Inter Press Service global news agency initiated a media project in April 2009, which aimed to help shed light on the issue of nuclear abolition from the perspectives of civil society through the global media network of IPS and its partners such as the Global Perspectives.

The journalistic articles, reproduced here, were published on the Internet and are available online at: www.ipsnews.net/new_focus/nuclear/index.asp and www.nuclearabolition.net

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Kazakhstan Leads Battle to Ban Nuclear Testing

By Megan Iacobini de Fazio

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 27, 2010 (IPS) - The first International Day against Nuclear Testing will be marked Sunday by festivities in Astana, Kazakhstan and major cities around the world, with the goal of raising awareness of the importance of banning nuclear tests and to educate people on the catastrophic effects past tests have had on human beings and the environment.

There will also be a session of the U.N. General Assembly on Sep. 9 dedicated to the subject of nonproliferation and a definitive ban on nuclear testing. The International day against Nuclear Testing was declared during the 64th session of the U.N. General Assembly, through the unanimous adoption of resolution 64/35 on Dec. 2, 2009.

Israil Tilegen, counsellor of the Kazakhstan Mission to the U.N., told IPS that "the day is both a remembrance day and a day to urge countries to give up their nuclear arsenal".

The event coincides with the anniversary of the first Soviet nuclear test blast in Kazakhstan on Aug. 29, 1949, and with the closure of the Semipalatinsk test site on the same date in 1991.

That year the president of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, issued a decree permanently closing the world's second largest nuclear test site, and later voluntarily renounced the country's nuclear arsenal, which at the time was the world's fourth largest.

The Soviet Union carried out a total of 456 nuclear tests in the eastern region of Kazakhstan until 1989, but the full impact and damage of radiation to people and to the environment was not exposed by the Soviet union until the test site was closed two years later. The long term effects of these tests are still subject of research and discussion, although there have been studies which suggest that the consequences on the population and surrounding land are still evident.

The only on site inhabitants at the time were mainly Soviet employees whose job it was to service Semipalatinsk. They were concentrated around the towns of Kurchatov, Akzhar and Moldari and the total population was of around 40,000. However, it is estimated that up to 1.5 million people were exposed to considerable amounts of radiation, mainly because of unsuccessful tests which resulted in the dispersion of plutonium in the environment.

Five tests carried out on the surface of the earth and in the atmosphere and 13 conducted underground exploded at the

wrong time and caused the release of radioactive gases into the atmosphere. The affected area is said to be roughly the size of Germany.

"Forty years on there is still a high incidence of cancer and children born with genetic disorders," Tilegen said.

Kazakhstan has always been a prominent and active party in the process of reducing the global nuclear threat through nonproliferation and disarmament and is a supporter of a timely entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

"The International Day Against Nuclear Testing is a first step towards a world free of nuclear weapons," Tilegen claims.

Addressing an international conference held in Astana on Thursday Secretary General Ban Ki-moon reiterated his hope that the CTBT be enforced by 2012. In his address, which was read out during the conference, Ban stressed the importance of the treaty as an instrument in the cause of nonproliferation and disarmament. He also welcomed the initiative promoted by Kazakhstan to organise a conference on the political aspects of banning nuclear tests and the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Tibor Toth, head of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation, labeled the day as "a time to act and not to wait".

He added that the declaration of Aug. 29 as the International Day against Nuclear Tests "is an acknowledgment of the need to halt nuclear testing once and for all".

The Treaty has been ratified by 153 nations but must still be approved by a group of 44 "Annex 2" states. There are also nine holdouts which include Iran, North Korea, China, Indonesia and the United States. The Obama administration has however expressed support for the entry into force of the treaty and is expected to act soon.

"Now is the time for the nine states whose ratification of the CTBT will bring it into force to show the political will and fully endorse it" Toth said. ■



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Moving to a Safer World with a Million Pleas Campaign

By Neena Bhandari



Million Pleas Campaign | Credit: ICAN

SYDNEY (IDN) – As the threat of nuclear annihilation becomes more real than ever before, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Australia has launched a 'Million Pleas' campaign, emphasising the urgency to rid the world of these weapons.

"The Million Pleas campaign gives a face and a voice to the issue of Nuclear weapons and the urgency for total disarmament and abolition of these weapons. People do want to see a complete abolition of N-weapons, but they don't necessarily have a way of getting the message across to world leaders. Through this initiative, they can," says ICAN Australia's Campaign Director and Executive Officer, Dimity Hawkins.

A 45-second film clip, featuring Japanese school children and an 80-year-old survivor of the atomic blast, Nakanishi Iwao, calling on each of the nine nuclear states to free the world of N-weapons, has triggered the world's longest video chain letter appeal to world leaders to abolish nuclear weapons, setting a new global milestone in online interactive campaigning.

Developed by ICAN Australia in partnership with Melbourne-based advertising agency Whybin TBWA, it gives people around the world a chance to voice their support for nuclear disarmament by uploading their image and personal plea via popular social networking tools -- youtube, facebook or twitter.

The campaign, with Ambassadors including Nobel Peace laureates Archbishop Desmond Tutu, founding coordinator of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines Jody Williams and former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, was launched in Hiroshima on August 6, 2010 to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and three days later of Nagasaki, which killed over hundreds of thousands of people, mostly within minutes.

In a message of hope and peace at the launch, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the first UN chief to attend the Peace Memorial ceremony in Hiroshima said: "Together, we are on a journey from ground zero to Global Zero -- a world free of weapons of mass destruction. That is the only sane path to a safer world...We must teach an elemental truth: that status and prestige belong not to those who possess nuclear weapons, but to those who reject them."

Ban Ki-moon is convening a high-level meeting at the UN on September 24 to push for a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty, and disarmament education in schools -- including translating the testimonies of the survivors in the world's major languages.

Despite 153 countries having ratified the CTBT, it has yet to come into force due to the failure of nine 'nuclear capable' nations, the U.S., China, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea, India and Pakistan, to join the treaty.

ICAN Australia Board member, Tim Wright, who was in Hiroshima for the launch told IDN, "The children and NGOs were very keen to get this message across of 'Never Again'. People have found the humanitarian-based Million Pleas campaign incredibly compelling and moving. A lot of material against nuclear weapons we see today is based on a fear kind of campaigning about nuclear terrorism whereas we have always focused on these being immoral weapons and no country can be trusted with them."

