



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

This newsletter is part of Inter Press Service (IPS) and Soka Gakkai International (SGI) project. It includes independent news and analyses 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. Newspaper articles reproduced in this newsletter are for personal use and aim at giving information to readers. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is forbidden.

In-Depth Reports

Egypt Continues Efforts For A WMD-Free Mideast



In spite of social, economic and political instability in Egypt and other Arab countries, Cairo has lastly intensified its efforts aimed at eliminating, as soon as possible, all weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in the Middle East. Egyptian diplomacy fears that further delays in taking specific actions to declare the Middle East a nuclear free zone, may lead to a nuclear armament race in the region, in view warnings that some major countries in the region, such as Saudi Arabia, might decide to go nuclear to face Israeli and Iranian nuclear threat. ➤ Pages 2-3-4

Remembering Hiroshima For The Sake Of Our Common Future



Human memory is short, particularly when it comes to record war and destruction. Countless details of various times portraying the accounts of misery and human suffering probably remind us of something vague and abstract; something distant and detached, not at all related to the realities that we face at any given time. Since what is seen as vague or blurred hardly serves as solid evidence, and what is distant hardly seems inspiring for stirring our conscience to the level of awakening, we tend to forget about what war and destruction brings to mankind soon after the waves of tragic realities subside and pave the way for a relative tranquil setting,

at least for a short time. ➤ Pages 5-6-7

What Others Say

Change in India's nuclear doctrine unlikely

Speculation is rife in a section of the community that the new Indian government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi might decide to alter the country's 1998 no-first use doctrine and adopt a new one. It is derived from the dominant image of the new prime minister being inclined to an approach of "zero tolerance" in the realm of internal and external security and his Bharatiya Janata Party's pledge in its parliamentary election manifesto to "study in detail nuclear doctrine... revise it and update it to make it relevant to the challenges of current times." ➤ Pages 8-9

Making MTCR Effective

The proliferation of missile technology has been cause for growing concern since 1944 when Nazi German forces fired V-1 and V-2 rockets against Allied targets in France, Great Britain and Belgium. Best suited for delivering not only nuclear but also biological and chemical weapons, ballistic and cruise missiles can pose significant security threats both regionally and globally. During the Cold War era, long-range ballistic missiles emerged as an essential part of the development of strategic military capabilities. The number of nuclear-tipped inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBM's) in both the US and the Soviet Union was a measure of their relative military strengths. ➤ Page 9-10

Asia's Coming Nuclear Arms Race

The future of nuclear weapons is Asia, not the Middle East. The Pacific Realist outlines one reason for this conviction in an article in the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists on Tuesday. The piece argues that the U.S., Russia, China, India and Pakistan should negotiate a ban on land-based multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) ballistic missiles. Currently, the U.S. and Russia both deploy such missiles, and Beijing and New Delhi are both intent on acquiring them.

➤ Page 11

Avoiding the Worst: Re-framing the Debate on Nuclear Disarmament

Nuclear weapons, if used, bring about terrible consequences. This is well-known and arguably continues to give these weapons their special status. During the Cold War, the knowledge that any attack would be immediately met with devastation and death on a scale unacceptable to the adversary was the basis for "mutually assured destruction", or MAD, as it was aptly called. For nuclear weapons states today, this notion still forms the backbone of a security policy that is based on nuclear deterrence as the "ultimate security guarantee" and as a means to maintain strategic stability between them. ➤ Pages 12-13

Civil Society Perspective ➤ Pages 14-15



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

In-Depth Reports

Egypt Continues Efforts For A WMD-Free Mideast

By BAHER KAMAL*

MADRID (IDN) - In spite of social, economic and political instability in Egypt and other Arab countries, Cairo has lately intensified its efforts aimed at eliminating, as soon as possible, all weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in the Middle East.

Egyptian diplomacy fears that further delays in taking specific actions to declare the Middle East a nuclear free zone, may lead to a nuclear armament race in the region, in view warnings that some major countries in the region, such as Saudi Arabia, might decide to go nuclear to face Israeli and Iranian nuclear threat.

Against this backdrop, and in view of the ongoing process of preparations for the 2015 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review, Cairo has launched an intensive diplomatic campaign to gain further support for its recent, new initiative aimed at unlock the present impasse.

The Egyptian initiative calls on all Middle East countries as well as the five permanent members (P5) – United States, Russia, China, United Kingdom, and France – of the Security Council to deposit official letters of engagement to the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, endorsing the declaration of a Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction.

Formulated last year and endorsed by the 22 member countries of the Arab League in November 2013, the initiative also calls on “all those countries in the region who have not signed or ratified any of the international treaties on weapons of mass destruction, to commit themselves, before the end of the year, to sign and ratify all related treaties, simultaneously, and to deposit the confirmation of their commitment with the Security Council”.

Egyptian Foreign Minister, Nabil Fahmy, called on the UN Secretary General to coordinate the implementation of all these steps simultaneously, as a prerequisite for success – specifically, “Israel to join the UN Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), to ratify the UN Chemical Weapons Convention, and to sign and ratify the UN Biological Weapons Convention”.

The Egyptian initiative also urges Syria to ratify the UN Convention on Biological Weapons, and take the steps to which it has committed itself to implement the UN Chemical Weapons Convention as well.



In exchange, all Middle East countries are to commit themselves to the completion of all required procedures to ensure their accession to all international treaties aimed at banning weapons of mass destruction and related arrangements.

The plan includes Egypt's ratification of the UN Biological Weapons Convention, and the signature and ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, while continuing international efforts to ensure the organisation this year of the international conference on nuclear weapons in the Middle East, which was decided by the May 2010 NPT review meeting, with the specific goal of declaring the Middle East a nuclear-free-zone.

The Egyptian initiative was once more endorsed by the League of Arab States during its meeting mid-February 2014 in Cairo, which focused on ways to mobilise the largest possible international support for it.

An Egyptian diplomatic source, which participated in the elaboration of the initiative, told IDN on condition of anonymity, that the initiative had received a “quasi deadly” hit due to the recent “suspension” of the Israeli-Palestinian-engineered talks.

“Nevertheless, and in spite of the feeble hope that Tel Aviv will implement the measures proposed by the Egyptian plan, the Arabs are determined to intensify efforts to warn against the dangers of not freeing the region from all weapons of mass destruction,” the source added.

