



IPB NOBEL CENTENARY YEAR-SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED!

This year IPB celebrates a very special year: it is 100 years since the organisation was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts in promoting peace, and for coordinating the work of national peace societies. In 2010 we are organising various events to commemorate this important milestone in the history of the organised peace movement. These activities culminate in a major international conference plus the triennial IPB Assembly and other activities, in Oslo from 23-26 Sept. IPB invites all members and supporters to join together for this great celebration in the Norwegian capital. Under the broad title 'A Climate for Peace' we will organise – together with the Norwegian Peace Council - an intensive programme of discussions, social gatherings and cultural events. You can read details of the programme as it develops via <http://www.ipb.org> – (see box)

If you require an invitation letter for visa purposes, please write to Hedda Langemyr <hedda@norgesfredsrad.no> who will send you a formal letter that you can present to the Norwegian Consulate in your capital city. For all other details please contact IPB Geneva secretariat.

Before that, from June 6th to late July, IPB's photo-exhibition 'Making Peace' will be shown along Lake Geneva in front of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. There will also be a 'Peace Village' on June 6th and Garden Party. In addition, we have written to all our members to invite them to organise activities and events in their own areas, as part of the Centenary programme.

IPB'S DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (totalling \$1464 billion in 2008); and the evidence that weapons – such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines – seriously impede sustainable development. Post 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach. Activities organised in pursuit of these goals include: seminars, publications, website, e-newsletter, exhibitions and a media programme. National and international networks are gradually being developed.

Nuclear Disarmament

April, 25th

COMMON RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE NPT—SHARED OR ASYMMETRICAL?

JAYANTHA DHANAPALA

Can there be shared responsibilities in the mitigation of climate change between the industrialized West, whose profligate environmental pollution in the past and present is well known as a causal factor of climate change, and little Maldives in the Indian Ocean, whose innocent citizens, pursuing their traditional livelihood of fishing and new opportunities of tourism, face imminent danger of drowning in the rising Indian Ocean because of climate change?

See page 20 of: <http://www.amacad.org/pdfs/saganInside.pdf>



April, 5th

A SEASON FOR DISARMAMENT

BY HANS BLIX

STOCKHOLM – The financial crisis and global warming have had the world's attention in recent years. Thanks to President Barack Obama's initiative, perhaps the season for nuclear disarmament has finally arrived. On Thursday, President Obama will meet Russian President Dmitri Medvedev in Prague to sign a nuclear arms control agreement between the United States and Russia that will reduce their arsenals by 30 percent. The new treaty will be received positively. There will be praise for the Obama administration's attitude toward arms control and disarmament and for Russia's readiness to join hands with the United States.

More on: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/05/opinion/05iht-edblix.html>

April, 7th

NEW US NUCLEAR POSTURE ENHANCES SAFETY AND SECURITY; ONLY A WORLD WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAN ENSURE HUMAN SURVIVAL

BY INTERNATIONAL PHYSICIANS FOR THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

The long-awaited Nuclear Posture Review released today by President Obama is the most important and thorough re-evaluation of US nuclear policy since the Cold War. While it is not a blueprint for rapid nuclear disarmament, it marks the first time the US has made the elimination of nuclear weapons a guiding principle, focusing more on reducing the dangers of nuclear weapons than on finding roles and rationales for them. This is a very welcome and long overdue course correction.

More on: <http://peaceandhealthblog.com/2010/04/07/us-npr/>

April, 6th

OBAMA'S NUCLEAR POSTURE REVIEW SEES 'TIMID' PROGRESS

BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament described today's United States' Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) as timid, with the modest advances not living up to the ambitious goals the Obama administration has set itself.