"I think one of the things that Ban Ki-moon has brought to the debate is the sense of urgency. He said in Hiroshima that he wanted CTBT entered into force by 2012 and he described the vision of abolition by 2020 as perfect vision. So this is significantly different from what the nuclear weapons states are saying," says Wright. ↻



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Since the 1945 bombing of the two Japanese cities, thousands of nuclear tests have been conducted around the world. Seven nations, the U.S., Russia (and former USSR), France, UK, China, India and Pakistan, have acknowledged to testing weapons between 1945 and 1998, and North Korea tested nuclear devices in 2006 and 2009. On August 29, the first UN Day against Nuclear Tests was held to mark the closure of the former Soviet Union's main nuclear test site, Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan in 1991.

There are currently an estimated 22,600 N-weapons around the world. "It is an extraordinary number when you think how few it would take really to create utter devastation of the entire environments, to kill millions of people and displace many more, to create a famine and radical climate change. People do understand that nuclear weapons do not add to their security," Hawkins told IDN.

At the 19th world congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) in Basel (Switzerland) August 25-30, ICAN encouraged European and the over 50 participating countries to translate and adapt the Million Pleas campaign to their domestic issues. The film clip, currently in English and English-Japanese, has been on community service announcements on a range of commercial and mainstream radio and television channels in Australia.

ICAN, a global grassroots movement, is calling for disarmament through a legally binding, verifiable and time-bound Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC) to prohibit the development, testing, production, use and threat of use of N-weapons.

Recently, there have been some positive moves demonstrating that disarmament is possible if there is political will and cooperation. The U.S. President Barack Obama has spoken strongly about the need to get to zero N-weapons and signed the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with the Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in April 2010. The treaty includes a 30 percent reduction in the number of strategic nuclear warheads deployed by the two countries, which together hold more than 90 percent of the world's N-weapons.

Earlier in June 2008, former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd was the first sitting prime minister to visit Hiroshima, where Australia along with Japan formed the Independent Commission for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND). The ICNND report makes a case for specific reductions in numbers to be achieved by certain times, including the 'minimisation point' of a global maximum of 2000 N-weapons by 2025.

But as ICAN Australia Board member, Tim Wright told IDN, "Setting up a commission is one thing, but taking the hard decisions that would advance disarmament is quite another. The Labor Government hasn't been willing to take any serious steps, for example, banning uranium sales to nuclear weapons states, advocating for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, and rejecting the U.S. Nuclear Umbrella."

"We are very much part of the problem so I think the perception of Australia as the 'good guy' on these issues needs to be set straight. Australia is one of those countries who rely on the U.S. nuclear weapons for security and by doing so we give legitimacy to nuclear weapons, we send a message to other countries that they are useful weapons for providing security and that is an impediment to disarmament. Last year's defence white paper even affirmed the importance of nuclear deterrents in Australia's defence." says Wright.

Australia is definitely vital in the discussion around disarmament because it is a major exporter of uranium and exports uranium to nuclear states, who have signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). In April 2010 the Government approved uranium exports to Russia, which not been visited by the International Atomic Energy Agency since 2001.

A survey by a Sydney-based independent think-tank, the Lowy Institute for International policy, found 84 percent of Australians were against Australia developing N-weapons, but if some of Australia's near neighbours began to develop them, opposition fell to 57 percent and 42 percent in favour of Australia doing the same.

As Hawkins says, "It requires efforts from all nations, who have the weapons and all those who do not, to get rid of them and make the world free of nukes a reality. One nuclear weapon in any country is one too many. There is always a risk of accident, of use whether intentional or by accident, there is also the risk of terrorism associated with these weapons wherever they are. That is why Million Pleas is exciting as it gives voice to people and organisations that for 65 years have been making calls to put these weapons to bed and delegitimise their use." ➔



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One of the major difficulties has been one set of rules for countries that already have N-weapons and another set of rules for those that don't. It is also noticeable that some countries, for example the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, keep N-weapons but are also most vocal about calling for other nations not to acquire them.

While NPT remains the only legally binding multilateral instrument recognising the importance of nuclear disarmament through Article 6, a NWC will help enhance Article 6 obligations by putting together a road map to get to zero N-weapons, currently missing in the NPT. Also, there is the risk of proliferation of nuclear technology, even if it is ostensibly for civilian nuclear power use as they call it in the NPT that will lead to the proliferation of nuclear weapons capability.

As Hawkins says, "It is widely recognised that the technology needed for nuclear power is not dissimilar to that needed for nuclear weapons production."

Traditionally, Australia has taken a leading role in the negotiation of major international arms control instruments, most recently, the Cluster Munitions Convention. But Hawkins says, "Lately, I have been very disappointed, especially by the lacklustre approach from the Australian government at the UN Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty Review conference in May 2010 when Australia was conspicuously absent from the discussion on a Nuclear Weapons Convention.

"However, the election of the Australian Greens in a sweeping balance of power in the Senate in the August 2010 elections is good news for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as they have a strong history and a solid visionary platform on the issues around nuclear weapons."

The proponents of nuclear abolition are questioning the astronomical expenditure on developing, keeping and updating N-weapons when millions of people are dying of hunger, lack of fresh water and preventable diseases.

"If we abolish nuclear weapons there will be freeing of technology, of resources, of scientific head space and potential to deal with real security issues in this world," says Hawkins. In 2008, the United States spent some 52.4 billion U.S. dollars for the maintenance of its nuclear arsenal while more than 37 million Americans live in poverty and nearly 50 million live without health insurance.

Total elimination of Nuclear Weapons is humanity's only hope for survival and the Million Pleas campaign is a step towards moving the world to a safer, secure future by compelling governments to act now. (IDN-InDepthNews/31.08.2010)

The Arabs and the Race to Nuclear Hell

By Fareed Mahdy

ISTANBUL (IDN) - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon sounds rather optimistic -- or has chosen to do so: "Recently, we have seen signs of progress on nuclear non-proliferation talks," he said some two weeks ahead of announcing on August. 3 that ministerial-level discussions on eliminating the world's nuclear weapons will take place in New York in September. But signals from both the Arab region and the U.S. induce a dramatically different conclusion.

In fact, indications from the Middle East point to an ongoing nuclear race in the region -- the world's most conflictive and the only one not to have a nuclear free zone treaty. Indeed, Latin America and the Caribbean is nuclear free, as is Africa, while sub-regional treaties have also been sealed among Central Asian countries and South-eastern Asian states. ➡



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The Middle East is therefore a striking exception in a world willing to head for eliminating atomic weapons, at least according to big nuclear powers' political statements.

