



Basel Peace Office

Work program and key events

December 2014 – November 2015

1. Work program

Abolition 2000

Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a member of the *Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons*. BPO will continue to serve as the manager of the Abolition 2000 facebook page and website blog. BPO will also help organise the Abolition 2000 annual meeting to be held in New York during the NPT Review Conference. BPO will also coordinate the *Global Wave* action as part of the *Abolition 2000 Spring Mobilisation for Nuclear Abolition*.

Framework Forum

BPO will co-organise (with PNND and GSI) a Framework Forum event in either Geneva or Dublin in March. The most recent Framework Forum event focused on the 'Building Blocks' proposal and was co-sponsored by the governments of Japan and the Netherlands. The March event will likely be cosponsored by the government of Ireland and thus will focus on the New Agenda Coalition paper (which outlines various proposals and approaches to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations). We will probably organise another Framework Forum event later in the year – most likely in New York during the UN General Assembly.

Engaging legislators

BPO will continue to serve as the head office of PNND with the BPO Director serving as PNND Global Coordinator. PNND is organising an international parliamentary roundtable in the Austrian parliament in December 2014, plans to hold its annual assembly in Prague in April, a forum in the European Parliament in February (to feed into a draft resolution on the NPT), an international parliamentary conference in Basel in July/August (follow-up to the NPT Review Conference) and a side event at the IPU Assembly in Geneva in October. PNND will also be organising a number of events in national parliaments including a series of motions and resolutions in follow-up to the IPU resolution and to support three main calls in the resolution: the commencement of multilateral negotiations to abolish nuclear weapons, the elimination of the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines and the international day for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. PNND will also

remain active in advancing NWFZs especially in the Middle East, North East Asia and the Arctic. This will include parliamentary forums and joint statements/motions.

Humanitarian consequences and international law

BPO will participate in the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons in December. BPO will develop a work-plan with the IFRC to cooperate with national Red Cross Societies on advancing the humanitarian imperative for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. BPO will engage in the International Court of Justice case lodged by the Marshall Islands against the nuclear-armed States – in particular by encouraging non-nuclear States including Switzerland to intervene in the case. BPO will advance criminality of nuclear weapons through the International Criminal Court by building support for the Mexican proposal.

Nuclear Abolition Forum

BPO will host a workshop of academics, parliamentarians and other policy-makers on the topic of the next edition of the Framework Forum, i.e. cooperative security and nuclear abolition. BPO will work with the World Future Council to seek suitable writers for the edition, and to edit and produce the edition.

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones

BPO will continue to support existing NWFZs and promote the establishment of additional zones – particularly in the Middle East, North East Asia and the Arctic. BPO will organise the Civil Society Forum for NWFZs in New York in conjunction with PNND and Mayors for Peace. BPO will participate in other forums on NWFZs, especially in Ottawa, Copenhagen, Helsinki and New York. Lack of staff means that BPO is not able to maintain the archive for the Middle East NWFZ which we launched in 2012 in agreement with the Civil Society Forum for a Middle East NWFZ held in Helsinki.

Religions for Peace

BPO Director is the author of the Religions for Peace Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide. BPO will co-host the launch of the German version in Basel in December. BPO will work with Religions for Peace on publishing the Arabic, French and Spanish versions during 2015.

Seminar fur Soziologie

BPO organises a two-day field trip for the Basel University Seminar fur Soziologie Conflict Analyses graduate program in November of each year. The field trip is generally to Geneva and includes workshops and meetings with ICRC, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, and various UN organisations/departments.

UNFOLD ZERO

BPO co-founded UNFOLD ZERO with PNND, Mayors for Peace, PragueVision, the NGO Committee on Disarmament and Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace, in conjunction with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. BPO will continue to advance UNFOLD ZERO through website/facebook promotion, events at key international meetings (such as the NPT Review Conference and UN General Assembly) and providing a cooperative platform for commemorating the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons in September 2015.

2. Basel Peace Office Key events for Dec 2014 – Nov 2015

December 2014

- Dec 2: **Bern:** PNND Switzerland meeting. Swiss War Materials Act and nuclear weapons
Dec 4: **Basel:** Launch of Religions for Peace Disarmament Guide - German version
Dec 6-9 **Vienna:** International Conference on Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons (we are organising a couple of events there)

2015:

Switzerland events: (dates to be confirmed)

- March: **Geneva:** Framework Forum roundtable
June: **Basel/Geneva:** Nuclear Abolition Forum academic roundtable
July: **Basel:** International parliamentary conference
August **Basel:** World Humanitarian Day with Play for Rights
October: **Geneva:** PNND side event at the Inter Parliamentary Union Assembly,
Date tbc **Basel:** Religious Communities and Nuclear Abolition workshop

Other events:

- Feb 19-20: **Vienna:** Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE
Feb? **Brussels:** Forum in the European Parliament
April 4-5: **Prague:** PNND Assembly (anniversary of President Obama's Prague speech)
April – May: **Global:** [Spring of nuclear abolition mobilisation](#),
Basel Peace Office is coordinating the **Global Wave**
April 28 – May 20: **New York:** NPT Review Conference and Abolition 2000 Annual Assembly
June 28-July 2 **Tanzania:** Kilimanjaro Project Conference and Climb
Sep 26: **Global:** International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
October: **New York:** UN General Assembly