More on: <http://www.cnduk.org/index.php/20100406856/press-releases/global-abolition/obama-s-nuclear-posture-review-sees-timid-progress.html>

April, 8th

NUCLEAR ABOLITION - AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME

BY REBECCA JOHNSON

See: <http://www.abolition2000uk.org/Blackaby%20%20final%20complete%20with%20cover.pdf>



April, 8th

U.S. LOOKS TO NONNUCLEAR WEAPONS TO USE AS DETERRENT

BY CRAIG WHITLOCK

As the White House pushes for cuts in the U.S. nuclear arsenal, the Pentagon is developing a weapon to help fill the gap: missiles armed with conventional warheads that could strike anywhere in the world in less than an hour. U.S. military officials say the intercontinental ballistic missiles, known as Prompt Global Strike weapons, are a necessary new form of deterrence against terrorist networks and other adversaries. As envisioned, the conventional missiles would give the White House a fresh military option to consider in a crisis that would not result in a radioactive mushroom cloud.

"The administration has asked Congress for \$240 million for next year's Prompt Global Strike development programs, a 45 percent increase from the current budget."

More on:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/07/AR2010040704920_pf.html

April, 8th

DISPOSAL OF PLUTONIUM FROM U.S.-RUSSIAN DISARMAMENT IS LIKELY TO TAKE DECADES

BY MATTHEW L. WALD

WASHINGTON – The plutonium that is the key ingredient in thousands of nuclear weapons sidelined in the new arms control treaty between the United States and Russia is likely to be around for decades at least, according to experts. They say the process for destroying plutonium has not yet started to whittle down the surplus already created by previous agreements.

More on: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/09/world/europe/09nuke.html?hpw>

April, 16th

DEPARTURE OF THE THIRD GLOBAL VOYAGE FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD – PEACE BOAT HIBAKUSHA PROJECT

BY PEACE BOAT

Peace Boat's Global Voyage will be setting sail from the port of Yokohama on April 16 (Fri) on the third Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World, in which ten Hibakusha will (atomic bomb survivors) will participate. During the 101 day journey until July 25, they will be visiting 22 ports in 20 countries, giving testimonies of their experiences. This year, 65 years since the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, much is taking place around the world with the potential to greatly affect the future of nuclear weapons abolition – including the recent signing of the new US-Russia disarmament treaty, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in May. With only limited time left for the Hibakusha to directly share their experiences, it is now urgent to spread the messages from Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the world.

More on: <http://www.peaceboat.org/english/voyg/69/index.html>



International Peace Bureau

April, 28th 2010April, 8th**CND WELCOMES NEW START TREATY**

BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament today welcomed the signing of a new nuclear arms reduction treaty between the US and Russia, describing it as "positive first step on the road to a nuclear-free future".

More on: <http://www.cnduk.org/index.php/20100408857/press-releases/global-abolition/cnd-welcomes-new-start-treaty.html>

April, 12th**FROM ARMS CONTROL TO ABOLITION**

BY TIM WRIGHT / INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS (ICAN)

Here's an update on what is happening:

Lobbying efforts at the UN in New York

As ICAN teams work in capitals around the world to build support for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, we are also working in New York to inform diplomats about our campaign aims.

Download briefing paper for diplomats: <http://t.ymlp105.com/jyalamesadabmbjafaubeq/click.php>

Growing support for Nuclear Abolition Day, June 5th

June 5th this year has been designated as a one-time Nuclear Abolition Day.

Register your action online, and help build the momentum for a Nuclear Weapons Convention.

Visit the Nuclear Abolition Day website: <http://www.nuclearabolition.org/>

Preparations for the May 2nd rally in New York

The momentum is rapidly building for the May 2nd rally in New York City. As many as 2500 people from around the world are expected to join local residents in a mass demonstration and peace festival the day before the NPT Review Conference begins. The organizers are looking for volunteers to help out at both events. You can register your availability online.

More on: <http://peaceandjusticenow.org/wordpress/>

New book calls for real action towards abolition

Ray Acheson from Reaching Critical Will has released a new book, *Beyond Arms Control: Challenges and Choices for Nuclear Disarmament*, which critically examines the mainstream discourse on nuclear weapons and calls for a comprehensive nuclear abolition treaty.

More on: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/books/beyondarmscontrol.html>

ICAN chair recognized for dedication to nuclear abolition

The chair of ICAN, Associate Professor Tilman Ruff, has been featured in a recent issue of *The Age* newspaper in Australia.

