



TAKE ACTION

Engage your country
in the new process
for a nuclear weapons free world

Manual for Campaigners
to support the UN Open Ended Working Group
on Nuclear Disarmament

EDITION 1.1

Published by

**Abolition 2000
Task Force on the Open
Ended Working Group**



and

Basel Peace Office



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June 2013

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We thank the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs for their support for the participation of the Abolition 2000 Task Force in the OEWG, which has made this publication possible.





UN Open Ended Working Group – Opening the door to a nuclear weapons free world

The abolition of nuclear weapons has been a core aspiration of humanity since their destructive power was unleashed in 1945. For nearly 70 years this aspiration has been blocked, first by superpower rivalry and more recently by political inertia and inadequacies in the multilateral disarmament forums.

Now a new process has been established by the United Nations General Assembly, an **Open Ended Working Group to Take Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations**.

This manual for nuclear disarmament campaigners provides a background to the Open Ended Working Group, some ideas on what it could achieve, information on how to participate, and recommended actions to ensure its success including promoting the OEWG to your governments, parliamentarians, mayors and civil society.

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A new process for a nuclear weapons free world

BACKGROUND

For decades, international disarmament topics have been dealt with at the Conference on Disarmament (CD), an international forum established to negotiate multilateral disarmament treaties. The CD consists of 65 member states, holds its meetings three times per year in Geneva, and all its decisions must be adopted by a consensus (i.e. agreed by all the member states). Although several key treaties were negotiated in this forum, including the Chemical Weapons Convention (1993) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (1996), since 1996 the CD has been unable to undertake any substantive work due to inability to reach consensus on a program of negotiations on nuclear disarmament. Thus, more recent agreements such as the Land Mines Convention, Cluster Munitions Convention and the new Arms Trade Treaty were negotiated in other forums.

The sticking point in the CD is whether to commence nuclear disarmament negotiations on a step-by-step basis, the next step being a treaty to ban the production of fissile (bomb-making) materials, or whether to undertake a more comprehensive nuclear disarmament negotiating process involving security assurances for non-nuclear weapon States, prevention of an arms race in outer space and other nuclear disarmament measures leading to a nuclear weapons free world. So far, consensus on the way forward has not been possible.

OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP

In reaction to the long stalemate of the CD, in December 2012 the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution that established a new forum to discuss nuclear disarmament and report back to the UNGA in October 2013 with recommendations on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations.

Unlike the CD, the new Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) is open to all states and since it doesn't operate by principles of consensus, it can't be blocked by any country. This opens the door to a free exploration of disarmament proposals by governments, their direct engagement in developing a roadmap to a nuclear weapons free world, the generation of approaches to overcome blocks to multilateral disarmament negotiations, and the commencement of preparatory work on a nuclear weapons convention or framework of agreements.

The OEWG is chaired by H.E. Ambassador Manuel Dengo of Costa Rica and convened at the UN in Geneva, Switzerland, over the course of 15 days spread over **May 14–24, June 27–28, and August 19–30, 2013.**

The first sessions of the OEWG, which started in Geneva on May 14, have focused on taking stock of existing obligations and of existing and new proposals for disarmament. Representatives of roughly 70 states, as well as civil society, engaged in discussions that were significantly more interactive than what we usually see at such conferences. A positive atmosphere, willingness to bridge the gaps between various approaches, openness to think out of the box, and wish to look for a common ground, provided a very promising beginning to the OEWG process. **However, to make it a real success, we need your help. Please act now to elevate this new process in your capital – encourage your country to participate fully in the OEWG and to actively promote a comprehensive approach to nuclear disarmament.** Read on to get tips for action.



**TAKING FORWARD
MULTILATERAL NUCLEAR
DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

“The General Assembly [...] decides to establish an open-ended working group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.”

Excerpt from the UNGA resolution 67/56 that established the Open Ended Working Group. See Annex A.1 and A.2 for the full resolution text and voting record.