In fact, Jordan and Sudan have openly joined other 10 Arab countries willing to exercise their legitimate right to produce nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

These are: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, and United Arab Emirates.

Together these 12 countries represent over 50 percent of the 22 members of the League of Arab States, and an even higher percentage (over two-thirds) considering that at least five of them -- Somalia, Yemen, Comoros Islands, Djibouti and Mauritania -- appear to be far away from caressing nuclear dreams for now.

DANGEROUS RACE

Such an Arab nuclear race is to be clearly considered extremely dangerous should Western powers' arguments against Iranian nuclear programme hold ground. According to these arguments, the very fact that Tehran pursues atomic energy for civilian purposes implies an evident risk that it may militarize it and start producing atomic weapons.

The logical corollary of Western arguments therefore is that the Arab countries willing to go nuclear would eventually end up developing nuclear weapons.

Three key questions arise:

-- Why do the Arabs want to turn nuclear?

-- Why Europe, the U.S. and its allies in Asia, are pushing the Arabs into such a nuclear race?

-- Has the Iranian nuclear programme been used as an alibi by Arab regimes to run in the atomic race and by the West to encourage them to do so?

ARAB ARGUMENTS

Arab states would have at least four good arguments -- or justifications -- to want to develop their own nuclear capacities. On the one hand, the sole nuclear power in the Middle East, Israel -- which reportedly possesses over 200 nuclear warheads (equivalent to more than three-folds of Indian or Pakistani atomic arsenals) -- continues to frustrate the international community's efforts to make it join the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

In fact, Israel categorically rejects all demands to lay bare its atomic programme; submit its nuclear facilities to the mandatory inspection of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); join international nuclear disarmament negotiations and accords, and participate in any attempt to declare the Middle East a nuclear free zone.

On the other hand, Arab regimes are under increasing pressure from the U.S. and Europe through their consistent campaign to terrorise the region over alleged Iranian intentions to become a nuclear power.

A third argument is the failure to declare the Middle East a nuclear free zone. In fact, all their demands to liberate the region from these and all other weapons of mass destruction have been systematically falling on deaf ears.

The fourth reason is the big nuclear powers' insistence on offering assistance to whoever wants to go atomic in the region.

In fact, Western nuclear powers, led by France, and closely followed by the U.S. and the United Kingdom, have been systematically casting their "nuclear assistance charm" on all Arab regimes.

In this, they have simply prioritised their commercial interests and power game over their declared good intentions of freeing the world from nuclear threats. Such Western pressure has led Russia to compete with them due to both political and commercial reasons. ➡



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GOING NUCLEAR, ALREADY

Consequently, the United Arab Emirates has joined Saudi Arabia on the nuclear road through the Gulf region, with other runners, such as Kuwait and Qatar, already warming their muscles.

At the same time, the uranium-rich Jordan has been involved in discussions with French giant Areva and Japanese firm Mitsubishi to acquire technology to enable it build its first nuclear power plant.

Furthermore, the Jordanian government announced in late July 2010 an agreement with South Korea to launch its first nuclear research reactor.

The Jordanian nuclear plan embodies a first sign of 'rebellion' against U.S. and European policies, as Amman has shown great reluctance to accept Western moves to prevent Jordan from exercising its sovereign right to enrich uranium.

At the same time, France promised assistance to Qatar and Morocco to launch their own nuclear programmes, and Cairo signed last year with Moscow an agreement ensuring Russian enrolment in the setting up of nuclear plants in Egypt.

Now Sudan has also decided to join the nuclear race by announcing on August 22 a plan to build its own reactor.

THE AMERICAN 'OPTIONS'

Meanwhile, the U.S. has shown no real signs of willingness to eliminate the danger of atomic weapons from the face of the Earth, in spite of Barack Obama administration's declared good will of achieving a nuclear free world.

Far from that, U.S. nuclear plans imply that despite its decision to reduce its atomic arsenals, it will keep a minimum of 3,000 nuclear weapons for over a decade, while continuing to modernise its atomic arsenals and aiming at producing a so-called "super nuclear bomb".

In a further step, the U.S. has made it loud and clear that anybody who wants to go nuclear in the Arab region will have to choose between three specific options, which Secretary of State Hilary Clinton has spelt out during one of her frequent visits to the region:

"They can just give in to the threat (from Iran). Or they can seek their own capabilities, including nuclear; or they ally themselves with a country like the United States that is willing to help defend them . . . I think the third is by far the preferable option."

THE CIA WILL WATCH

Be it on purpose to reaffirm Clinton's "options" and make it clear how the U.S. is keen about further aligning the Arabs behind its interests, or to just strengthen its role in the region, the fact is that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has decided to open a counter-proliferation centre to combat the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Its director, Leon Edward Panetta, said on August 18 that the new centre would place CIA operators side by side with the agency's analysts to brainstorm plans to "confront the threat of weapons of mass destruction -- nuclear, chemical and biological".

THE IRANIAN ALIBI

There is another key factor in such a nuclear race in the Arab region, and that is the consistent campaign by the U.S. and Europe to persuade the world and their own public, that Iranian nuclear programme represents a major threat to their national security and that of the whole planet.

Such insistence in arguing that Iran could well transform its civilian programme into a military to develop atomic weapons -- and use them -- has targeted the Gulf region in particular. ➡



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No wonder. It is the single richest oil producing region in the world; its regimes are close "allies" of the U.S. and Europe, and its countries have enough financial resources.

These resources, which have been disproportionately used to fulfil an induced -- if not imposed -- need to regularly purchase Western conventional weapons, are now seen as a great business opportunity to move the 'simple' arms race to a nuclear race.

Paradoxically enough, Tehran has contributed significantly to this game, by reiterating swollen patriotic proclamations.

NUCLEAR TURKEY?

An additional side-effect to the Middle East atomic race induced by the biggest nuclear powers is Ankara's decision to install its own nuclear facilities.

In fact, the Turkish parliament approved on July 13 a bill on an agreement between Russia and Turkey for the construction of Turkey's first nuclear power plant in the coastal town of Akkuyu, in Mersin province.

According to the agreement, which was signed during Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's official visit to Turkey in May 2010, the two countries will cooperate in the construction and operation of the power plant.

A consortium led by state-controlled Russian builder AtomStroyExport will construct the plant in Akkuyu, which is estimated to cost around 20 billion US dollars. The construction is due to start later this year, and it will generate 4,800 megawatts in four units.

