



ADVOCACY GUIDE

Second preparatory committee of the
nuclear non-proliferation treaty
22 april - 3 may 2013

WHAT IS THE NPT

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) opened for signature on 1 July 1968 and entered into force on 5 March 1970. 189 states have ratified the NPT, becoming “states parties” to the Treaty. India, Israel, and Pakistan have not signed or ratified the Treaty and have developed nuclear weapons since its entry into force. North Korea did ratify the Treaty but announced its withdrawal in 2003.

The NPT divides all state parties into two groups: those that tested nuclear weapons before 1 January 1967 and those that did not. The states that tested nuclear weapons before 1967 are known as official “nuclear weapon states”. They are the United States, Russia (formerly the Soviet Union), China, France, and the United Kingdom. The second group is known as non-nuclear weapon states.

The NPT’s main impetus was stopping the potential rapid proliferation of nuclear weapons to a high number of states. Therefore, the Treaty provides a “grand bargain” for non-nuclear weapon states: in exchange for their commitment to never develop or receive nuclear weapons, the nuclear weapon states promised to eliminate their arsenals and non-nuclear weapon states would have access to the “peaceful uses” of nuclear technology.

Each fifth year, the states parties hold a Review Conference. The next one will be held in New York in May 2015. To prepare the Review Conference, states parties hold three Preparatory Committees; this upcoming one in Geneva is the second one.

SUMMARY OF NPT ARTICLES

Article I: Nuclear weapon states will not transfer nuclear weapons, nor will they assist in the development of nuclear weapons in any way.

Article II: Non-nuclear weapon states will not acquire nuclear weapons, nor will they manufacture such weapons.

Article III: Non-nuclear weapon states will accept inspection of their civilian nuclear energy plants by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the form of such inspections shall be negotiated by each state and the IAEA in additional protocols.

Article IV: Nothing in this Treaty shall impede states parties' "inalienable right" to nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Article V: Benefits from peaceful nuclear explosions should be shared all around (this article has been superseded by the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty).

Article VI: Each party to the Treaty is obliged to pursue negotiations on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament. States parties also agree to pursue a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

Article VII: Nothing in the Treaty can stop nuclear weapon free zones from being negotiated.

Article VIII: Sets up procedure for amendments of the Treaty and for the review process.

Article XI: The Treaty is open for all countries, and it will enter into force when the US, UK, USSR and 40 other states have ratified it. The definition of a nuclear weapon state is one that has manufactured and exploded a nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive device prior to 1 January 1967.

Article X: Each party has the right to withdraw from the Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events have jeopardized the interest of the country. A three months notice of withdrawal must be given to all states parties of the treaty and the United Nations Security Council.

Article XI: The Treaty is available in English, Russian, French, Spanish, and Chinese and all languages are equally authentic.

ICAN AT THE NPT

The 2013 NPT Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) will take place six weeks after the conference on humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in Oslo. ICAN will use the NPT as a measurement of our advocacy efforts towards the follow-up humanitarian conference to be hosted by Mexico, and make sure that attention on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons will be at the centre of any discussion around nuclear weapons. The NPT PrepCom in Geneva will also be the first major government meeting on nuclear disarmament after Oslo, and resistance from nuclear weapon states might be expressed in a more coordinated way here. It is therefore key that ICAN participates actively at the NPT and uses this meeting to push the humanitarian disarmament agenda forward.

ICAN'S OBJECTIVES AT THE NPT

1. Create a greater recognition amongst as many governments as possible that the humanitarian impact of the use of nuclear weapons would be unacceptable, that there is no adequate response capacity nationally or internationally, and that nuclear weapons must never be used.
2. Get as many countries as possible to welcome the Oslo meeting and its outcomes, and welcome the follow-up meeting in Mexico.
3. Mainstream the idea of a treaty banning nuclear weapons for the more friendly governments.
4. Continue to build capacity amongst ICAN campaigners to lobby their governments in an efficient way and to build a partnership between ICAN and a core group of governments.

ADVOCACY MESSAGES

1. Any use of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic humanitarian consequences

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- The humanitarian consequences of any nuclear weapon use would be catastrophic and would spread far beyond borders and remain for generations to come.
- The consequences would affect human health, the environment, the economy and development.

2. There is no adequate response capacity, and the international community needs to take further measures to prevent nuclear weapons from ever being used.

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- Neither the international community nor any national authorities would be able to effectively respond to such a crisis.
- Any use or accidental detonation of a nuclear weapon would be unacceptable and must be prevented.
- This is a global concern and it is the responsibility of all states to prevent nuclear weapons from ever being used again.

3. The broad participation at the conference in Oslo reflects the recognition that the catastrophic effects of a nuclear detonation is an issue of concern and relevance to all.

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- Welcome the conference on the Humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, held by the Norwegian government in March 2013.
- The participation of close to 130 states at this conference demonstrates the willingness of the international community to address the humanitarian

consequences of nuclear weapons.

- Welcome the offer by Mexico to hold a follow-up meeting to continue this discussion.

4. Engaging in a discussion around the humanitarian harm that nuclear weapons cause will complement and strengthen ongoing and new efforts on non-proliferation and disarmament.