The “dangers” the source referred to are related to a potential nuclear armament race in the region. In fact, former Saudi ambassador to the United States, Prince Turki al-Faisal, warned in 2011 that nuclear threats from Israel and Iran might force Saudi Arabia to follow suit.

On November 27, 2013, IPS reported that Saudi Arabia's unyielding opposition to an interim nuclear agreement with Iran had triggered speculation about its own projection of military power in the Middle East. ⇒



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION

WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

In-Depth Reports

The Wall Street Journal pointed out that the Saudis might conclude that international acceptance of a nuclear programme of any kind by Iran would compel them “to seek their own nuclear weapons capability through a simple purchase.” The likely source: Pakistan, whose nuclear programme was partly funded by the Saudis.

On November 22, 2013, the BBC reported quoting Senator Edward Markey, a Massachusetts Democrat, that while efforts had gone into stopping the Iranian atomic programme, “it is clear that must also be expended to ensure that other nations in the Persian Gulf do not themselves develop a nuclear weapons capability”.

“The senator has asked the president to share the administration’s assessment of possible nuclear co-operation between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan as well as to halt talks about US-Saudi co-operation on the transfer of nuclear technology,” according to BBC.

It added that “intelligence was circulating in Nato that Pakistani nuclear weapons made on behalf of Saudi Arabia were ready for delivery in the event that Iran crossed the nuclear threshold or the kingdom faced some other dire emergency.”

UN Adopt Two Egyptian Resolutions

Fresh impulses were imparted to the Egyptian plan thanks due to the approval of two Egyptian draft resolutions, which were adopted by the UN General Assembly mid-December 2013.

The first resolution is related to the creation of a nuclear free zone in the Middle East. The second relates to “the threat of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.”

The process for the establishment of a nuclear-free-zone in the Middle East has suffered successive delays. As the international conference to free the region from nukes, which was scheduled to take place in December 2012 in Finland, was postponed once more.

Key parties to the organisation of such a conference (the UN, USA, UK and Russia) announced in mid-2013 a new postponement of the conference “sine die”, alleging it was due to tensions in the region.

Reacting to this announcement, the League of Arab States issued a statement rejecting the postponement of the conference and its declared reasons, noting it is all about a new attempt “to protect Israel’s nuclear arsenal”.

In spite of its reiterated refusal to announce any official position about its nuclear arsenal, there is a wide

international consensus, joined by the prestigious Stockholm Institute for Peace Research (SIPRI), that Israel is one of the nine nuclear powers, including the P5, India, Pakistan, and North Korea.

In view of its intensive efforts, on May 22, 2014 Egypt was elected to chair the three-day sessions of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, with the participation of 65 Conference member States, including the P5.

Ambassador Walid Mahmoud Nasser, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations and other Geneva-based international organisations, in a statement on May 22, 2014, said that the Conference discussions were taking place within the framework of the international efforts to activate the role of the UN Conference on Disarmament, in order to launch negotiations for an international treaty to free the world from nuclear weapons.

The objective of the Conference is to find ways how to reach the appropriate legal framework and adopt practical measures for nuclear disarmament, according to the Egyptian ambassador.

He also explained that the Conference discussions dealt with the initially different viewpoints, of those who want to reach a treaty to ban nuclear weapons, and others calling to adopt a gradual process to complete the framework of an international treaty, starting by working on an agreement to stop the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons.

He added that the discussions touched upon the assessment of the current situation with respect to nuclear disarmament, and the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, as well as the role of the different parties, including the nuclear states, and the proposed initiatives in this regard.

The Geneva discussions also dealt with the extent of the link between nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, according to the Egyptian representative, who stressed the priority that Egypt attaches to nuclear disarmament, and to the launch of negotiations aimed at reaching a binding international treaty on nuclear disarmament, at the earliest opportunity.

Nasser expressed the hope that these discussions would lead to push the Conference out of its state of stalemate since 1996, and take concrete steps to develop a work program with respect to these issues. He underlined Egypt’s continuous efforts aimed at establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. ⇨



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

In-Depth Reports

The launch of an international Middle East conference was decided by the May 3-28, 2010 NPT Review conference in New York, following persistent pressures by Egypt, the original author of the Middle East nuclear free zone initiative since the late 60s- with the backing of all Arab countries, Turkey, and the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as some European nations, mostly Scandinavian.

Following intensive consultations, Finland announced its readiness to host the international conference, and Jaakko Laajava, the under-secretary of State in Finland’s foreign ministry, was appointed as facilitator of the conference which was expected to take place “broadly in 2012”.

While a WMD-free zone eludes the Middle East, other regions, including entire continents, are already living in nuclear free zones: Latin America and the Caribbean; the South Pacific; South-East Asia; Central Asia; and Africa. These count for 39 percent of the world population in 115 countries around the world.

*Baher Kamal is an Egyptian-born Spanish national with nearly 40 years of professional experience as a journalist. [IDN-InDepthNews – June 9, 2014] □

Translations

Chinese

<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/272-egypt-continues-efforts-for-a-wmd-free-mideast-chinese>

Japanese

<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/270-egypt-continues-efforts-for-a-wmd-free-mideast-japanese>

Korean

<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/274-egypt-continues-efforts-for-a-wmd-free-mideast-korean>



資料 : Center for Security Studies

비핵 중등으로 향하여 계속 노력하고 있는 이집트

[마드리드 IDN = 바헤루 · 카마루]

http://www.nuclearabolition.info/documents/Korean_Egypt_Continues_Efforts_For_A_WMD-Free_Mideast.pdf



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

In-Depth Reports

Remembering Hiroshima For The Sake Of Our Common Future

By MONZURUL HUQ*

TOKYO (IDN) - Human memory is short, particularly when it comes to record war and destruction. Countless details of various times portraying the accounts of misery and human suffering probably remind us of something vague and abstract; something distant and detached, not at all related to the realities that we face at any given time. Since what is seen as vague or blurred hardly serves as solid evidence, and what is distant hardly seems inspiring for stirring our conscience to the level of awakening, we tend to forget about what war and destruction brings to mankind soon after the waves of tragic realities subside and pave the way for a relative tranquil setting, at least for a short time.

