



Draft work program and key events

December 2017 – November 2018

1. Work program

Abolition 2000

Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a coordinating member of [Abolition 2000](#), the global civil society network to eliminate nuclear weapons. BPO helps organise the annual meetings of Abolition 2000, co-manages the website and convenes a number of [Abolition 2000 working groups](#), including on Youth, Nuclear Weapons and International Law, Nuclear Weapons Convention, Interfaith Action, Economic Dimensions and the 2018 UN High-Level Conference.

Engaging legislators - PNND

BPO serves as the PNND head office. BPO Director (Alyn Ware) serves as PNND Global Coordinator.

The key program for PNND in 2018 is on implementation of the [Global Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World](#). The plan, which was developed in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, was adopted at the 136th IPU Assembly in Dhaka, Bangladesh in April 2017 and released at the [137th IPU Assembly](#) in St Petersburg in October 2017. The plan includes 14 key issues upon which parliamentarians can take action, plus examples of exemplary parliamentary action in each of these issue areas. PNND will hold events in a number of national parliaments on parliamentary action to implement the plan.

PNND plans to hold its annual assembly in either Basel or Geneva in March 2018 immediately before the 138th IPU Assembly.

PNND also plans events at the IPU assemblies in Geneva (March) and (October), events at the OSCE Parliamentary Assemblies in Vienna (February) and Berlin (July), and a regional conference in Jordan on the Middle East NWFZ proposal (contingent on funding).

Framework Forum – Middle Powers Initiative

BPO plans to co-organise Framework Forum events with MPI and PNND in 2018 to be held in the Hague (at Clingendale Institute) and in Geneva during the NPT prep com. The Framework Forum event in the Hague will focus on building EU-Russian Cooperation and Tension Reduction. The Geneva event might focus on the connection between the ban treaty and the NPT. BPO and MPI are also planning an event in Geneva in March 2018 focused on the legal and political measures that could be adopted at the 2018 UN High Level Conference.

Humanitarian impact and the law

BPO will continue to focus on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons development, testing and use, and the application of law to nuclear weapons including international humanitarian law, law of peace and security, environmental law and the rights of future generations.

Mayors for Peace

BPO will continue to build on the cooperation with Mayors for Peace including by inviting European, Middle East, South Asia and Central Asia members to the regional PNND conferences, and by continuing to build endorsements for the [Joint Statement of Mayors, Parliamentarians and Religious Leaders](#) which we will present to the first session of the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament in New York on March 28. BPO will liaise with Mayors for Peace with a view to including Basel in the Mayors for Peace [50 Cities Art Exhibition](#).

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money – Economic Conversion

BPO, PNND, IPB and World Future Council will use our publication [Move the Nuclear Weapons Money](#) to build parliamentary and civil society actions to reduce nuclear weapons budgets, and divest from nuclear weapons corporations.

We are now working on a second edition which will include an additional chapter on the topic of economic conversion. BPO interns Calvin Konig and Bethan Edwards are undertaking a research project on economic conversion with a key focus on US and UK nuclear weapons industries. This will be the basis for the new chapter, and also for a longer, stand-alone policy paper.

We plan to translate the second edition of *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* into French and German, and use the publication at key events and campaigns during the year. These will include the *Global Days of Action on Military Spending* in April, the IPU Assemblies, NPT prep Com and UNHLC. In addition, the parliamentary actions outlined in the publication are included in the *Global Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World*.

We are also developing an online platform for *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money*, to be hosted by the World Future Council. The platform will include background on the issue, examples of actions and resolutions and other information to support the campaign.

BPO received funding from the Grassroots Foundation for the *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money project*. We have applied for a renewal grant for 2018, with an emphasis on adoption of nuclear weapons divestment policies at city, regional and national levels.

We also plan a 7-day public action in New York – *Count the Nuclear Weapons Money* – during the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament. We will count 1 trillion dollars (the amount planned to be spent on nuclear weapons over the next ten years) in \$1 million notes (1 million of them). The action will promote alternatives to which this money could be re-directed.

Non-Proliferation Treaty

BPO will participate in the NPT prep com (Geneva, April 2018). The NPT Prep Com will include all States Parties (nuclear weapon states, allied states and non-nuclear states), and so we can advance a range of nuclear disarmament initiatives. Key issues at the NPT will include the 2018 UN High-Level Conference, nuclear risk-reduction, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Middle East Zone free from Nuclear Weapons and other WMD.

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones – Europe and the Middle East

Contingent on funding, BPO will organise conferences in Basel and Jordan, in cooperation with PNND on the European and Middle East NWFZ proposals, and side events at the IPU Assembly and/or NPT prep com meeting on NWFZs.

