

Draft work program and key events

December 2018 – November 2019

The Basel Peace Office undertakes research, program development and public education over a range of issues relating to international peace and nuclear disarmament. In addition, we organise events in Basel, at the United Nations (in Geneva and New York) and in other key capitals/cities around the world.

1. Work program

Abolition 2000

Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a coordinating member of <u>Abolition 2000</u>, the global civil society network to eliminate nuclear weapons. BPO will help organise the 2019 annual meeting of Abolition 2000 in New York, co-draft and promote Abolition 2000 international appeals and action alerts, and co-manage the website. In addition, we will continue to convene a number of <u>Abolition 2000 working groups</u>, including on Youth, Nuclear Weapons and International Law, Nuclear Weapons Convention, Interfaith Action, and Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism.

Basel Peace Forum

BPO is planning a pavilion at the <u>Basel Peace Forum 2019</u> on January 14, in cooperation with IPPNW Switzerland and GSoA. The pavilion will include a slide show on humanitarian impact of arms exports and nuclear weapons, a quiz on which human rights violating countries and countries in armed conflict to which Switzerland exports weapons, and a money counting action regarding the ≤ 27 billion of weapons European countries export annually and what this money could instead cover in these countries especially in relation to the *Sustainable Development Goals*.

Engaging legislators - PNND

BPO Director (Alyn Ware) serves as PNND Global Coordinator. The key program for PNND in 2019 is implementation of the <u>Global Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World</u>. The plan was developed in cooperation with the *Inter-Parliamentary Union* (IPU) and the *OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*. It includes 14 key issues upon which parliamentarians can take action, plus examples of exemplary parliamentary action in each of these issue areas. PNND will organise a number of parliamentary and civil society events in 2019 to promote the plan. PNND also plans events at the IPU assemblies in Doha (April) and Belgrade (October), the Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Meeting in New York (April) and at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Copenhagen (July).

Framework Forum – Middle Powers Initiative (MPI)

The Framework Forum is a track 1.5 process bringing governments together with experts to develop practical and feasible approaches to multilateral nuclear disarmament. Contingent upon funding, BPO plans to coorganise two Framework Forum events with Global Security Institute, MPI and PNND in 2019 involving a selection of nuclear-armed States and non-nuclear States with the aim to bridge the widening gap between them, and build agreement and commitment to multi-track disarmament with a view to ensuring successful outcomes of the 2010 NPT Review Conference and the UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament.

Humanitarian impact, human rights and the law

BPO plans a conference in Basel in November 2019, funding permitting, on follow-up to the 2017 conference we co-hosted in 2017 on *Human Rights, Future Generations and Crimes in the Nuclear Age*. We also plan a side-event at the NPT Prep Com in New York in April on the same topic. The conference and side event will evaluate progress since 2017 in the field, and build further cooperation between stakeholders. (For an outline of the proposed November conference, *see Appendix IV*).

Korea peace and denuclearization process

The Korea peace and denuclearization process is one of the most exciting developments in the field. BPO and PNND are intimately involved in the process. In 2018, for example, BPO Director was the keynote speaker at an <u>international conference on the peace process</u> hosted by the Korean Foreign Ministry. PNND leaders from South Korea and Japan are leading the parliamentary support for the process. PNND US Co-President is the Ranking member in the US Senate on East Asia, and so is the top Democrat on the issue. And we are helping coordinate civil society support through <u>Abolition 2000</u> and the <u>Korea Peace Network</u>.

In 2019, BPO will, among other things, participate in the *PyeongChang Global Peace Forum*, taking place on the anniversary of the Peace initiative launched at the 2018 Olympics in PyeongChang by the leaders of ROK and DPRK. The forum will focus on cultural exchanges and citizen diplomacy. BPO program officer Marzhan Nurzhan plans to research the role of citizen diplomacy in the Korean peace process for her PhD (application submitted to Basel University).

Lay down your Arms

2019 is the 120th anniversary of the publication of *Lay Down Your Arms*, the novel which projected author Bertha von Suttner to being a leader of the *Bern Peace Bureau* (which became the *International Peace Bureau* based in Geneva) and the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. To commemorate this event, and promote the ideas in her book, BPO will join with *PragueVision Institute for Sustainable Security, World Future Council* and *Charles University Centre for Security Policy* in organising an international conference in Prague (where Baroness von Suttner was born), as well as the republication of her book in Czech (there are already good editions in German and English) and other side events.

Mayors for Peace

BPO and PNND 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. In addition, BPO/PNND will hold a half-day meeting of PNND and Mayors for Peace on January 15, immediately following the Basel Peace Forum (*See Appendix I*).