This fragile nature of our memory is what plays always at the hands of those who tend to take us back to the point where erasing the memory for the sake of so called greater group interest becomes easier and we turn back the wheels of progress for a journey taking the reverse course. This is why war and subsequent self destruction has become part of human being's eternal journey in quest of a peaceful and tranquil life.



them had not been a paved one as they had to undergo life-long medical treatment that in most of the cases was successful in healing the wounds they suffered. However, the tacit discriminatory attitude that many of the survivors had to encounter in the society was probably more painful than the physical suffering and deep in their minds the scars remained painful for very long

The real causes for much of such failures might be traced back in our inability to grasp the depth of human sufferings that war always brings. And as long as we continue ignoring the fathom of that depth, turning swords into ploughshares will always remain a deferred dream, elusive ever for us to reach anywhere closer. And here, once again, memory can play a very important role; a role that would help us, at least in real terms, to grasp the depth of tragedy that war might bring at a time when our destructive capabilities by far supersede anything that we can think about. And it is precisely from this understanding that the fourteen survivors of Hiroshima atomic bombing in August 6, 1945, make a heroic contribution by knocking at our conscience through the recollection and recounting of memories of their innocent adolescent years, which were torn apart by the hellfire unleashed on that fateful morning.

A Silence Broken

"Hiroshima - A Silence Broken" is a timely publication launched in March this year, well ahead of the 70th anniversary of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The genre of the book is oral history that tells the stories of fourteen Atomic bomb survivors of Hiroshima who were born between the years 1927 and 1939. All of them survived the horrors of the aftermath of atomic bombing and eventually lived a long life, although bearing the severe wounds, both in body and in their mind. The road ahead of

The period immediately after the bombing was for Japan a time of confusion and also a time of disarray. In the chaotic post-war period, recalling the nightmarish experiences of A-bomb survivors became a taboo as Japan came under occupation and victors naturally were not happy about disclosing the evil acts of their own. Moreover, the deadly scars and deformed body shape that many of them had to live with also caused complexity in their mind and they gradually started keeping shut the doors of those bad memories. Many remained silent about the experiences they had to go through for being at a closer proximity of epicenters. But fortunately for the world, a significant number of survivors later decided to break the silence and come forward with their distinct narratives. Each of the fourteen stories told in "Hiroshima- A Silence Broken" are unique in nature, as the extent of real sufferings of the survivors had never been the same.

Tadashi Kihara remembers vividly a tragic scene that had been haunting him ever since he encountered it soon after the bombing. Though he was injured by the bombing, he still continued helping the search work for trapped and badly injured people around Hiroshima. During one of those nightly search missions he heard a crying voice begging for water. The voice was feeble but intense. Getting closer what he saw was a badly burned woman holding a baby in her arms. She had serious burns all over her body and the baby was holding mother's nipple on its lips. ⇒

Picture: Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park | Credit: Wikimedia Commons



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

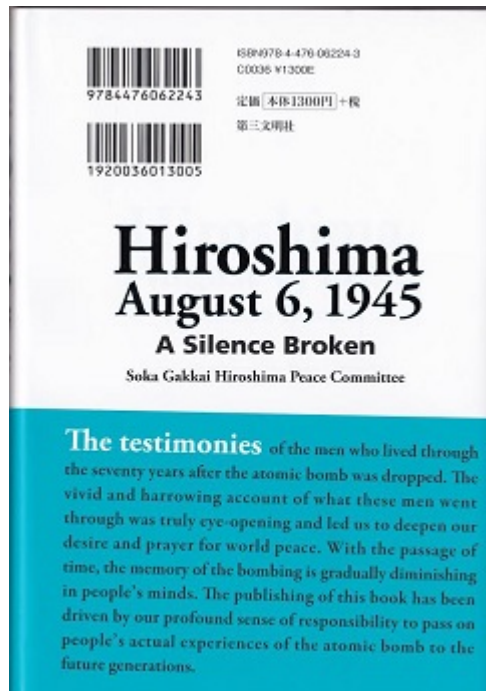
In-Depth Reports

A closer look exposed the reality more vividly and Kihara could sense that the baby was already dead and it was probably mother's refusal to accept the reality that she kept holding the dead baby as if she was still feeding the child with mother's milk. Here is how Kihara tells us of his own reflection, "There was nothing I could do for her. I put my hands together and apologized, and walked away. This still causes pain in my heart."

During his younger days Kihara was hiding the fact that he was an atomic bomb survivor. But after turning 65, he changed his mind and decided to tell his story to the future generations. What he wants now is not to let the young forget about the horrible experiences that once caused a badly wounded mother to hold her dead child closer to her burnt body and beg for water. Kihara must be feeling a sense of relief that the scene causing pain deep in his heart for so many years he could at last expose to others with the hope that no mother anywhere in this world ever have to experience anything like that.

All those fourteen survivors telling their stories in the latest collection were boys in their teens with full of vigor and energy. The atomic bomb not only shattered their dreams of a brighter future, but also changed their lives in a way that none could ever think about, even in their nightmares.

Much appealing is the story of Shoso Kawamoto, who came to know he had become an A-bomb orphan on his return to Hiroshima in search of his parents three days after the bombing. For 11-year old Kawamoto the only shelter he could find was in a temple that offered free food, but not enough to fill-up his hungry stomach. He later became a street orphan, struggling hard for mere survival, sometime by stealing rice cakes from street vendors, sometime working for gangsters groups systematically exploiting street children at the time. He regrets that not much has been told about those doubly disadvantaged victims of Hiroshima bombing, who after becoming orphans had to go through extreme difficulties. His narrative also informs us that before the bombing, about 8,600 elementary school students in Hiroshima were evacuated to the countryside. Of those 2,700 became orphans. Out of these only 700 were fortunate enough to find places at orphanages and the rest were left abandoned to become street children.



The new horror

What binds all these fourteen survivors is not only their common suffering, but also their self imposed isolation for quite long that kept them silent about telling others the horrors they had gone through. What prompted them to come forward and break the silence is the new horror that they have witnessed unleashing after the Fukushima nuclear disaster in March 2011. Since then they have taken it as their solemn responsibility to tell people about the extent of damage that nuclear fallout can cause.

Katsuyuki Shimoi is a survivor who tells us how watching Fukushima workers on a TV program reminded him of what happened to his brother a few days after the

bombing and thus prompting him to tell his side of the story of survival and death after the radiation. His younger brother Akio was only 13 and was in a street car at the time of bombing along with his friend Nakamura.

The car was completely destroyed, however, both survived and returned home. Here is what he tells us about what happened next: "After about 20 days, my brother's hair started falling out and red spots appeared all over his body...His shoulder and arms got thinner and thinner until they were like chopsticks...My brother was only 13, but he looked like an old man when he passed away. I later heard that his friend Nakamura passed away on the same day."