Encourage your country to participate in the OEWG

Nuclear disarmament has been one of the core aspirations of the international community since the first use of nuclear weapons in 1945. A nuclear war, even a limited one, would have global humanitarian and environmental consequences, and thus it is a responsibility of all governments, including those of non-nuclear countries, to protect their citizens and engage in processes leading to a world without nuclear weapons.

ACTION MEET A REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT

Set up a meeting with your Foreign Minister, or with the Head of the Disarmament Department of your Ministry of Foreign Affairs. To increase possibility of securing such a meeting you can invite other respected representatives of civil society to join you in the request. At the meeting ask your representatives whether your country is participating in the OEWG. If not, explain why their participation is important (see sidebox) and encourage them to read the *Manual for Governments* produced by the Abolition 2000 Task Force on the OEWG. If your country is participating, you can discuss their contribution to the OEWG (see page 5).

ACTION CONTACT YOUR AMBASSADORS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Send a letter to your ambassadors to the UN in New York and Geneva asking if they are actively promoting a nuclear weapons free world in the OEWG.

ACTION CALL ON YOUR PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE OEWG IN YOUR PARLIAMENT

National parliaments can elevate the importance of this new process. Governments are more likely to invest human and financial resources into issues that have parliamentary attention. Parliamentary action on this core issue for humanity is supported by the ground-breaking letter from UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to all parliaments in 2010, and by the recent decision of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to make a nuclear weapons free world one of the focal points of their work in 2014. A parliamentary Handbook produced by IPU and PNND provides an excellent tool to support parliamentary action. Members of PNND in your country may already be active on this. Contact alyn@pnnd.org or visit www.pnnd.org for details.

ACTION FIND A JOURNALIST TO WRITE A STORY ABOUT THE OEWG

Bring nuclear disarmament to the attention of mainstream media. The new disarmament process can be a good material for a magazine story, especially if you offer some added value, such as a public event with interesting photos, an interview with a respected disarmament expert, or support of a celebrity. A good media message could be “Open the Door to a Nuclear weapons free World” (see page 6).

ACTION ENCOURAGE YOUR MAYORS TO CALL ON YOUR GOVERNMENT TO PARTICIPATE

Mayors of cities and towns can have an indirect, yet strong, influence on your government. Despite having no legal authority to shape the national policy, mayors often enjoy a high respect among citizens, which makes their voice relevant to the politicians at the national level. Call on your mayors to contact your Foreign Minister to encourage good faith participation of your country in the OEWG. After all, it would be cities who would suffer the most from an eventual impact of a nuclear bomb. Visit www.2020visioncampaign.org for information on actions by mayors and cities for nuclear abolition.

Why should your country participate?

TO MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS

All States Parties to the Non-proliferation Treaty have committed to “pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament.” The International Court of Justice affirmed in 1996 that the disarmament obligation is universal and requires conclusion of negotiations on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under international control.

TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE AS A COUNTRY STANDING UP FOR A PUBLIC GOOD

While some countries are trying to build their prestige with expensive nuclear arsenals, other countries have decided to build their reputation on promoting human rights and standing up for a better future of our planet and future generations. Small countries can gain recognition of the international community for taking a lead in global issues.

TO SHOW A GOOD FAITH

Your country may feel rather sceptical about the possibility to achieve a nuclear weapons free world in the short term. However, starting a process can often yield unexpected results. Look how fast the Berlin Wall fell once there was a small breach. Call on your country to make use of this new opportunity to attend the meetings in good faith and support proposals that may get traction.

TO INCREASE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE OEWG OUTCOME

A significant participation of countries in the OEWG will increase the weight of its recommendations to the UNGA in October 2013 and pave the way for concrete work and the start of multilateral negotiations.

→ To get more information and arguments supporting participation of your country, read our **Manual for Governments**.