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money – Economic Conversion

BPO received small grants from the Grassroots Foundation for the *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money project* in 2017 and 2018. We have applied for a larger renewal grant for 2019, with an emphasis on adoption of nuclear weapons divestment policies at city, regional and national levels.

The project includes events in Geneva, New York, London, Berlin and other key centres in order to build cooperation with stakeholders and advance nuclear weapons divestment.

We plan a conference in Basel for April 12-13 of legislators, financial managers and civil society campaigners to consider nuclear weapons and fossil fuel divestment and impact investment for a sustainable future (see *Appendix II* for an outline of the conference).

We also plan a 7-day public action in New York – *Count the Nuclear Weapons Money* – during the UN Disarmament Week. 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. (See *Appendix III* for the project flyer).

Non-Proliferation Treaty

The NPT is the cornerstone multilateral agreement for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. BPO will participate in the NPT prep com (New York, 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 on Nuclear Disarmament, 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

The United Nations has decided to hold an international conference on establishing a zone free from Nuclear Weapons and other WMD. A previous decision to hold such a conference in 2010 (by the States Parties to the NPT) did not result in a conference due to the conditions not being met, i.e. that it include participation of all relevant States (Israel did not agree to participate). This time, the UN has not stipulated that all relevant States must participate, so it is likely the conference will take place. Contingent on funding, BPO and PNND will organise a conference in Jordan on the Middle East NWFZ initiative, participate in the UN Conference, and build parliamentary support through articles and possible a joint parliamentary statement.

BPO has promoted discussion on a European NWFZ, including organising events on this topic at the UN and at the NPT Prep Com. We will consider whether there are any opportunities to promote the proposal at the UN and NPT in 2019, or at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Religions for Peace

BPO Director is convenor of the <u>Abolition 2000 Interfaith Working Group</u> and author of the <u>Religions for Peace</u> <u>Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide</u>. 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 2019, including at the Religions for Peace Assembly in Berlin.

BPO will also promote the new Statement from the *Parliament of the World's Religions*: <u>Responding to the</u> <u>Unique Challenge of Nuclear Weapons</u> through social media and at events. Further directed promotion, such as through parliaments, will be possible if funding for this becomes available.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

BPO participated in the negotiations of this treaty and will be active in 2019 on two key aspects:

- a) increasing the number of signatories to the treaty;
- b) assisting with ratification and national implementation.

BPO and PNND will continue to 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 2019, 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 <u>UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament</u> (UNHLC).

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 <u>Youth Appeal to World Leaders</u> which was adopted at the <u>Prague Youth Conference</u>, and other activities of the <u>Abolition 2000 Youth Network</u> 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 2018 – November 2019

(does not include events in specific targeted countries to advance nuclear weapons divestment at federal and state levels)

2018:

Dec 9: Krakow. Participation in the Parliamentary meeting at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 24).

Dec 11: *Katowice*. Participation in launch of the Global Renewables Congress, a new international network of legislators managed by the World Future Council.

Dec 12: The Hague. Participation in the Dutch premier screening of Where the Wind Blew

Dec 14-15: Baku. Participation in the IPU Fifth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians

Dec 16-18: Brussels. EU Non-proliferation Consortium annual conference.

2019:

Jan 14: Basel. Pavilion at the Basel Peace Forum.

Jan 15: Basel. PNND and Mayors for Peace regional meeting.

Feb 8-10: Seoul. PyeongChang Global Peace Forum

Feb 21-22: New York. Participation in <u>Emerging challenges to multilateralism: a parliamentary response</u>, the IPU Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the UN.

Feb 21-22: Vienna. Spring session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. PNND stall

Apr 12-13: Basel. Move the Nuclear Weapons Money regional conference.

Apr 29-May 10. *New York*. Non-Proliferation Treaty Prep Com (meeting of States Parties to the NPT), and annual assembly of Abolition 2000. We will organise side events at the NPT Prep Com, and a strategy discussion on *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* at the Abolition 2000 assembly.

July 4-8: *Luxembourg*. 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.

Sep 26: Global. Actions for International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Oct: New York. UN General Assembly.

Oct 24-30: 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).