This Turkish nuclear plan gains special relevance in view of the country's doubly important role -- as a key, full member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and as a new, strong player in the Middle East.

All these developments point to a bleak proliferation scenario. Does the UN Secretary-General nevertheless wish to hold on to his optimism? (IDN-InDepthNews/23.08.2010)

Peace Signals from U.S. Nuclear Footprint Sites

By Ramesh Jaura

BERLIN (IDN) - History is in the making with two sites where the United States left its indelible nuclear footprints -- the Bikini Atoll in the Marshall archipelago and Japan's legendary city of Hiroshima -- sending new signals.

The World Heritage Committee meeting in Brasilia from July 25 to August 3 placed the Bikini Atoll in the Marshall archipelago on the World Heritage List of UNESCO, the United Nations agency mandated to conserve the humankind's legacy.

The rationale behind the decision of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee is that in the wake of World War II, in a move closely related to the beginnings of the Cold War, the United States decided to resume nuclear testing in the Pacific Ocean, on Bikini Atoll. After the displacement of the local inhabitants, 67 nuclear tests were carried out from 1946 to 1958, including the explosion of the first H-bomb (1952).

Bikini Atoll has conserved direct tangible evidence that is highly significant in conveying the power of the nuclear tests, that is, the sunken ships sent to the bottom of the lagoon by the tests in 1946 and the gigantic Bravo crater, according to UNESCO.

Equivalent to 7,000 times the force of the Hiroshima bomb, the tests had major consequences on the geology and natural environment of Bikini Atoll and on the health of those who were exposed to radiation.

"Through its history, the atoll symbolises the dawn of the nuclear age, despite its paradoxical image of peace and of earthly paradise. This is the first site from the Marshall Islands to be inscribed on the World Heritage List," UNESCO states. ☺



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A glimpse of history shows that Bikini was visited by only a dozen or so ships before the establishment of the German colony of the Marshall Islands in 1885. Along with the rest of the Marshalls, Bikini was captured by the Imperial Japanese Navy in 1914 during World War I (1914-1918) and mandated to the Empire of Japan by the League of Nations in 1920.

The Japanese administered in the island under the South Pacific Mandate, but mostly left local affairs in hands of traditional local leaders until the start of World War II in 1939. Following the end of World War II (1945), Bikini came under the control of the United States as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands until the independence of the Marshall Islands in 1986.

GENBAKU DOME

Unlike the Bikini Atoll, Hiroshima did not have to wait that long to be placed on the World Heritage List. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome) was inscribed 1996 on the List "to symbolize the tragedy brought about by the world's first atomic bomb".

An atomic bomb exploded directly above a building called the Hiroshima Prefectural Industrial Promotion Hall on August 6, 1945, with the pressure created by the bomb being 35 tons per square meter and the blast speed emitted reaching 440 meters per second. The building was destroyed and only a few walls and the steel framework were left standing.

After the war it was given the name of 'Genbaku Dome' (Atomic Bomb Dome) by locals and in 1966 Hiroshima City Government decided to preserve the Genbaku Dome permanently, restoring the building regularly thereafter. What sets apart the 2010 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony -- held every year on August 6 at Hiroshima Peace Park -- is that for the first time officials from 74 countries attended the ceremony.

Also the attendance of U.S. Ambassador to Japan John Roos, who presented a floral wreath, marks the first time an American diplomat attended the Peace Ceremony. This is viewed by many Japanese as a good sign. Representatives from nuclear weapon states France and Great Britain as well made their first appearance.

It was besides the first time that United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon not only attended the ceremony but also addressed Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony. Ban, who hails from Korea, was a child when the atomic bombs fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, resulting in the deaths of more than 200,000 people. More than 400,000 have died -- and are continuing to die -- since the end of World War II from the impacts of those bombs. "Only later in life could I begin to understand the full dimension of all that happened here," Ban said.

It is against the backdrop of this realization that he has made nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation a top priority, and put forward a five-point plan in 2008 that includes recommendations on increasing security, verification, establishing a legal framework for nuclear disarmament, transparency and conventional weapons.

"Our moment has come," an upbeat Secretary-General said, noting recent progress on the issue, including new leadership from the most powerful nations, new engagement in the Security Council, and new energy from civil society.

At the same time, it is vital to keep up the momentum, he said, adding that he will convene a Conference on Disarmament in New York in September, where he will push for negotiations towards nuclear disarmament.

In a significant move, Ban also highlighted the need for disarmament education in schools, including translating the testimonies of the survivors in the world's major languages, as well as teaching that "status and prestige belong not to those who possess nuclear weapons, but to those who reject them".

The UN Secretary-General came to Hiroshima after spending what he described "a profoundly moving day" in Nagasaki, where he toured the Atomic Bomb Museum and met with a number of survivors. He also laid a wreath at the monument located at ground zero, and visited a separate memorial for Korean victims. ➡



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He said his visit to Nagasaki had strengthened his conviction that nuclear weapons must be outlawed, and he urged all nations to support his five-point action plan and agree to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention at the earliest possible date. "Together, we are on a journey from ground zero to Global Zero -- a world free of weapons of mass destruction. That is the only sane path to a safer world. Let us realize our dream of a world free of nuclear weapons so that our children and all succeeding generations can live in freedom, security and peace," Ban stated.

In both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he met with hibakusha, or victims of the bombings. The Secretary-General told reporters in Hiroshima that those meetings "have strengthened my determination to work even harder" to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons. "The suffering was unimaginable and the courage and fortitude had been extraordinary," he said, describing their devotion to ridding the world of the weapons as inspirational.

Ban also stressed in remarks at a welcome ceremony in Hiroshima that abolishing nuclear weapons is "more than our common dream; it is common sense policy".

There have been some encouraging new commitments made by the world's nuclear powers, including the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) reached by the United States and Russia, under which they pledged to cut back on their stockpiles by a third. Progress was also made at both the high-level Washington Summit on Nuclear Security and the May 2010 review conference of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) held at the United Nations.

"Above all," he said, there has been a "rising chorus of conscience from civil society", such as the Mayors for Peace movement, bringing together more than 4,000 mayors from around the world, as well as representatives of the world's religions, lawyers, doctors, environmentalists, labour leaders, women, human rights activists, parliamentarians and others.

"Even former military officials are speaking out: statesmen once responsible for nuclear weapons policies," Ban noted. While governments bear the primary responsibility for peace, he also underscored the key role that business can play in an address to the Global Compact Network.