It was more than 65 years after that, seeing a worker in the Fukushima nuclear power plant on TV Shimoi he thought he saw a rash on the worker's arms, the same kind of rash that caused his brother so much pain leading to his death. It made him shudder and prompted him to break his silence.

Recording the testaments of A-bomb survivors is a timely initiative taken by Soka Gakkai Hiroshima Peace Conference. The Conference believes that the end to the nuclear age will not come unless strong public opinion is mobilized for gaining support for nuclear abolition. "Hiroshima - A Silence Broken" is the eighth volume of the collection of Hiroshima atomic bomb survivors' testimonies over the years and first to be published after the Fukushima disaster. ⇨



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

In-Depth Reports

Soka Gakkai Hiroshima Peace Conference has decided to publish the latest volume in English translation as well for making the voices of atomic bomb survivors widely heard outside Japan too. And as the world is getting ready to mark the seventieth anniversary of that deadly man-made disaster in a year's time, this makes it a timely publication reminding us not only of the horrors of the past, but also of the path that we need to take to stop forever the deadly race leading to our common destruction.

*Monzurul Huq is a Bangladesh journalist, who has authored three books in Bengali on Japan and other subjects. He moved to Japan in 1994 after working at the United Nations Information Center in Dhaka and BBC World Service in London. He represents two leading national dailies of Bangladesh – Prothom Alo and the Daily Star – and contributes regularly to a number of other important publications in Bangladesh. He has written extensively both in English and Bengali on matters related to Japan and East Asia. He is also a visiting professor at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Yokohama National University and Keisen University, teaching subjects related to Japanese politics, Japanese media, the developing world and world affairs. He also works as a radio broadcaster for NHK. A member of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan since 2000, he has served at the Board of Directors of the Club for two consecutive terms before being elected president of the Club. [IDN-InDepthNews – June 30, 2014] □

Translations

Arabic

<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/arabic/281-remembering-hiroshima-for-the-sake-of-our-common-future-arabic>

Japanese

<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/279-remembering-hiroshima-for-the-sake-of-our-common-future-japanese>



Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park
資料：Wikimedia Commons

共通の未来のためにヒロシマの被爆体験を記憶する

【東京 IDN=モンズルル・ハク】

人間の「記憶」というものは、とりわけ戦争と破壊を記録するという点においては長続きしないようだ。人間の苦悩や窮状を描いた様々な時代の詳細な記録が無数に残されているが、人類は恐らくそうしたものを、何か曖昧で抽象的なこと、或いは、日常の現実とは全く関係ない、何か遠いかけ離れた出来事であるかのように捉えるのだろう。漠然と認識されたものは確かな証拠とはなり得ず、かけ離れた出来事が、良心を激しく揺さぶることもないことから、私たちは、打ち続いた悲劇的な現実が落ち着きを見せ、たとえ短期間でも比較的平穏な状況への道のりが見出されれば、瞬く間に、戦争や破壊が人類にもたらしたものを忘却の彼方に葬ってしまう傾向にある。



資料：Envolverde



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

Change in India's nuclear doctrine unlikely

By JAGDISH N SINGH

Source: *The Jesrusalem Post* <http://www.jpost.com/Experts/Change-in-Indias-nuclear-doctrine-unlikely-355109>

Speculation is rife in a section of the community that the new Indian government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi might decide to alter the country's 1998 no-first use doctrine and adopt a new one.

It is derived from the dominant image of the new prime minister being inclined to an approach of "zero tolerance" in the realm of internal and external security and his Bharatiya Janata Party's pledge in its parliamentary election manifesto to "study in detail nuclear doctrine... revise it and update it to make it relevant to the challenges of current times."

Proponents of this speculation argue that the Modi government may go in for this exercise in view of the armament programs of Beijing and Islamabad, with both of which New Delhi has had a history of conflict. China's annual defense expenditure has been growing at double digit rates over the past decade. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang recently told the National People's Congress that Beijing would "strengthen research on national defense and the development of new- and high-technology weapons and equipment," "enhance border, coastal and air defenses," promote "the revolutionary nature" of its armed forces, and "raise their deterrence and combat capabilities in the information age."

More importantly, the proponents say, China has recently introduced such nuances in its nuclear doctrine to make it clear that its policy of non-use of nukes is confined to non-nuclear weapon states and their territories. In other words, China might use nukes against a nuclear India which is, according to Beijing, in the occupation of Chinese territory such as Arunachal Pradesh that China claims as its own.

Besides, the proponents have also had concerns over Pakistan's intent and ongoing preparations to use tactical nuclear weapons in the event of an Indian offensive on its territory. Pertinently, they add that Pakistan's armament program is in a way far more disturbing than China's.

Unlike Beijing, Islamabad cannot be assumed to remain under the control of rational actors in the foreseeable future. The clout of the violent Islamists has been increasing



in its society and state and the army and the Inter-Services Intelligence in particular. One could well imagine what might follow if they were able to lay their hands on its weapons of mass destruction.

The proponents of a change in the Indian nuclear doctrine have also had concerns that Pakistan and China might have been developing chemical and biological weapons even though they were parties to the 1974 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention. Pakistan may also be developing biological weapons. Significantly, a US Department of Defense report also says that Islamabad has imported a number of dual-use chemicals with commercial applications which could be used to make chemical weapons. Pakistan does have the resources and scientific capability to conduct limited biological warfare research and development.

One, however, finds there is little likelihood of a change in the Indian nuclear doctrine. Both Prime Minister Modi and his Home Minister Rajnath Singh—the latter whom is also the BJP's president --- have already ruled out any such possibility. The other day Singh clarified in an interview (PTI) that his government would maintain its 'no-first-use' nuclear policy and be "reviewing" the "policy to tune it with the interest of common masses." Modi echoed the same policy sentiments when he said in his interview (ANI) that "it is necessary to be powerful - not to suppress anyone, but for our own protection." And then he added, "No first use was a great initiative of Atal Bihari Vajpayee - there is no compromise on that. We are very clear. No first use is a reflection of our cultural inheritance." ⇒

The author is a senior Indian journalist based in New Delhi.

Photo: Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Credit: <http://www.narendramodi.in/>



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

Also, one sees there is hardly any need for the new dispensation to revise the current doctrine. Notwithstanding its adherence to its traditional policy of comprehensive disarmament, the successive dispensations since Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in New Delhi have all been very much aware of the ongoing conventional and nuclear armament program in the world, particularly in the neighboring states and have already effected appropriate changes in its nuclear policy from time to time.