November (date to be confirmed): Prague. Lay down your arms international conference

Nov. (date to be confirmed): Basel. Conference on human rights, nuclear weapons and the law

Other events to be finalised

Appendix I: BPO regional meeting for Mayors for Peace and PNND



Kanton Basel-Stadt





Mayors for Peace and PNND European regional meeting

Basel, January 15, 2019 in conjunction with the Basel Peace Forum, Jan 13-14

DRAFT – not for circulation

Basel Peace Office and the Basel Stadt Kanton will host a meeting of Mayors for Peace and Parliamentarians or Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament on the morning of January 15 following the Basel Peace Forum 2019.

The aims of the meeting are to:

- 1. Discuss current initiatives for nuclear non-proliferation, risk-reduction and disarmament being advanced by Mayors for Peace and PNND;
- 2. Build cooperation between legislators at city, regional and federal levels to advance nuclear non-proliferation, risk-reduction and disarmament;
- 3. Discuss new developments and experience in nuclear weapons divestment and in re-focusing such investments in order to support peace and the sustainable development goals;
- 4. Commence preparations for a more comprehensive conference in April of legislators, financial managers and civil society campaigners to consider nuclear weapons and fossil fuel divestment and impact investment for a sustainable future.

The Basel Peace Forum, which precedes the meeting, will be focusing on peacebuilding and impact investment, providing some useful background for the January 15 meeting. Participants in the January 15 meeting will also be invited to the Basel Peace Forum.

Draft program

- 9:15 Welcome: Prof Dr (med) Andreas Nidecker, President of the Basel Peace Office Opening address: Elisabeth Ackermann, President of the Basel Stadt Kanton Keynote: Thore Vestby, Vice-President of Mayors for Peace Keynote: Baroness Sue Miller, Co-President of PNND (or Christine Muttonen, PNND Co-President)
- 10:00 NUCLEAR RISK REDUCTION AND DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES AT CITY, REGIONAL AND FEDERAL LEVELS: Mayors for Peace action plan: **Sean Morris**, Convener of Mayors for Peace European Section Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear Weapon Free World: **Marzhan Nurzhan**, PNND Program Officer.

Discussion

- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:45 MOVE THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS MONEY

Introduction to nuclear weapons divestment: Alyn Ware, PNND Global Coordinator and Co-founder of Move the Nuclear Weapons Money Examples at regional level. Thies Kaetow, World Future Council research officer on divestment

Nuclear divestment of pension funds: Rudolf Rechsteiner, Consultant on Fair pension fund auditing and sound public finances.

Discussion

- 12:45 Wrap up, conclusion and notices: Prof Dr Andreas Nidecker
- 13:00 Lunch and departures

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money:

Divestment and other actions by Swiss and other European cities, universities and parliaments to reverse the nuclear arms race.

Basel, April 12-13, 2019

A regional conference hosted by Basel Peace Office

[and organised in cooperation with the Basel Stadt Kanton, Facing Finance, Mayors for Peace, Physicians for Social Responsibility/International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (PSR/IPPNW), Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (PNND), Swisspeace, World Future Council and the Abolition 2000 global network to eliminate nuclear weapons].

Concept: Despite accepting legal obligations under the 1970 Non-Proliferation Treaty to end the nuclear arms race and negotiate for nuclear disarmament, the nuclear-armed states continue to possess nuclear weapons, spend even higher budgets on their development than ever before (global nuclear weapons budget is now \$100 billion per year), deploy some of these weapons in Europe and refuse to negotiate a plan for their complete prohibition and elimination.

A principle driver in the nuclear arms race is the nuclear weapons industry which has a vested financial interest in the nuclear arms race. Corporations involved in the industry actively lobby their parliaments and governments to allocate even more funds to nuclear weapons. And they support think tanks and other public relations initiatives to promote the 'need' for nuclear weapons to be maintained, modernized and deployed.

The power of the nuclear weapons industry needs to be addressed or it will continue to thwart efforts by the United Nations, non-nuclear governments such as Switzerland and civil society to end the threats from nuclear weapons and reverse the colossal budgets invested in them.

As such, Basel Peace Office has joined with other partners in launching *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money*, a global campaign to shift military budgets and nuclear weapons investments to economic areas of need – such as in education, renewable energy, health, job creation, environmental protection, peace and sustainable development.

One of the most effective tools for non-nuclear governments, cities, universities and civil society is nuclear weapons divestment. Such an action puts economic and political pressure on corporations to abandon their involvement in the nuclear weapons industry or convert such production to civilian purposes.

Already several governments, cities and universities have adopted nuclear weapons divestment policies. These include the Swiss War Materials Act of 2012, the Berlin city policy on non-investment in armed warfare, and the Göttingen university policy of non-investment in fossil fuels or nuclear weapons. The United Nations adoption of the *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* in 2017 gives additional basis and impetus to nuclear divestment actions.