Encourage the OEWG to engage in preparatory work and to draw a roadmap to nuclear disarmament

The OEWG was established to “develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.” As a starting point, various proposals, action plans and approaches to disarmament have been discussed during the opening sessions. After the years of stalemate in nuclear disarmament, countries participating in the OEWG see the need to bridge the gap between the two main approaches to disarmament – a step-by-step approach and a comprehensive approach. In order to make progress, it has been suggested that the OEWG develop a realistic road-map for nuclear disarmament, incorporating and linking the various building blocks, or elements, of a nuclear weapons free world.

A nuclear weapons convention (NWC), the most comprehensive proposal for nuclear abolition ever submitted to the UN, has much to offer in this regard. Learn about a NWC (see sidebox), promote it in your country and encourage your delegation to draw inspiration from it in their contributions to the OEWG.

ACTION BRIEF YOUR DISARMAMENT OFFICERS ON A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONVENTION

Ask for a meeting at the disarmament department of your Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the concept of a nuclear weapons convention. Encourage your government to highlight the benefits of an incremental-comprehensive approach at the OEWG and to allocate resources for a preparatory work on some of the elements identified in the Model NWC.

ACTION CALL ON YOUR PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ENDORSE THE PARLIAMENTARY DECLARATION SUPPORTING A NWC

Find a cross-party support for a nuclear weapons convention in your parliament. Call on your legislators to endorse an international declaration supporting a NWC released by the European section of PNND, or to adopt a parliamentary resolution supporting a NWC (appendix D).

ACTION FIND ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONVENTION

Contact disarmament and foreign policy experts from your country and introduce them to the concept of a NWC. Promoting a NWC to your government will be easier when your appeal is backed by opinion of respected experts.

ACTION ORGANIZE A PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON APPROACHES TO NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Invite experts to talk about a NWC, and your government officials to explain policy of your country. Promote the event at universities, especially faculties dealing with political science and international affairs. This may help you attract attention of volunteers that will be a big help in your future campaigning.

What is a nuclear weapons convention?

A nuclear weapons convention (NWC) is a term commonly used to describe an international treaty that would prohibit the development, production, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and provide for their elimination. Such conventions have already been negotiated on the other types of weapons of mass destruction – biological and chemical weapons.

The proposal for a NWC is supported by an annual UN General Assembly resolution supported by over 130 countries. To demonstrate the feasibility of such an agreement, and to provide guidelines for actual negotiations, a Model Nuclear Weapons Convention (Model NWC) was drafted by disarmament experts and circulated in the United Nations in 2007.

A COMPREHENSIVE OR INCREMENTAL-COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

A nuclear weapons convention represents a comprehensive, or incremental-comprehensive approach to nuclear disarmament. That means that the negotiations would address all aspects of nuclear abolition and would conclude by an adoption of a convention in form of a single treaty, or a framework of mutually reinforcing legal instruments.

A commitment of all involved states to negotiate all aspects of abolition would address the biggest obstacle of the currently deadlocked step-by-step approach, which arises from different conditions of nuclear arsenals of countries and different levels of development of their nuclear programs: the fear that a nuclear armed country, after completing one of the disarmament steps, could get stuck in a disadvantageous position in case there is no political will and no obligation to negotiate the following step.

WHAT CAN THE MODEL NWC OFFER TO THE OEWG?

The Model NWC identifies, and proposes solutions for, a number of elements of a nuclear weapons free world, i.e. technical, legal, institutional and political components of a framework or regime to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. The OEWG can draw inspiration from the Model NWC and encourage countries to devote resources to commence preparatory work on some of these elements now.

→ Learn more about a NWC in the book **Securing our Survival**. For a **summary of the Model NWC** see appendix E.

Open the door to a nuclear weapons free world



INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR ACTION

ORGANIZE A PUBLIC EVENT TO SUPPORT THE NEW PROCESS FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The majority of people around the world, including in nuclear armed countries, support the call for global nuclear abolition. The opinion of the people needs to be publicly manifested in order to be translated into concrete political action.