Under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, New Delhi demonstrated its nuclear capability as early as in 1974. Confronted with a regional scenario created by an "overt nuclear weapon state on our border" which "materially helped another neighbor of ours to become a covert nuclear weapon state," New Delhi under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee conducted some advanced nuclear tests in 1998 and declared itself a nuclear weapon state.

Soon after the Vajpayee government devised the N.F.U. pledge to neutralize the then Western criticism of its 1998 nuclear tests, it realized the new doctrine was not sustainable as it would defeat the very rationale behind India conducting the tests of 1998 – that was to deter an attack from nuclear China. This realization led New Delhi to revise the N.F.U. pledge and declare that it would not come in the way of a nuclear retaliation against any chemical or biological strike. In other words, India's "no first use" doctrine has

been advanced further to accommodate a possible recourse to its first use if the situation ever demands so. Later, under the Manmohan Singh government, New Delhi came to add that India would apply N.F.U. only with respect to non-nuclear weapons states.

Knowledgeable sources say New Delhi has little to be scared about on the defense front. Its nuclear doctrine has been followed by a huge investment in improving its command, control, communications, and intelligence systems and its second strike capacity, including the survival of the decision-making structure. India's Defense Research and Development Organization is presently straining hard to develop a limited Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) shield. India's sea-based leg of the triad of delivery systems is very much in the making. Besides, India today is equipped with an appropriate defensive nuclear biological and chemical (NBC) mechanism to counter the related threats from any potential corners.

An eminent Indian strategist says, "Given the various nuances introduced in the current Indian nuclear doctrine over the years and the important contingencies these already cater to, there appears to be no case to further revise it. Instead, the new government may focus adequately on shoring up the country's conventional deterrence capabilities which have been eroding due to the lack of financial appropriations and a series of corruption scandal." (June 2, 2014) □

Making MTCR Effective

By RIZWAN ASGHAR

Source: Daily Times <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/03-Jun-2014/making-mtcr-effective>

The proliferation of missile technology has been cause for growing concern since 1944 when Nazi German forces fired V-1 and V-2 rockets against Allied targets in France, Great Britain and Belgium. Best suited for delivering not only nuclear but also biological and chemical weapons, ballistic and cruise missiles can pose significant security threats both regionally and globally. During the Cold War era, long-range ballistic missiles emerged as an essential part of the development of strategic military capabilities. The number of nuclear-tipped inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBM's) in both the US and the Soviet Union was a measure of their relative military strengths. After the fall of the Soviet Union, the relevance of missile technology in the domain of security has not diminished. While the US and the Russia have eliminated all of their intermediate and medium-range missiles and significantly reduced their arsenals of long-range ballistic missiles, the threat of

missile strikes remains intact. In the post-Cold War period, many other countries have developed short and medium-range missiles. The 2006 Israel-Hizbollah war made it evident that some non-state actors have also acquired missile capability. The US's prompt global strike programme has showed that missiles will cause heavy damage even if they are used as a limited conventional warfare tactic in the years to come. Curbing the spread of missile technology is particularly difficult because of lack of recognition of the threat it poses. Different technology control regimes have slowed down the pace of development of missile technology but they have largely failed to prevent its spread to other countries because of the duplicity of approach. Presently the international regimes for missile non-proliferation are far more voluntary in nature. In addition, cruise missile technology has generally been ignored in prevention efforts. ⇒



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

In 1985, the world's seven most industrialised countries — the US, the UK, Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Japan — concluded an interim pact to curtail the spread of missile technology but the problem of missile technology proliferation was accentuated further because of the use of ballistic missiles in the Iraq-Iran war and acquisition of missile technology by a number of other states including South Korea, Israel, Brazil and Argentina.

These developments raised fears that countries like Pakistan pursuing nuclear weapons at that point in time might also seek long-range delivery capabilities. Two years later in 1987, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) was established, urging all member states to restrict their exports of missile technologies. Over the past two decades, membership of the group has expanded to 34 states and five other countries have unilaterally pledged to adhere to MTCR guidelines. The MTCR regime has a multiple set of criteria for assessing the legality of exports of certain controlled items.

More precisely, there are five guidelines: first, the intended recipient must have no ambitions of acquiring weapons of mass destruction. Second, the purposes and capabilities of the intended recipient's missile and space programmes should be clear. Third, the proposed transfer should not make any contribution to the recipient's development of delivery systems for nuclear weapons. Fourth, the credibility of the intended recipient's stated purpose for the purchase of controlled goods must be well established. And last, the transfer of goods should not be in conflict with any other multilateral treaty. In addition, the intended recipient must also pledge not to transfer the goods or their replicas to a third country without prior permission from the country originally transferring the goods.

On the nuclear disarmament agenda, the goal of curtailing the spread of ballistic missiles and other delivery systems that could deliver weapons of mass destruction (WMD) is very crucial. Some analysts credit the MTCR for successfully slowing ballistic missile proliferation to a certain extent. After 1987, Iraq, Egypt and Argentina had to abandon their joint Condor II ballistic missile programme, and the Czech Republic and Poland completely eliminated their

ballistic missile programmes. But the MTCR has remained unable to garner universal support by initially limiting its goals to containing the proliferation of nuclear-capable ballistic missiles and ignoring the potential of cruise missile technology to be used for conventional purposes.

Experts opine that MTCR members originally viewed conventionally armed cruise missile technologically too difficult to be acquired by less advanced countries. But media reports over the past decade reveal that this erroneous preference for ballistic missiles was prompted by the highly lucrative export potential of cruise missile technology. Furthermore, the MTCR regime focused only on horizontal proliferation of ballistic missiles among other states rather than vertical proliferation in terms of quantitative and qualitative modernisation of missiles by countries already in possession of ballistic missile technology.

This approach not only divided the world into 'missile haves and have-nots', it also caused the MTCR to be viewed as discriminatory in nature and hence unacceptable even for a number of countries that agreed with its original principles.

More than 26 years after its establishment, the MTCR faces serious challenges to its relevance in the years to come. The regime has not only totally failed to prevent the spread of cruise missiles but also lacks the required regulatory framework to check the development of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Pakistan, India, Iran and North Korea have successfully advanced their missile programmes with foreign assistance. Many other countries that are not MTCR members have remained involved in selling sensitive missile technology to other members.