The conference: The primary purposes of the conference will be to:

- a) highlight best practice with regard to nuclear weapons divestment policies adopted by federal governments, regional and city administrations, universities and other institutions, and
- b) promote the spread of these practices to additional governments, administrations and other institutions.

An additional focus of the conference will be on other supporting initiatives for nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament that are being advanced by Mayors for Peace and PNND in cooperation with the Inter-

Parliamentary Union and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Participants: We would invite members of Mayors for Peace (mayors or city officials), parliamentarians, policy analysts, university students and nuclear disarmament campaigners from Europe, with a focus on Switzerland, Germany and France.

Languages: The Rathaus session should be in English, German and French. Conference on the second day to be in English unless sufficient funding is found for the other languages as well.

Draft program elements (with some suggested speakers):

Day 1: Public conference: Rathaus

Session 1

- *City and Kanton initiatives for nuclear abolition including divestment.* **Elisabeth Ackermann**, President of the Basel Stadt Kanton;
- *Humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons*: Jakob Kellenberger, President of swisspeace and former President of ICRC)
- Nuclear weapons threats, policies and deployments: Marc Finaud, GCSP;
- Cooperative security instead of Nuclear Deterrence: Marget Kiener Nellen MP, Head of Swiss delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly);
- *Fossil fuel and nuclear weapons divestment: building cooperation.* **Rob van Riet**, World Future Council.
- State government divestment: The Berlin experience. Ute Finckh-Kraemer, former Vice-Chair of the German Bundestag Subcommittee on Disarmament and Arms Control.

Session 2

- Divestment as a tool to support peace, environment and disarmament; **Thomas Küchenmeister**, Facing Finance;
- Swiss War Materials Act 2012 and other Federal initiatives against nuclear weapons financing; **Reto Wollenmann**, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs;
- Exclusion of nuclear weapons corporations from Swiss Pension Funds: Rudolf Rechsteiner, Pension fund manager. PNND Alumni Council member
- Impact investment: investing to support sustainable development, Laurent Goeschel, Swisspeace
- A business plan for peace and sustainability. Scilla Elworthy, Oxford Research Group.
- Universities and divestment from fossil fuels and nuclear weapons, Luisa Nuebauer, 350.org

Conference dinner

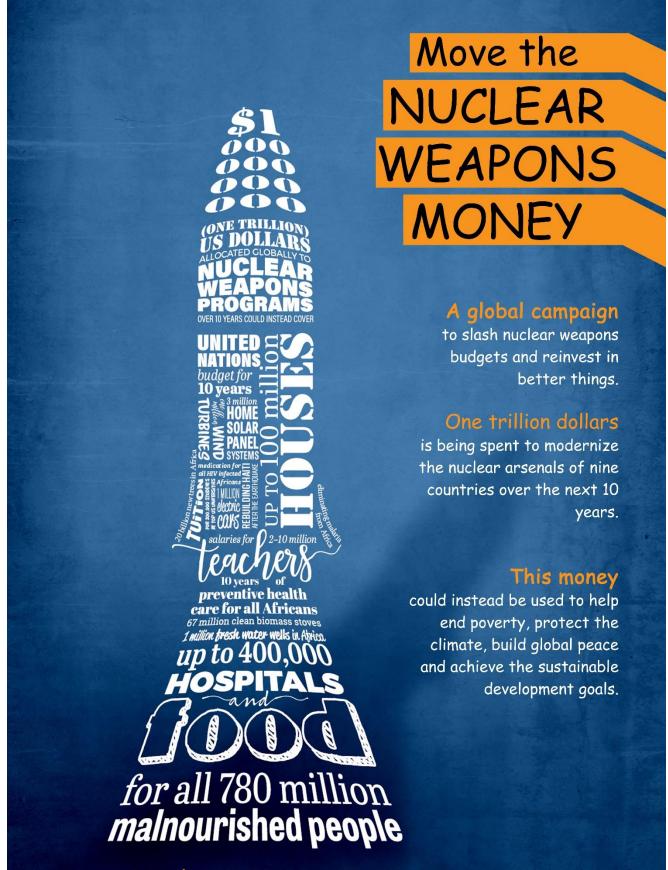
Day 2: Continuation of the conference (roundtable workshop style). Venue tbd

- Session 1: Nuclear weapons divestment at federal, regional and city levels
- Session 2: Nuclear weapons divestment in universities, religious institutions and other institutions

Lunch

- Session 3: Nuclear risk reduction and disarmament initiatives of Mayors for Peace and PNND
- Closing session: Conclusions and follow-up

Appendix III: Move the Nuclear Weapons Money general flyer



www.NuclearWeaponsMoney.org

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

is an international campaign to:

- \$ cut nuclear weapons budgets;
- \$ encourage divestment from companies manufacturing nuclear weapons and their delivery systems;
- \$ reallocate these budgets and investments to meet economic, social and environmental need - such as ending poverty, protecting the climate, supporting renewable energy, creating jobs, and providing adequate healthcare, housing and education for all.