A company's investment and employment decisions, its relations with communities, and its actions on the environment and security "can create or exacerbate the tensions that fuel conflict... or they can help a country remain at peace," he emphasized. Ban's remarks show that the UN not only shares the aspirations of the youth but also supports their campaign to create a nuclear-weapon-free world. This was indicated in run-up to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony at the Youth Peace General Assembly and Asia Youth Peace Music Festival held on August 1 in Hiroshima.

In response to the call by Daisaku Ikeda, president of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), for nuclear abolition, the youth wing of the organization from all over Japan -- including Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Okinawa -- have undertaken a petition drive calling for the enactment of Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC).

Through this campaign, they collected a total of 2,276,167 signatures which were submitted to the United Nations and the NPT review conference which unanimously adopted its final document stressing the need to pay adequate attention to the NWC.

Kenji Shiratsuchi, chair of the Soka Gakkai Youth Peace Conference who has led a youth campaign for nuclear abolition while collecting people's voices, told the Hiroshima-Nagasaki-Okinawa youth summit that a six-nation survey conducted by the organisation had concluded that most people believe the world would be safer without the destructive weapons.

The survey involved interviews with 4,362 people, ranging from teens to those in their thirties, in Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, New Zealand, the United States and Britain.

According to the findings, over 67 percent said the use of nuclear weapons was not acceptable under any circumstances, with only 17.5 percent seeing it as acceptable as a last resort if a country's survival was threatened, and 6.1 percent saying they could be used to prevent international terrorism or genocide. (IDN-InDepthNews/08.08.2010)



Civil Society's Perspective

IPPNW Convenes in Basel To Pursue Nuclear Abolition for a Future August 26, 2010

Sixty-five years ago this month, the United States exploded the first atomic bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the world entered an age of unthinkable peril from which we have yet to free ourselves. A single nuclear weapon can destroy a city; 100 Hiroshima-sized warheads can kill tens of millions of people outright and disrupt the global climate so severely that a billion lives could be lost to famine and epidemic disease; an exchange of the thousands of nuclear weapons still deployed by the US and Russia would make the Earth itself an uninhabitable wasteland.

If nuclear weapons were a deadly virus with the potential to sicken and kill hundreds of millions of people in a global epidemic, the nations of the world would spare no expense to contain and eradicate it. We have done this with smallpox, tuberculosis, and polio, and we are marshalling our resources today against HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other emerging health threats. Unlike contagious diseases, however, we have brought this nuclear danger upon ourselves. Nuclear weapons are manmade products. They are more horrifying in their effects than any virus, but eradicating them is actually a simpler task, requiring little more than a firm decision to disarm and the resolve to see that decision through to a conclusion.

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War believes that universal nuclear disarmament is the most urgent health and security priority of our time, matched only by the need to prevent catastrophic damage to the Earth's climate. Medical organizations around the world, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, the World Health Organization, the World Medical Association, and many national medical associations have echoed our conviction that eliminating nuclear weapons is the only sure way to prevent their use.

A Nuclear Weapons Convention, requiring all nuclear-armed nations to eliminate their arsenals and prohibiting all nations from acquiring nuclear weapons in the future, is the most effective and practical way to guard against a humanitarian catastrophe of our own making. Such conventions already exist to prohibit chemical and biological weapons, antipersonnel landmines and cluster bombs. It is long past time that nuclear weapons are renounced and their threat removed in the same way. Nuclear weapons cannot be uninvented; dismantling them and ensuring that they are never used again is within our power.

We welcomed President Obama's declaration in Prague that he wants to work for "the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons." Since then, we have heard opponents of nuclear disarmament claim that reaching this goal will take decades. They say abolition must be postponed until we have more peace and more security in the world. Some even argue that the goal of zero is wrong and that nuclear weapons—in some hands but not others—actually enhance stability and security. They try to reassure the public that deterrence works. The nuclear-weapon states—despite their new positive rhetoric about nuclear disarmament—plan to maintain hundreds and thousands of nuclear weapons in their arsenals for decades, claiming national security as their justification. None of these arguments stand up to scrutiny.

Nuclear abolition is an essential step toward more peace and security in the world. "Nuclear weapons for some but not for all" is a formula for proliferation and instability, as is evident in North Asia and the Middle East. The expectation that deterrence—which is a euphemism for threatening to incinerate entire populations—will never fail is a delusion.

Abolition is indisputably the right goal; a fast and determined pace is essential; and the only thing standing in the way of a nuclear-weapons-free world is political intransigence. Hiroshima Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba and mayors in more than 4,000 cities have called for a nuclear-weapons-free world by 2020. Ten years is more than enough time to complete this task, and IPPNW stands with Mayors for Peace in making this demand.

The global expansion of nuclear energy, which is being aggressively promoted by the industry and by governments with a vested economic interest in nuclear fuel production, is a serious impediment to nuclear disarmament. Nuclear energy is not a viable solution to the problem of climate change and endangers health and the environment in every aspect of its operations. In addition to the proliferation risks inherent in nuclear power plants, the reactors themselves are targets. We should be reducing, not increasing, the numbers of those targets. Moreover, nuclear energy is a prohibitively expensive means of meeting the world's energy needs. IPPNW supports the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), whose mandate is to promote ☺



Civil Society's Perspective

renewable energy sources worldwide, to increase energy security, and to enable economic and social development without reliance on fossil fuels or nuclear energy.

We recognize that there are steps to any journey, and we support the New START between the US and Russia as a modest step in the right direction. Entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which should have happened years ago, is another such step that should be accomplished immediately. Other constructive steps would include no-first-use declarations by all the nuclear-weapon states, removal of US tactical nuclear weapons from Europe, a ban on the production of fissile materials, removing nuclear delivery systems from high alert, and halting modernization programs for new weapons and for the infrastructure to produce and test them. The health professions themselves have a responsibility to end medically related commerce in weapons-grade, highly enriched uranium (HEU) by converting all reactors used to produce radiopharmaceuticals to low enriched uranium (LEU). All of these steps can and should be taken immediately.

None of these steps, however, is a substitute for—or a prerequisite for—negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear disarmament agreement. Delays implementing particular arms control measures must not impede the overarching goal of getting to zero promptly. This is why IPPNW launched the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons—ICAN—in 2007, to build public and governmental support for a Nuclear Weapons Convention that will rid the world of these instruments of mass extermination.