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- Highlight that in-depth discussions on humanitarian aspects and prevention of use of nuclear weapons will facilitate the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and

ADDITIONAL ADVOCACY MESSAGES FOR NWFZ AND FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS (*)

1. The current disarmament machinery is deadlocked and has not achieved the progress needed. A process towards banning nuclear weapons is needed.

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- The only credible guarantee against use is to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons.
- It is an anomaly in international law that nuclear weapons are the only remaining weapons of mass destruction not subject to an explicit treaty prohibition.
- The development of and agreement on a treaty banning nuclear weapons should be undertaken by committed states even if states armed with nuclear weapons choose not to participate.
- Only when committed governments agree to negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons will a clear legal rejection of nuclear weapons be put in place.
- A treaty process should be seen as a responsible initiative by states seeking to implement their international obligations for disarmament in good faith, including in accordance with Article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

*.All nuclear-weapon-free zone countries + Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Denmark, Egypt, Holy See, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, Norway and Switzerland. Australia should be removed from this group despite being a part of a NWFZ, as it claims reliance on US extended nuclear deterrence.

2. Nuclear weapon free zones (NWFZ) already exist in six regions, which is a first step towards a global ban on nuclear weapons.

Suggested points to ask delegations to think about in their interventions:

- Emphasize that the humanitarian and environmental impact of nuclear weapons will spread beyond borders and highlight that any use of nuclear weapons would be unacceptable and must be prevented. Nuclear-weapon-free zones are not enough to protect countries from the effects of nuclear weapons.
- Acknowledge that NWFZs are building blocks towards a global ban on nuclear weapons, and that a treaty banning nuclear weapons would complement nuclear-weapon-free zones.
- Point out that since the entire southern hemisphere is a NWFZ, more cooperation between zones should take place.

ICAN staff and members of the ICAN ISG will be available throughout the conference to provide more information on specific issues.

ACTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN DURING THE CONFERENCE

1. Meet with your government representatives (and others) during the meeting

Campaigners are expected to take an active role reaching out to governments throughout the conference. Use the advocacy messages in this guide as a basis for discussion. Find out what the representatives' reflections on the conference are, and what your government's position is on a nuclear weapons ban. If you are meeting with representatives from a government other than your own, be sure to check in with ICAN campaigners present from that country first so that you can coordinate your efforts.

2. Take part in NGO coordination meetings and government briefing sessions each morning

From 08:00-09:00 NGOs at the NPT will hold coordination meetings and all ICAN

campaigners are welcome to come to these meetings to plan advocacy outreach for the day, share feedback on advocacy work, and discuss the conference proceedings and hear about other activities taking place. These will take place in the Room XVI at the Palais des Nations. Reaching Critical Will organizes a daily briefing by a government for NGOs in the same room from 09:00-09:50. ICAN campaigners are encouraged to participate and ask questions to the government present.

3. Promote ICANs work and messages online with Twitter, Facebook and website articles

Discuss the NPT PrepCom and ICAN's messages through your organization's online media. Write a blog, a website article or a newsletter piece about the conference. Throughout the meeting post regular updates on Twitter using the hashtag #goodbyenukes and make sure you follow ICAN's Twitter feed @nuclearban. Post pictures and updates on Facebook.

4. Report back on your advocacy work to the ICAN team

We would like to find out what governments are saying to the ICAN delegation so that we can develop an effective advocacy plan after the conference. Please send a brief report by email on each of your lobbying meetings to Beatrice Fihn (beatrice@reachingcriticalwill.org) or any member of the ICAN staff team.

Be sure to include:

- Who you met with (the country and and delegate's name and position)
- The key points discussed
- Any follow-up actions needed

HOW TO DO ADVOCACY?

- Find out about the government's policy position on nuclear weapons and a ban before you meet.
- Think about what you want to find out from your government representative at your meeting, and prepare what you want to say and ask. You can use the advocacy messages in this guide as a basis for discussion.
- Ask other civil society representatives from your country/region, or experts

that you would benefit from having at your meeting, to join you.

- Invite the delegates that are participating in the conference from your country for a meeting over a coffee to discuss the conference.
- Bring materials that you want to give to your government delegate.
- At your meeting, find out which individuals and government departments are in charge of this issue and responsible for formulating government policy.
- Remember to follow up afterwards on any action points and to stay in touch.
- Send a report on your meeting to Beatrice at beatrice@reachingcriticalwill.org or any member of the ICAN staff team.

RESOURCES

- All NPT statements, documents, working papers and a calendar of events can be found at Reaching Critical Will: www.reachingcriticalwill.org
- Follow the discussions at the NPT through Reaching Critical Will's News in Review. Subscribe here: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/npt/2013/nir>
- Unspeakable suffering – the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons
- Unacceptable harm – ICAN booklet
- Banning nuclear weapons – Report by Article 36

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The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) is a global campaign coalition working to mobilize people in all countries to inspire, persuade and pressure their governments to initiate and support negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons. The campaign was launched in 2007, and is now active in more than 60 countries worldwide.

We call on states, international organizations, civil society organizations and other actors to:

- Acknowledge that any use of nuclear weapons would cause catastrophic humanitarian and environmental harm.
- Acknowledge that there is a universal humanitarian imperative to ban nuclear weapons, even for states that do not possess them.
- Acknowledge that the nuclear-armed states have an obligation to eliminate their nuclear weapons completely.
- Take immediate action to support a multilateral process of negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