It's easy to divest

from nuclear weapons. There are only 25 corporations worldwide manufacturing nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles. It's easy to identify them and remove them from investment portfolios.

You can ensure

that your university, church, city, bank or government does not invest in these corporations, and instead invests ethically for our future.



One trillion dollars

is being spent to modernize the nuclear arsenals of nine countries over the next 10 years.

We're going to show the scale of this investment.

Join us in Oct 2019

to count the money by hand, \$100million per minute in \$1million dollar notes, and allocate this to better purposes.

info@nuclearweaponsmoney.org www.NuclearWeaponsMoney.org

The campaign was launched in October 2016 by the Basel Peace Office, International Peace Bureau, World Future Council and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament. Other co-sponsors include Global Security Institute, UNFOLD ZERO, World Federalist Movement and Abolition 2000 Working Group on Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism.













Some campaign supporters



"If we continue down this road of militarism, nuclear weapons and war, we WILL destroy each other."

Mairead Maguire, Nobel Peace Laureate (1976)



Nuclear weapons are so furious and inhumane that they cannot be used. That makes them useless. In other words, trillions of dollars a spent uselessly. Mayors have good suggestions of alternative use of those trillions, for example the SDG's."

Thore Vestby, Vice-President, Mayors for Peace



The utter obscenity of having spent trillions, and planning to spend trillions more, on omnicidal weapons while children go hungry, people die of totally preventable and treatable diseases, homeless people curl up on the concrete, sickens me Ellen Barfield, Vice President, Veterans for Peace



"It is our choice. We can either spend the millions and millions of dollars on nuclear weapons and MAD - Mutually Assured Destruction - or on our future, the planet, kids, education, equality. This is what Count the Nuclear Weapons Money is about."

Roger Waters (Pink Floyd)



INSTITUTE

Appendix IV: Basel conference on nuclear weapons, human rights, climate change and future generations



Nuclear weapons, human rights, climate change and protection of future generations.

A round-table conference hosted by the Basel Peace Office and organised in cooperation with the Association of Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament (SAFNA), International Center for Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE), Physicians for Social Responsibility/International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (PSR/IPPNW) and World Future Council.

Basel, November 2019

Concept: In 2017, the Basel Peace Office hosted an international conference organised by IPPNW Switzerland, CIDCE, SAFNA and the Uranium Network which highlighted the trans-generational threats of nuclear weapons and nuclear energy and the responsibility to protect future generations from these threats.

The round-table conference for 2019 would follow-on from the 2017 conference, and in particular the conclusions and recommendations relating to nuclear weapons and future generations. The conference will also explore similar legal and political developments relating to climate change, human rights, nuclear weapons and the protection of future generations. This includes evaluation of the UN Human Rights Committee General Comment 36 on the Right to Life. And the conference would look at more general mechanisms to protect future generations especially through the practice of parliamentary commissioners or ombudspersons for future generations at national, regional and international levels.

Participants: Lawyers, law students, international relations students and representatives of nongovernmental organisations working in the fields of human rights, climate protection and nuclear disarmament, including members of the co-sponsoring organisations.

Language: The conference will be in English.

Draft program elements (with some suggested speakers):

- Threats to future generations from climate change and nuclear weapons (Prof Dr Andreas Nidecker, *Swiss IPPNW*)
- Advancing rights of future generations and nuclear disarmament through UN Human Rights mechanisms. (Daniel Rietiker, SAFNA)
- Parliamentary commissioners for future generations (Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales or Sándor Fülöp, WFC councilor and former Hungary Ombudsperson for Future Generations);
- Law cases upholding rights of future generations (Rob van Riet, World Future Council);
- Engaging youth in intergenerational justice with regard to climate change and nuclear weapons (Marzhan Nurzhan, *Abolition 2000 youth network* or Kehkashan Basu, *Youth Ambassador for World Future Council*);
- UN Secretary General's new disarmament agenda and protection of future generations (Anja T. Kaspersen, *Director of the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs in Geneva*).