Nuclear war is the most extreme form of armed violence ever devised, but it is not the only one. Since the end of the Cold War, wars and other military interventions in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkan states, former Soviet republics, the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, and Latin America have claimed millions of lives, mostly among non-combatants. Small arms are involved in wars and crimes, suicides and accidents that result in hundreds of thousands of deaths and millions of injuries each year. Moreover, the use of small arms and other conventional weapons can all too easily escalate to the use of nuclear weapons, especially in the most volatile regions of the world. The WHO has identified violence, including armed violence, as an important and preventable health problem, requiring public health approaches to better understand the root causes and to mount effective interventions. This is the goal of IPPNW's Aiming For Prevention program, which is now in its 10th year.

Peace, security, and freedom are the rights of all people, and the most effective pathway to achieving these rights globally is the Millennium Development Goals. Armed violence of all kinds is a threat to human security and to development. The public health dimensions of this global problem, however, are poorly understood. In order to reduce the high rates of injury and death from intentional violence, we need action-oriented research, education, and advocacy in support of prevention policies at all levels of society. Recognizing that health and development are intricately linked, IPPNW came out as an early supporter of the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, which calls for a measurable reduction in the global burden of armed violence and tangible improvements in human security by 2015.

As we gather in Basel at our 19th World Congress to mark IPPNW's 30th anniversary and our 25th anniversary as a Nobel Peace Laureate, IPPNW recommits itself to ridding the world of nuclear weapons—our first and highest priority—and to preventing war as an obsolete and ineffective means of providing for our collective security—a means that is unworthy of humanity. ■

ICAN at IPPNW World Congress in Basel, Switzerland

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN) has featured in workshops, plenaries and consultations with over 50 nations delegates to the IPPNW 19th World Congress, which has been held in Basel from 25-29 August.

The World Congress concludes today, with physicians, medical students, NGO and government representatives, Mayors and others having spent a productive and invigorating week in discussion and planning around key IPPNW priority issues, including the ICAN campaign.

For more information on the IPPNW World Congress.

"This Congress has seen a real boost in activity, planning and activism around the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons," said Dimity Hawkins, Campaign Director for ICAN Australia.

"Spending a week with around 600 delegates from over 50 countries in focussed and productive discussions has provided the campaign with a renewed global push. ➡





BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

People's Decade for Nuclear Abolition
Act to make the world safe for people



Civil Society's Perspective

"Discussions around the humanitarian issues to do with nuclear weapons abolition have been of particular interest to many delegations throughout Europe and beyond. There is vigorous agreement on the importance and urgent need for a Nuclear Weapons Convention. We look forward to seeing ICAN strengthened from the discussions and consultations we have had at this important World Congress."

ICAN was launched as a key campaign priority of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) in 2006 at the 17th World Congress in Helsinki. ICAN now has partner organisations across the world. ■

Defence Review 'illogical'

Fox's 'compelling case for disarmament' makes excluding Trident from Defence Review 'illogical' 13 August 2010



CND today said the continued exclusion of Trident from the Strategic Defence and Security Review was illogical given the compelling case for nuclear disarmament laid out by Liam Fox in his latest speech.

CND welcomed Dr Fox's statement that defence strategy should be led by foreign policy and that the review should 'put the cold war to the bed'. The logical conclusion therefore would be to scrap Britain's costly cold war legacy, the submarine-based Trident nuclear weapon system, in order to meet our foreign policy commitment of nuclear disarmament, under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

CND also called into question how Dr Fox could carry out the review, without considering nuclear weapons, when he says he has not yet reached an agreement on the funding of Trident replacement with the Treasury. Dr Fox has already stated his desire to avoid 'salami-slicing' spending cuts that 'cut a bit of everything', and a willingness to 'let go

some of the legacies of the past'. Trident and its replacement remains the obvious candidate.

Kate Hudson, CND Chair, said, "Liam Fox has today made a compelling case for nuclear disarmament - all his arguments point in that direction. The exclusion of Trident from the review is completely illogical. Even in the 1998 Strategic Defence Review, before the final Vanguard submarine had been deployed, Trident was considered at length. A review now, before a new generation of submarines is ordered, and which seeks to move on from the cold war, can only do one thing - scrap Trident."

-ends-

1. For further information and interviews please contact CND's Press Officer, on 0207 7002350 or 07968 420859
2. The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) is one of Europe's biggest single-issue peace campaigns, with over 35,000 members in the UK. CND campaigns for the abolition of all nuclear weapons everywhere. www.cnduk.org ■

Trident will cause defence job losses: new CND report

'Trident, jobs and the UK economy' launched at TUC

A new report shows that replacing the Trident nuclear weapons system will cause an overall reduction in defence employment. Many more labour-intensive conventional defence activities will have to be scrapped to pay for the system designed for the Cold War.

The report also shows that with relatively small investment the skills used at BAe Systems' shipyard in Barrow could be diversified into areas such as engineering for wave and tidal energy, growing markets that could provide greater job security than the shipyard's current reliance on Ministry of Defence contracts. ■



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION



The Opportunity Costs of Nuclear Weapons

8

Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education for girls and boys
3. Promote gender equality and empowering women
4. Reduce child mortality by 2/3
5. Reduce maternal mortality by 2/3
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development¹

\$55bn

Annual Budget for U.S. Nuclear Weapons Programs²

\$40-60bn

Annual amount² needed to achieve the MDGs by 2015

ANNUALLY FOR 5 YEARS THIS WOULD¹

- Lift **500 MILLION** people out of poverty
- Help **30 MILLION** children survive past their 5th birthday
- Save **2 MILLION** mothers during childbirth
- Provide **350 MILLION** people with clean drinking
- Provide **650 MILLION** people with access to basic sanitation
- Provide **140 MILLION** children with proper nutrition

DoE's FY2011 budget request for "Stockpile Support"

\$2bn

Cost to create more than **58,000** education-related jobs¹⁵

Annual cost to modernize the U.S. nuclear arsenal over 10 years¹¹

\$18bn

Cost to provide universal access to effective AIDS prevention for one year; thereby reducing **2.25 MILLION** new infections¹²

\$800 MILLION

Cost to develop new nuclear-capable missiles¹³

Cost of one-year of Head-Start programs for over **95,000** children¹⁴

Total price tag¹⁶ for U.S. nuclear arsenal from 1940-2005

7.5 TRILLION

\$815,000,000

Cost of the new Honeywell Nuclear Weapons Parts Plant in Kansas City, MO⁸

\$5

Cost of one mosquito net in Kenya, which could save the life of a child⁹

\$72,000

Cost of a girl's school in Banaw Langla, Pakistan⁷

\$53,400,000

Cost of one B-52h Stratofortress Bomber¹⁰



¹ JD Sachs and JW McArthur; "The Millennium Project: A Plan for Meeting the Millennium Development Goals," *The Lancet*, 365 (Jan. 2005): 347-53.