Organize a public event – real or virtual – that will demonstrate support of civil society for the Open Ended Working Group and a nuclear weapons free world. Use the motive of “opening the door to a nuclear weapons free world” to come up with creative ideas for happenings, flash-mobs and other kinds of public expressions.

A simple door displayed in a creative way in the main square of your city or capital can attract attention of the media. Videos and other online depictions of “opening the door to a nuclear weapons free world” can inspire your friends, colleagues and others to join in support.

Organise “Open the door” events during special commemorative dates:

- ▶ ICAN Abolition Week (July 6 to 13),
- ▶ Hiroshima or Nagasaki Day (August 6 and 9)
- ▶ International Day Against Nuclear Tests, August 29
- ▶ UN International Day for Peace, Sep 21, or in conjunction with the UN High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament on Sep 26;

Bring in your friends, school mates, colleagues, experts, celebrities, politicians. Inform passers-by and invite the media. Take pictures, shoot videos, share them on social networks and don't forget to keep us posted so we can report on your event at the last meetings of the OEWG in the end of August and at the United Nations General Assembly in October.

Engage with the OEWG

JOIN “ABOLITION 2000 TASK FORCE ON OEWG”

Abolition 2000 Global Network for Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (www.abolition2000.org) established a task force to facilitate engagement of its members in the OEWG. The Task Force is open to anyone and currently includes more than 60 people from around 20 countries. Members of the Task Force communicate through a mailing list where they share news from the OEWG meetings, develop strategies, and produce materials and recommendations to be presented to the OEWG. See www.baselpeaceoffice.org/oewg for news and an up-to-date list of members of the Task Force.

Basel Peace Office (Switzerland) serves as the logistical host for the Task Force. To join, contact Jana Jedlickova, jana@pnnd.org, coordinator of the Task Force.

ATTEND OEWG MEETINGS IN GENEVA

Sessions of the OEWG are open to civil society participation. Come to Geneva to see the meetings in action and talk to the delegation of your country! You can register through any NGO associated with the UN, or through Basel Peace Office (contact Alyn Ware, alyn@lcnp.org).



FOLLOW THE OEWG FROM HOME

Reaching Critical Will (www.reachingcriticalwill.org) produces weekly summaries of the OEWG meetings. Basel Peace Office (@BaselPeace) tweets highlights from the conference room.

Young people from several countries follow the meetings remotely, in real-time, through an online project of Ban All Nukes Generation and Nuclear Peace Age Foundation and their feedback is reflected in statements delivered to the OEWG. To join this project, contact Christian Ciobanu, geneva@napf.org.

Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the Declaration of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states, *inter alia*, that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations,

Mindful of the role and functions of the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which states, *inter alia*, that responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and noting in this regard the Secretary-General's five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the outcome, including the action points, of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations, Recognizing the absence of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework for more than a decade,

Recognizing also the increased political attention to disarmament and non-proliferation issues and that the international political climate is more conducive to the promotion of multilateral disarmament and moving towards the goal of a world without nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing the importance and urgency of substantive progress on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

Recognizing the important contribution that civil society makes to multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control processes,

Mindful of Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly to consider and make recommendations, *inter alia* recommendations with regard to disarmament,

1. Decides to establish an open-ended working group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons;
2. Also decides that the working group will convene in Geneva in 2013 for up to three weeks, with the contribution of international organizations and civil society, in accordance with established practice, and will hold its organizational session as soon as possible;
3. Further decides that the working group shall submit a report on its work, reflecting discussions held and proposals made, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, which will assess its work, taking into account developments in other relevant forums;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide, within available resources, the support necessary to convene the aforementioned working group;
5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session an item entitled "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations".