In addition, because of its voluntary nature, the MTCR cannot mandate any forceful action against member countries violating its guidelines. The threat of the proliferation of missile technology is rapidly increasing but global export control regimes are not equipped to tackle this challenge. The MTCR urgently needs to address all these concerns related to WMD delivery systems if it wants to avoid the fate of becoming totally incapable of mitigating the dangers associated with the global nuclear trade. □

Daily Times
Your right to know A new voice for a new Pakistan

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/>



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

Asia's Coming Nuclear Arms Race

By ZACHARY KECK

Source: *The Diplomat* <http://thediplomat.com/2014/06/asias-coming-nuclear-arms-race/>

I've said it before and I'll say it again: the future of nuclear weapons is Asia, not the Middle East.

The Pacific Realist outlines one reason for this conviction in an article in the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* on Tuesday. The piece argues that the U.S., Russia, China, India and Pakistan should negotiate a ban on land-based multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) ballistic missiles. Currently, the U.S. and Russia both deploy such missiles, and Beijing and New Delhi are both intent on acquiring them.

Should they succeed in this endeavor, there is likely to be a nuclear arms race in Asia among China, India and Pakistan, which could very quickly spread to Russia and the United States. MIRVed missiles are highly destabilizing because they put a premium on striking first. Because MIRVed missiles can strike multiple targets at once, and concentrate multiple warheads on single targets, they increase the danger that a nuclear armed power will have its nuclear arsenal destroyed by a surprise first strike. In addition, possessors of MIRVed missiles need more nuclear warheads in order to arm their MIRVs.

This can be seen from the nuclear arms race between the Cold War superpowers. The U.S. deployed the world's first MIRV missile, the Minuteman III, in 1970, at which point the superpowers had roughly 38,000 nuclear warheads. Ten years later they had over 54,000 nuclear warheads. A decade after the Soviet Union deployed its first MIRV missile in 1974, the superpowers had around 63,000 nuclear warheads. As this suggests, the introduction of MIRVed missiles had a disproportionately large impact on the Soviet Union's nuclear arsenal, which was more reliant on ICBMs than the United States.

This doesn't bode well for the current Asian nuclear powers who generally have quite small nuclear arsenals, and rely heavily on ballistic missiles to deploy them. Should India and China acquire MIRV capabilities, as current trends suggest they will, each one is likely to expand its nuclear arsenal significantly, as well as further disperse them to ensure they have a secure second strike capability. They will also build more nuclear weapons to arm their new MIRVed missiles.

Of course, the expansion of India's nuclear arsenal will prompt Pakistan to expand its own, as well as further disperse it. Russia, which relies on nuclear superiority vis-à-vis China to negate its mounting conventional weakness, could also be counted on to build more nuclear weapons in order to retain its edge. The U.S., in turn, would be pressured to retain strategic parity with Russia.

Thus, the failure to ban MIRVs would likely result in an expensive and dangerous nuclear arms race in Asia. This is just one of the reasons why nuclear weapons' future is in Asia. As I've noted before, China's expanding conventional military power, as well as its more assertive claims to other countries' territory, will put considerable pressure on its non-nuclear neighbors to acquire strategic weapons in order to deter Chinese aggression.

Similarly, while America's post-Cold War conventional superiority has made it a proponent of nuclear disarmament, it relied heavily on nuclear weapons to deter the Soviet Union in Europe for most of the Cold War. Should China's conventional military buildup continue unabated over the coming decades, the U.S. will come to find it nearly impossible to defend Eastern Asia through conventional military means alone. In this scenario, if the Cold War is any guide, the U.S. could come to find it must rely on nuclear weapons once again.

Interestingly, while most of the concern about nuclear weapons in Asia these days centers on North Korea, this isn't likely to be the case in the future. (June 18, 2014) □

Zachary Keck is Managing Editor of The Diplomat where he authors The Pacific Realist blog. He also writes a monthly column for The National Interest. Previously, he worked as Deputy Editor of e-International Relations and has interned at the Center for a New American Security and in the U.S. Congress, where he worked on defense issues.





BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

Avoiding the Worst: Re-framing the Debate on Nuclear Disarmament

By ALEXANDER KMENTT

Ambassador, Director for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation; Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Source: *European Leadership Network* http://www.europeanleadershipnetwork.org/avoiding-the-worst-re-framing-the-debate-on-nuclear-disarmament_1558.html

Nuclear weapons, if used, bring about terrible consequences. This is well-known and arguably continues to give these weapons their special status. During the Cold War, the knowledge that any attack would be immediately met with devastation and death on a scale unacceptable to the adversary was the basis for “mutually assured destruction”, or MAD, as it was aptly called. For nuclear weapons states today, this notion still forms the backbone of a security policy that is based on nuclear deterrence as the “ultimate security guarantee” and as a means to maintain strategic stability between them.



As such, the concept of strategic stability requires nuclear weapons and MAD. Any one state will always find its military force inferior or superior vis-à-vis another state. The threat of complete destruction through nuclear weapons is thus necessary to believers of nuclear deterrence to equalize real or perceived military imbalances.

Consequently, nuclear weapons allow for a notion of global stability that is not only acceptable for nuclear weapons possessors but also virtually impossible to overcome.

However, it is a circular concept. Nuclear weapon states feed on each other's threat perceptions. In so doing, they provide the rationale for one another to retain nuclear weapons. Enter a situation like Russia's current brinkmanship in Ukraine and nuclear deterrence is immediately brought forward as a reassuring “ultimate security guarantee” for European NATO states. Given US missile defence plans and conventional global prompt strike capabilities, Russia's military planners think they must counter with the modernisation of their nuclear weapons. The same dynamic goes for China, France, India, Israel, Pakistan, North Korea and the UK.

Nuclear disarmament and a world without nuclear weapons will never be achieved unless this vicious cycle is broken. Regrettably, nuclear weapons possessing states have proven themselves to be unable to make this mental switch in the 25 years since the end of the Cold War. A continued reliance on nuclear weapons is possibly the greatest driving force for the proliferation of these weapons. Nuclear weapons states may not proliferate the weapons

and the technology themselves but they certainly proliferate the symbolism and status associated with these weapons.

A new dynamic is however emerging with the potential to reframe the issue: states without nuclear weapons and civil society are seeking to take more ownership of the debate by focusing on the potential humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons.