Religions for Peace

BPO Director is convenor of the [Abolition 2000 Interfaith Working Group](#) and author of the [Religions for Peace Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide](#). A German language edition of the Resource Guide was published with the support of Prof Lucas Kundert and the Basel Reformed Evangelical Church. BPO plans to continue coordination of inter-faith nuclear disarmament events and promotion of the resource guide in 2018.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

BPO participated in the negotiations of this treaty and will be active in 2018 on two key aspects:

- a) increasing the number of signatories to the treaty (currently 53 countries have signed – all non-nuclear countries);
- b) assisting with ratification and national implementation.

BPO will encourage parliaments and governments to adopt strong implementing legislation based on the model of the New Zealand which prohibits transit and financing as well as possession, manufacture, use and threat or use. New Zealand also has a public advisory committee and a Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control to promote nuclear disarmament.

UNFOLD ZERO – United Nations initiatives for nuclear disarmament

BPO co-founded UNFOLD ZERO with PNND, Mayors for Peace, PragueVision, the NGO Committee on Disarmament and Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace, in conjunction with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. In 2018, UNFOLD ZERO will continue to promote, and organise actions & events related to, United Nations initiatives and processes for nuclear disarmament, including Security Council action on the Kazakhstan proposal for 1% military spending for SDGs, the UN International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, and the [2018 UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament \(UNHLC\)](#).

2018 UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament

This is a unique opportunity in which nuclear-armed, allied and non-nuclear States are expected to participate. Unfortunately, it is not receiving anywhere near the amount of funding or publicity as other nuclear disarmament initiatives.

BPO and UNFOLD ZERO coordinate the global civil society promotion of, and engagement in, the 2018 UNHLC. We will organise a number of actions and events in 2018 including a diplomatic roundtable in Geneva in early March (with MPI), presentation of the youth video and joint statement to the preparatory session on March 28, and side events and presentations to the conference itself (including Count the Nuclear Weapons Money).

Youth programs

BPO will continue its youth internship program to train youth in international diplomacy, policy development and campaign building. BPO will also promote the [Youth Appeal to World Leaders](#) which was adopted at the [Prague Youth Conference](#), and other activities of the [Abolition 2000 Youth Network](#) which we convene. We will also continue to participate in the IPU Network of Young Parliamentarians, and advance nuclear disarmament initiatives to young parliamentarians through this network.

2. Basel Peace Office key events/dates for December 2017 – November 2018

2017:

December 11-13, Brussels. EU Non-proliferation Consortium annual meeting and conference.

2018:

Jan 14-16: Basel. Stall at the Basel Peace Forum.

February 22-23, Vienna. Spring session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. PNND stall and side-event.

March 15-18, Frieberg, Germany. European Conference of Environmental Laureates. Promotion of the nuclear divestment campaign.

March 22-23: Geneva. PNND Annual Assembly. Nuclear divestment campaign is one of the 14 actions in the Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear Weapon Free World, which will be the main focus of the assembly.

March 24-27. Geneva. IPU Assembly (170 member-parliaments). We will organize a launch event for the online platform and second edition of *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money*.

March 28. New York. First session of the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament. We will organize a launch event and press conference for the online platform and second edition of *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money*.

April 23-May 4. Geneva. Non-Proliferation Treaty Prep Com (States Parties to the NPT meeting), and the annual assembly of Abolition 2000, the global civil society network to eliminate nuclear weapons. We will hold a side event on nuclear divestment for governments at the NPT Prep Com, and a workshop session on nuclear divestment at the Abolition 2000 assembly.

May 10-16, New York. *Count the Nuclear Weapons Money*. Over seven days we will count non-stop \$1 trillion in 1 million mock notes each of \$1million value. The event will promote cuts to nuclear weapons budgets, nuclear divestment and re-investment in social, economic and environmental needs (including climate protection and the SDGs).

May 14-16, New York. Main session of the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament. We will do a presentation and circulate information on nuclear divestment to governments and civil society at the HLC.

June 6-10, Normandy. Normandy Peace Forum. BPO and PNND will organise events on nuclear disarmament and common security for the forum.

July 7-11, Berlin. Annual Assembly of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. We will promote nuclear disarmament language for the final declaration, and hold a side-event on parliamentary actions for nuclear disarmament including nuclear divestment.

August 29, Astana. Youth conference for nuclear abolition.

September 26, New York. International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

October, New York. UN General Assembly

Other events to be finalised.