→ Available online: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/67/56

ANNEX A.2

VOTING RECORD ON THE UNGA RESOLUTION 67/56

UN General Assembly, December 3, 2012, New York

YES: 147

Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State Of), Bosnia And Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote D'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic Of Korea, Democratic Republic Of The Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic Of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts And Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent And The Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome And Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic Of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad And Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic Of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic Of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

NO: 4

France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, and United States

ABSTENTIONS: 31

Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cambodia, China, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Monaco, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Republic Of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan

NON-VOTING: 11

Burundi, Bulgaria, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru (Federated States of), Palau, Seychelles, and Turkmenistan

→ Source: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/67/PV.48, page 21

Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007, 63/49 of 2 December 2008, and 64/55 of 2 December 2009,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to humanity and all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the realization of the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the unequivocal commitment of nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the action points agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as part of the “Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions” on nuclear disarmament,

Sharing the deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and, in this context, reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Calling on all nuclear-weapon States to undertake concrete disarmament efforts and stressing that all States need to make special efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

Noting the five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which proposes, inter alia, consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification,

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty and the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Central Asia, as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Stressing the urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the thirteen practical steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons leading to nuclear disarmament, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,

Taking note of the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention, which was submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by Costa Rica and Malaysia in 2007 and circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as document A/62/650,

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,

1. Underlines once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. Calls once again upon all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. Requests all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its sixty-sixth session;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled “Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons”.

→ Available online: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/67/33

ANNEX B.2

VOTING RECORD ON THE UNGA RESOLUTION 67/33

UN General Assembly, December 3, 2012, New York

YES: 135

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote D'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

NO: 22

Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and United States

ABSTENTIONS: 26

Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Finland, Iceland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Norway, Palau, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan

NON-VOTING: 10

Bulgaria, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Kiribati, Monaco, Mozambique, Nauru, Rwanda, Seychelles, and United Kingdom

→ Source: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/67/PV.48, page 9

SUMMARY OF THE MODEL NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONVENTION

GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

The Model Nuclear Weapons Convention prohibits development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons. States possessing nuclear weapons will be required to destroy their arsenals according to a series of phases. The Convention also prohibits the production of weapons usable fissile material and requires delivery vehicles to be destroyed or converted to make them non-nuclear capable.

DECLARATIONS

States parties to the Convention will be required to declare all nuclear weapons, nuclear material, nuclear facilities and nuclear weapons delivery vehicles they possess or control, and the locations of these.

PHASES FOR ELIMINATION

The Convention outlines a series of five phases for the elimination of nuclear weapons beginning with taking nuclear weapons off alert, removing weapons from deployment, removing nuclear warheads from their delivery vehicles, disabling the warheads, removing and disfiguring the “pits” and placing the fissile material under international control. In the initial phases the U.S. and Russia are required to make the deepest cuts in their nuclear arsenals.

VERIFICATION

Verification will include declarations and reports from States, routine inspections, challenge inspections, on-site sensors, satellite photography, radionuclide sampling and other remote sensors, information sharing with other organizations, and citizen reporting. Persons reporting suspected violations of the convention will be provided protection through the Convention including the right of asylum. An International Monitoring System will be established under the Convention to gather information, and will make most of this information available through a registry. Information which may jeopardize commercial secrets or national security will be kept confidential.

NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

States parties are required to adopt national measures, including necessary legislation, to implement their obligations under the Convention. This would include provisions for the prosecution of persons committing crimes and protection for persons reporting violations of the Convention. States are also required to establish a national authority to be responsible for national tasks in implementation.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS

The Convention applies rights and obligations to individuals and legal entities as well as States. Individuals have an obligation to report violations of the Convention and the right to protection if they do so. Procedures for the apprehension and fair trial of individuals accused of committing crimes under the treaty are provided.

AGENCY

An agency would be established to implement the Convention. It will be responsible for verification, ensuring compliance, and decision making, and will comprise a Conference of States Parties, an Executive Council and a Technical Secretariat.

NUCLEAR MATERIAL

The Convention prohibits the production of any fissionable or fusionable material which can be used directly to make a nuclear weapon, including plutonium (other than that in spent fuel) and highly enriched uranium. Low enriched uranium would be permitted for nuclear energy purposes.