Since 2010, when the Review Conference of the NPT expressed “deep concern about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons”, a wealth of national and international activities have focused on this issue. Most prominent among them were international conferences devoted specifically to this issue in Norway in 2013 and Mexico last February. Another such conference is planned for December 2014 in Vienna, Austria.

These conferences provide an outlet for the latest research looking at the consequences of nuclear weapons explosions on the environment, climate, health, social order, human development and global economy. The research makes a compelling case that these consequences are even greater than we previously understood. Even a so-called “limited nuclear exchange” using a small fraction of today's nuclear arsenals could result in an immediate humanitarian emergency of enormous scale.

The images of Hiroshima and Nagasaki would pale by comparison. No national or international capacity exists to deal with such consequences in any adequate manner. Moreover, the global temperature drop as a consequence of smoke and soot in the atmosphere would have devastating consequences on staple food production. Worldwide famine and a breakdown of social order around the globe would ensue. There cannot be a winner in such a scenario; in the words of Ronald Reagan: “a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought”. ⇒

Photo: <http://pircenter.org/en/experts/251-kmentt-alexander>



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

What Others Say

New information is also becoming available about past near-misses, accidents and human errors associated with nuclear weapons, coupled with a better understanding about the risks inherent in all complex technological systems. These risks are there, they are more serious than previously known and can never be eliminated completely. Humankind has been very lucky on several occasions in the past; reason should demand urgent action to move beyond nuclear weapons.

The five nuclear weapon states recognized by the NPT have so far largely refused to engage in this discourse and to participate in the international conferences. The argument put forward to justify their absence is that the whole humanitarian discourse is a distraction from the NPT and merely a vehicle by some states and civil society to push for a nuclear weapons convention – an international legal prohibition of nuclear weapons - which nuclear weapons states do not support. This is an unconvincing and self-

serving argument. Everybody agrees that additional legal norms to complement the NPT are required for nuclear disarmament. The different options should be discussed in earnest.

The humanitarian discourse should not be reduced to a discussion about one legal approach or another. It focuses on the weapon itself rather than the symbolism that has been created around nuclear weapons and deterrence. It is thus a discussion that should reinforce momentum towards nuclear disarmament. Nuclear deterrence may appear to be an attractive concept: a means to end global war through the threat of unacceptable consequences. However, this could just be a chimera and certainly means taking a big risk with the future of all humankind. This may be an uncomfortable topic for nuclear weapon states but they should participate in the debate. The need to prevent such a humanitarian disaster ever occurring should unite us in urgent action to move beyond nuclear weapons. □

Ambassador Alexander Kmentt is an Austrian diplomat with a specialization on non-proliferation and disarmament issues. He has previously served as a Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary of Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). Previous disarmament responsibilities in the Austrian Foreign Ministry include Deputy Permanent Representative of Austria to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and Deputy Director for Disarmament Affairs. During the Austrian EU Presidency in 2006, he chaired the EU Working Group on Non-Proliferation. Alexander Kmentt holds a Law Degree from the University of Graz and a Masters Degree in International Relations from Cambridge University, UK.

Popular articles

White paper: "Towards Nuclear Disarmament: NPT Article VI and Implementation of the 2010 Review Conference Decisions"

<http://pircenter.org/en/articles/1682-white-paper-towards-nuclear-disarmament-npt-article-vi-and-implementation-of-the-2010-review-conference-decisions>

Edited by Alexander Kolbin, Maxim Starchak

Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty contains a commitment by "each of the parties" to pursue negotiations "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 under strict...

Blue Helmets: the Causes of Impotence

<http://pircenter.org/en/articles/1699-blue-helmets-the-causes-of-impotence>

Evgeny Satanovsky, Alexander Shumilin

Amid the civil war in Syria and the general potential for conflict in the Middle East in 2013, questions are being asked as to the effectiveness of international peacekeeping in this day and age. There is also the need to assess the role of the UN in conflict settlement in the region, the political . . .

Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

Civil Society Perspective

Norway Reaffirms Commitment To The Humanitarian Initiative

<http://www.icanw.org/campaign-news/norway-reaffirms-commitment-to-the-humanitarian-initiative/>



(June 18, 2014) - The humanitarian initiative has come a long way since former Norwegian Foreign Minister, Jonas Gahr Støre, announced that Norway would host the first conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in April 2012. The Chair's Summary from the Nayarit Conference upped the ante by calling for a new legal instrument prohibiting nuclear weapons, and with a third conference on this topic coming up on Vienna in December 2014, more and more states are starting to draw the political and legal conclusion from the evidence showing the unacceptable nature of these weapons.

When the Norwegian red-green coalition was replaced by a conservative government after the Norwegian general elections in September 2013, many was wondering whether this would lead to a policy change from Norway's side, questioning whether the Conservative Party would stay loyal to its political manifesto, which states "support for the establishment of a new legal instrument to strengthen existing nuclear disarmament treaties".

On 5 June 2014, during a debate in the Norwegian parliament, Norway's Foreign Minister Børge Brende reaffirmed Norway's commitment to the humanitarian initiative, saying that Norway "will participate actively in the run-up to and during the Vienna conference" and have "full focus on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons".

Brende affirmed that it is possible to have "a world free of nuclear weapons." Brende also restated the Norwegian government's commitment to pursuing nuclear disarmament, citing the past government's leadership by hosting the first international conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in Oslo in 2013.

Other representatives in parliament identified Norway's opportunity to lead the process on negotiating a nuclear weapon ban. Marit Nybakk, a Labour Party MP, pointed to Norway's role in other arms treaties as a precedent for action. In negotiating agreements on cluster munitions, biological weapons, chemical weapons and small arms, "Norway has either been the initiator, promoter or active supporter," said Nybakk. "It is important that this initiative be continued, and that Norway maintains its leadership role."

Sveinung Rotevatn, a Liberal Party MP, said that the humanitarian initiative "should lead to an international prohibition on nuclear weapons, after the model of the successful prohibition processes against landmines and cluster munitions."

Though some MPs expressed cynicism about the feasibility of negotiating a nuclear weapons ban in the current international political climate, many other parliamentarians disagreed. "Someone must take the lead and drive the process forward," said Bård Vegar Solhjell, MP for the Socialist Left Party. Solhjell spoke in favour of pursuing a nuclear weapons ban, even though some states continue to oppose it. "Even if one does not get all the countries on board from the start, getting the support of many countries is a way to create a political norm that affects the entire world," said Solhjell. "It doesn't take long to create momentum for a broad international process."