² World Bank; "The Costs of Achieving the Millennium Development Goals," *The World Bank*.

³ Stephen Schwartz; "Atomic Audit: The Costs and Consequences of U.S. Nuclear Weapons Since 1940," *The Brookings Institute*.

⁴ JD Sachs and JW McArthur; "The Millennium Project: A Plan for Meeting the Millennium Development Goals," 352.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ \$55 billion/ 307,006,550 U.S. population according to US Census Bureau.

⁷ UNICEF; "Inauguration of the Banaw Langla School in Pakistan-administered Kashmir," UN, 19 March 2009.

⁸ Kevin Collison; "Private Financing Expected to Flow in June for Honeywell Nuclear Weapons Parts Plant," *The Kansas City Star*, 9 June 2010.

⁹ Project Mosquito Net; "Project Mosquito Net," *The Power of Love*, 2010.

¹⁰ Air Combat Command; "B-52 Stratofortress Fact Sheet," Air Combat Command, October 2005.

¹¹ Walter Pincus; "Nuclear Complex Upgrades Related to START Treaty to Cost \$180 Billion," *The Washington Post*, 14 May 2010, A02.

¹² The World Bank; "Executive Summary," *The World Bank's Africa Region HIV/AIDS Agenda for Action 2007-2011*, 24 June 2007.

¹³ Elaine Grossman; "Pentagon Eyes More Than \$800 Million for New Nuclear Cruise Missile," *Nuclear Threat Initiative*, 9 March 2010.

¹⁴ American Friends Service Committee; "Toward a Nuclear Free Future: Making Sense of Nuclear Weapons," American Friends Service Committee, 3 June 2010.

¹⁵ American Friends Service Committee; "Toward a Nuclear Free Future: Making Sense of Nuclear Weapons".

¹⁶ Joseph Cirincione; "Lessons Lost," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, 61, no. 6 (November 2005): 42-53.



What Others Say

UN urges all States to ratify global treaty banning nuclear tests

27 August 2010 –Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is urging all Member States that have not yet done so to ratify the United Nations-backed treaty banning nuclear tests, saying it is important to build on the momentum made on disarmament and non-proliferation over the past year.

In a message marking the first-ever International Day against Nuclear Tests, which is observed on Sunday, Mr. Ban stressed that “a world free of nuclear weapons is achievable,” adding that there had been important progress in 2010.

“The successful conclusion of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference invigorated the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime,” he said. “Bold initiatives by world leaders and civil society are showing the way toward changed policies and reduced arsenals.”

The Secretary-General said he was looking forward “working with partners to rein in spending on nuclear programmes and rid the world of the nuclear threat. A central pillar of this strategy is the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).”

Of the 182 countries that have signed the treaty, 153 have ratified it. Nine more countries – China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States – must still ratify it before the pact can enter into force. Indonesia announced on 3 May that it had initiated the CTBT ratification process.

The International Day against Nuclear Tests was established by the General Assembly in January to enhance “public awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.”

The Day was proposed by Kazakhstan – which shut down the notorious test site in Semipalatinsk on 29 August 1991 – and the “idea won unanimous support, reflecting the international community’s deep concern about the dangers posed by such tests,” Mr. Ban’s message stated.

In his message to mark the Day, General Assembly President Ali Treki noted that this year’s celebration serves as an opportunity for promoting educational activities and public awareness about the harmful and long-lasting effects of nuclear tests. It is also high time, he added, for the international community to firmly embrace the idea of expanding the nuclear-weapons-free zones worldwide, including in the Middle East, as well as renew the commitment to achieve the ultimate goal of a world free of these weapons.

Annika Thunborg, a spokesperson for the organization set up to help implement the test ban treaty (CTBTO), said the Day has a vital awareness-raising benefit on the need for non-proliferation and disarmament.

Those issues represent a top priority of Mr. Ban, and he put forward a five-point plan in 2008 that includes recommendations on increasing security, verification, establishing a legal framework for nuclear disarmament, transparency and conventional weapons. Beyond a global observation of the Day, seminars, awareness-raising events and commemoration ceremonies are being held this week at UN Headquarters in New York; Vienna; Astana, Kazakhstan; and other locations worldwide.

Mr. Ban sent a message yesterday to a high-level conference on the Day that is being held in Astana, noting that with “Kazakhstan having banished nuclear weapons and joined in creating a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, Semipalatinsk has become a powerful symbol of hope.” Traditionally, there are three types of nuclear tests: underground tests, atmospheric tests and underwater tests. With each possessing a tremendous potential for destruction, the CTBT bans them all.

To monitor the detonation of nuclear devices, the [CTBTO](#) has created a worldwide monitoring system that uses seismographs, infrasound, hydro-auditory and radionuclide detection technologies. The International Monitoring System (IMS) has 337 installations worldwide.

Despite the de facto moratorium on nuclear testing since the enactment of the CTBT, there have been six nuclear tests since 1996 – two each by India, Pakistan, and the DPRK. ■



What Others Say

Nobel Laureates Urge Obama to Renew Nuclear Disarmament Campaign

Aug. 26, 2010

Five recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize are urging U.S. President Barack Obama to renew efforts toward global nuclear disarmament by making a high-profile trip to Hiroshima, the Japanese city where an atomic weapon was first used in war, the Associated Press reported yesterday (see *GSN*, Aug. 6).

The 11th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates is scheduled to be held in Hiroshima from Nov. 12-14. While Obama is not scheduled to attend the event, he does appear set to visit Japan in the same time period.

The U.S. president, himself a Nobel Peace Prize winner last year, should offer the keynote address at the summit, according to a letter signed by former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Poland's Lech Walesa, former South African President Frederik Willem de Klerk, East Timorese President Jose Ramos-Horta and former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez.

"There could not be a better venue for such a speech than Hiroshima -- nor, perhaps, a more fitting forum than one presented by fellow Nobel Peace Laureates," according to the letter.

Obama has said he aspires to a world without nuclear weapons, while acknowledging it might not occur in his lifetime. In a high-profile April 2009 speech in Prague, he pledged to pursue "concrete steps" on nuclear disarmament and to push ahead with key nonproliferation measures.