COOPERATION, COMPLIANCE AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Provisions are included for consultation, cooperation and fact-finding to clarify and resolve questions of interpretation with respect to compliance and other matters. A legal dispute may be referred to the International Court of Justice by mutual consent of States Parties. The Agency may also recommend to the United Nations General Assembly to request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on a legal dispute. The Convention provides for a series of graduated responses for non-compliance beginning with consultation and clarification, negotiation, and, if required, sanctions or recourse to the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council for action.

RELATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

The Model NWC would build on existing nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament regimes and verification and compliance arrangements, including the Non-Proliferation Treaty, International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards, Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organisation International Monitoring System and bilateral agreements between Russia and the United States. In some cases the NWC may add to the functions and activities of such regimes and arrangements. In other cases, the NWC would establish additional complementary arrangements.

FINANCING

Nuclear weapon states are obliged to cover the costs of the elimination of their nuclear arsenals. However, an international fund will be established to assist states that may have financial difficulties in meeting their obligations.

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL CONCERNING ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Convention does not prohibit the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. However it includes an optional protocol which would establish a program of energy assistance for States parties choosing not to develop nuclear energy or to phase out existing nuclear energy programs.

— The full text of the Model NWC is available as [UN Document A/62/650](#) or included in the book [Securing our Survival](#).

ANNEX D

PARLIAMENTARY ENDORSEMENT OF A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONVENTION

Released by the European Section of [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament](#), July 1, 2008 and supported by influential parliamentarians from around the world including from nuclear weapon States and the allies under extended nuclear deterrence relationships.

As parliamentarians from across the political spectrum and from around the world;

We are concerned about the rising threats from the proliferation of nuclear weapons to new countries, the potential for terrorists to acquire or produce nuclear weapons, and the maintenance of nuclear weapons and policies to use them by States currently possessing such weapons;

We believe that only way to ensure the prevention of nuclear proliferation and the achievement of global security is to move resolutely towards the complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons;

We take seriously the universal obligation, affirmed by the International Court of Justice, to achieve nuclear disarmament in good faith in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

We therefore:

1. call for multilateral negotiations that would prevent proliferation and achieve nuclear disarmament through a global non-discriminatory treaty – a Nuclear Weapons Convention;
2. endorse the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention – which has been submitted by Costa Rica and Malaysia to the Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Conference (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.17) and to the United Nations General Assembly (UN Doc A/62/650) – as a guide to the achievement of an actual treaty, and as an exploration of the legal, technical, institutional and political measures that would make possible the abolition of nuclear weapons;
3. recognize that the complete abolition and elimination of nuclear weapons is a complicated process that might take a number of graduated and consecutive steps as well as a range of concurrent measures, and that a Nuclear Weapons Convention could therefore be achieved either as a single treaty or as a package of agreements;
4. affirm that a Nuclear Weapons Convention would incorporate, reinforce, link and build on existing non-proliferation and disarmament instruments including the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
5. pledge to submit the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention to our respective parliaments in order to promote negotiations, raise public awareness, identify steps toward nuclear disarmament, and indicate national measures that could be taken to support and implement a convention.

We call on parliamentarians and legislators around the world to join us in these efforts.

Name

Signature..... Country

ANNEX E

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

In the CD, there are multiple groupings among member-states. These groupings enable member-states to cooperate with one another on different issues. These groups meet at least once per week in closed informal meetings.

WESTERN GROUP (25)

Argentina, Australia, Austria,
Belgium, Canada, Finland,
France, Germany, Hungary,
Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan,
Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway,
Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia,
Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey,
United Kingdom, United States

GROUP OF 21 (33)

Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cameroon,
Chile, Colombia, Cuba, DPR Korea, DR Congo,
Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia,
Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico,
Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar,
Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Senegal,
South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tunisia,
Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP (6)

Belarus, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Romania,
Russian Federation, Ukraine

GROUP OF ONE

China refers to itself as the Group of One



“A very little key will open a very heavy door.”

— Charles Dickens —

www.abolition2000.org
www.baselpeaceoffice.org