More on: <http://www.theage.com.au/world/nuclear-nemesis-20100409-ryqr.html>



International Peace Bureau

April, 28th 2010*April, 28th***FORTY EUROPEAN STATESMEN AND WOMEN RELEASE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO COINCIDE WITH THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT**

BY SHATA SHETTY

The recently signed arms control treaty between the United States and Russia brings welcome reductions in deployed nuclear warheads and an agreed ceiling on the number of delivery vehicles that each side may possess. The breakthrough is all the more welcome, coming just weeks before both the Washington Summit on Nuclear Security and the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Across Europe, and at this moment of diplomatic opportunity, we have joined together to declare our unequivocal support for President Obama's vision of a world without nuclear weapons.

More on: <http://toplevelgroup.org/events/europeanstatement/>*April, 14th***NUCLEAR WEAPONS: GOOD NEWS, BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH
BY THE LAWYERS COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR POLICY**

The Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy welcomes two recent developments concerning nuclear weapons: the New START agreement signed April 8th and the final communiqué of the Nuclear Security Summit issued in Washington yesterday.

More on: <http://www.lcnp.org/pubs/NSSrelease.pdf>*April, 20th***BRINGING THE ERA OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO AN END**

BY PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

On 20th April Dr. Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, made an important statement on nuclear weapons to the Geneva diplomatic corps.

More on: <http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/nuclear-weapons-statement-200410>*April, 20th***SECRETARY GENERAL BAN KI-MOON SPEAKS TO HUNDREDS OF ACTIVISTS IN NYC**

BY JACKIE CABASSO

NEW YORK CITY – United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon will address hundreds of peace, justice and environmental activists on May 1 at 7 p.m. during a historic peace conference, organizers announced this week. The conference "For A Nuclear-Free, Peaceful, Just and Sustainable World" begins April 30, in advance of May's Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference at the UN. The Secretary General will speak at New York's Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive.

See: <http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/1413460/76425959/name/Ban%20Ki-moon%20press%20release%2Epdf>



Arms and Weapons

April, 6th

EU BOOSTS ARMS MANUFACTURERS

BY DAVID CRONIN

BRUSSELS - Arms traders are to be given a central role in formulating a new European Union (EU) blueprint for stimulating weapons production, it has been confirmed.

More on: <http://ipsnews.net/newsTVE.asp?idnews=50927>

April, 22nd

FRANCE URGED TO BAN CLUSTER BOMB FUNDING

BY A. D. MCKENZIE

PARIS - Human rights groups are urging the French government to adopt a law that would ban the financing of companies that produce cluster munitions, the deadly bombs that have killed or maimed thousands of civilians in the past 40 years.

More on: <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=51158>

Environment

April, 22nd

PETITION: GUAM SIGN ON LETTER – HALT THE GUAM BUILD UP PLANS, REWRITE THE DEIS

BY ERICA BENTON

Petition to call attention to the severe long-term impacts of preparations for war on the physical environment and, in turn, on human health in Guam.

More on: <http://www.genuinesecurity.org/actions/earthday2010.html>



Military Spending

Spring 2010

HOW GOVERNMENTS SHOULD COMPENSATE FOR DEFENCE SPENDING CUTS

BY DICK ZANDEE

Many European governments cut their defence budgets last year, intensifying fears that the EU's military outreach, and thus the goals of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), will be seriously weakened. The European Defence Agency's Dick Zandee puts his case for a European approach to defence cooperation.

At first it was called a "peace dividend", but now it's seen as a very real problem. In the years following the end of the Cold War, European defence budgets shrunk alarmingly. Only in recent years have they begun to stabilise, with some national defence budgets even showing small increases as the result of political support for military campaigns in the Balkans, Africa and in the Middle East.

More on: http://www.europesworld.org/NewEnglish/Home_old/Article/tabid/191/ArticleType/ArticleView/ArticleID/21572/Howgovernmentsshouldcompensatefordencespendingcuts.aspx

Octobre, 8th

STATEMENT BY H.E. ARCHBISHOP CELESTINO MIGLIORE

ARCHBISHOP CELESTINO MIGLIORE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Celestino Migliore in the 64th session of the UN General Assembly within the frame of the general debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items.

More on: <http://www.holyseemission.org/08Oct2009.html>