Since then, Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev have signed a new arms control treaty that would cap their nations fielded strategic nuclear weapons at 1,550 warheads and deployed delivery systems at 700 (see *GSN*, Aug. 12). There has been less progress on other measures, such as U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (see *GSN*, May 26).

Hiroshima has never received a visit from a serving U.S. president, though Jimmy Carter traveled there after his term was finished. Around 140,000 people were killed by the U.S. atomic bomb used against the city in World War II (Associated Press/*New York Times*, Aug. 25). ■

Links

August 23, 2010 *Long Road to Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Began This Week* Blogcritics By William Lambers

It was on August 22nd, 1958 that President Dwight Eisenhower called for negotiations with the Soviet Union to craft a treaty ending nuclear weapons testing... <http://blogcritics.org/culture/article/long-road-to-nuclear-test-ban/>

August 22, 2010 *The unmaking of the atomic bomb* The Washington Post By George Perkovich

THE TWILIGHT OF THE BOMBS

Recent Challenges, New Dangers, and the Prospects for a World Without Nuclear Weapons...

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/20/AR2010082002123.html>

August 18, 2010 *Nuclear Suppliers Group and the IAEA Additional Protocol* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Six years after talks began, the 46 countries that set rules for global nuclear trade have not been able to reach an agreement on proposed new guidelines governing the export of items used for sensitive nuclear fuel cycle activities—uranium enrichment and spent fuel reprocessing... <http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=41393>

August 17, 2010 *'Model of how to conduct international collaboration'* getreading By Linda Fort

Staff at the atomic weapons factory in Aldermaston have won a major Ministry of Defence award for a project working with non-nuclear power Norway...

http://www.getreading.co.uk/business/s/2076649_model_of_how_to_conduct_international_collaboration



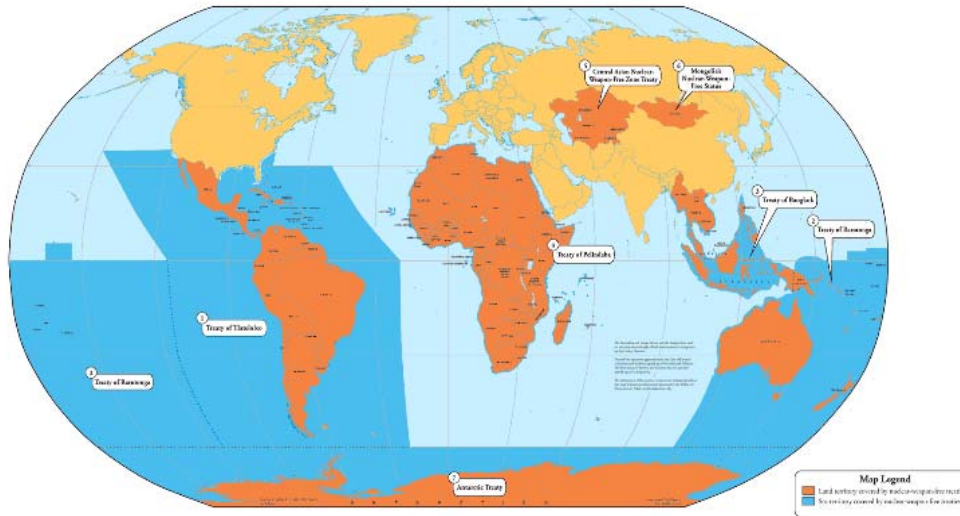
BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

People's Decade for Nuclear Abolition
Act to make the world safe for people



NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE AREAS

Demarcation of nuclear-weapon-free zones, nuclear-weapon-free status and nuclear-weapon-free geographical regions



TREATIES ESTABLISHING NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE AREAS



- Nuclear-weapon-free zones**
- 1 The 1967 Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean
 - 2 The 1985 South Pacific Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty
 - 3 The 1995 Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone
 - 4 The 1996 African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty
 - 5 The 2000 Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia
- The treaties establishing the nuclear-weapon-free zones, inter alia, ban nuclear weapons within the respective territories of the zones, including the acquisition, possession, placement, testing and use of such weapons.
- Nuclear-weapon-free status**
- 6 In 1992, Mongolia declared its nuclear-weapon-free status, which is internationally recognized and prohibits, inter alia, the acquisition, possession, placement, testing and use of nuclear weapons on its territory.

- Nuclear-weapon-free geographical regions**
- 7 The 1999 Antarctic Treaty, inter alia, prohibits any measures of military nature on the continent of Antarctica, including any testing of nuclear weapons.
 - 8 The 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, inter alia, prohibits placing nuclear weapons in orbit around Earth, launching or testing those weapons on the Moon and other celestial bodies as well as causing those weapons to enter space in any other manner.
 - 9 The 1971 Treaty on the Prohibition of the Employment of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, inter alia, prohibits the employment of nuclear weapons on the bottom of the sea-bed and the subsoil thereof.
 - 10 In 2007, the above-mentioned States at different stages with regard to their signature, ratification and entry into force, as well as with regard to the signature of instruments of their studied protocols regarding assistance from the nuclear-weapon States.





2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

3-28 May 2010

NPT Text	UN & Disarmament	Disarmament Issues	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Home Home Background Officers Provisional List of Participants Secretariat Statements Speakers List Webcast Documents Side Events Media Information NGO Information 	<p>"A world free of nuclear weapons would be a global public good of the highest order."</p> <p><i>United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his address to the East-West Institute, 24 October 2008</i></p> <p>The 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) will be held in May 2010 at UN Headquarters in New York. The President-elect of the Review Conference is Ambassador Libran N. Cabactulan of the Philippines.</p> <p>The NPT is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. The NPT represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the nuclear-weapon States.</p> <p>Conferences to review the operation of the Treaty have been held at five-year intervals since the Treaty went into effect in 1970. Each conference has sought to find agreement on a final declaration that would assess the implementation of the Treaty's provisions and make recommendations on measures to further strengthen it.</p> <p>The 2010 Review Conference is expected to consider a number of key issues, including: universality of the Treaty; nuclear disarmament, including specific practical measures; nuclear non-proliferation, including the promoting and strengthening of safeguards; measures to advance the peaceful use of nuclear energy, safety and security; regional disarmament and non-proliferation; implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East; measures to address withdrawal from the Treaty; measures to further strengthen the review process; and ways to promote engagement with civil society in strengthening NPT norms and in promoting disarmament education.</p>		
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