Minister Brende restated the importance of the upcoming Vienna Conference in pursuing nuclear disarmament. "The vision is clear: Nuclear weapons are going to be abolished, and Norway will continue the work we have been doing since the Oslo conference."

Civil society and non-governmental organisations are also showing their support for nuclear weapons ban, and are urging the Norwegian government to follow through on their stated plans. "From the debate, it is clear that the majority of the Norwegian parliament is in favor of an international ban on nuclear weapons," said Liv Tørres, Secretary General of Norwegian People's Aid. "We are proud of the leading role our politicians have taken so far, and expect them to uphold their active involvement in the humanitarian initiative both in Vienna and until a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons is achieved." □

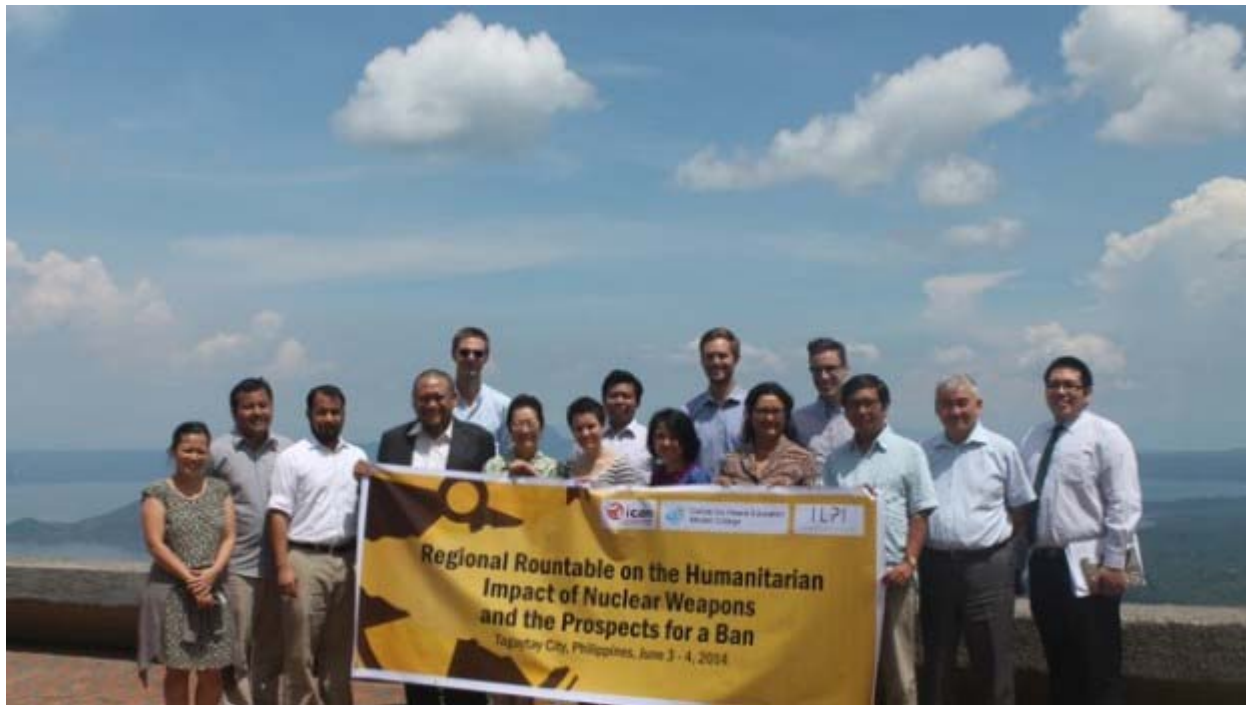
Picture: Norwegian Parliament



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES

Civil Society Perspective



Asia and the Pacific Look Towards Vienna

<http://www.icanw.org/campaign-news/asia-and-the-pacific-look-towards-vienna/>

(June 27, 2014) - What role can nations in Asia and the Pacific play in banning and eliminating nuclear weapons? This was one of the questions discussed at a two-day roundtable meeting in the Philippines earlier this month, organised jointly by ICAN, the International Law and Policy Institute and our Manila-based partner, the Center for Peace Education.

Government officials from the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar, Viet Nam, and Mongolia participated actively in the discussion, together with ICAN campaigners from the Philippines, Indonesia, Fiji, Canada, and Australia, and a representative of Malaysian Red Crescent.

Many participants commented on the new momentum and positive atmosphere created by the Oslo and Nayarit conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Much of the discussion at the roundtable meeting focused on what states and civil society in the region can do to prepare for the forthcoming Vienna conference, which promises to take things to the next level.

Dr Loreta Castro, a co-organizer of the event, said that she hoped that South-East Asian states in particular would be able to reach “a common regional position on the humanitarian initiative and the proposal for a treaty banning nuclear weapons” in the coming months. She and others made suggestions for facilitating further regional dialogue on this topic.

Participants also discussed the need to build a stronger civil society movement in the region. We hope to see more non-government organizations signing up as ICAN partners and contributing actively to the campaign. The Red Cross and Red Crescent movement also has plans in place to increase its activities in this area.

“The governments that participated in this roundtable meeting are all part of nuclear-weapon-free zones. They share a strong desire to move towards a total, global ban on nuclear weapons,” said Tim Wright, Asia Pacific director of ICAN. “We plan to work in close partnership with these and other supportive governments to achieve our goal.” □



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION
WITH JUNE 2014 ARTICLES



TOWARD A NUCLEAR FREE WORLD



<http://www.nuclearabolition.info/>



People's Decade for Nuclear Abolition

Initiated by Soka Gakkai International (SGI)



<http://www.peoplesdecade.org/>

The poster features an aerial view of Vienna with a Ferris wheel in the foreground. A large green-bordered box on the left contains the text: "6-7 Dec, 2014", "ICAN CIVIL SOCIETY", "FORUM", "VIENNA". To the right, two white circles are connected by lines, containing the text "Time to ban" and "Nuclear weapons". In the top right corner, the ICAN logo is present with the text "International campaign to abolish nuclear weapons". Below the logo, it says "for more info: vienna@icanw.org".

<http://www.icanw.org/>

Publisher: Global Cooperation Council [umbrella organisation of IPS-Inter Press Service Deutschland] | **SGI-IPS Project Director:** Katsuhiro Asagiri | **President IPS Japan**
SGI-IPS Project Coordinator | Editor-in-Charge: Ramesh Jaura