



IPPNW LAUNCHES INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH NUKES


“
**I CAN imagine a
nuclear-weapons
free future.**”

IPPNW has launched a new International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. ICAN will bring together medical professionals in the federation's 60-country network and a global coalition of professional and grassroots organizations to demand a nuclear-weapons-free world through the negotiation and adoption of a Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC).

ICAN, which got an initial boost with a grant from the Poola Foundation in Australia, models itself after civil society campaigns that successfully led to treaties banning landmines and chemical and biological weapons. “Each of the 27,000 nuclear weapons that exist today are weapons of terror; they are immoral and illegal and their use can never be justified in any context for whatever purpose,” said Norwegian physician Bjorn Hilt, the Chair of IPPNW's Board.

“This campaign will continue to grow as more people join us in saying ‘ICAN imagine a nuclear-weapons-free future.’” according to campaign coordinator Felicity Hill. In addition to IPPNW's own affiliate network, ICAN partners already include Mayors For Peace, which has launched a parallel Cities Are Not Targets (CANT) campaign; the International Association of Lawyer's Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA) and the International Network of Engineers and Scientists Against Proliferation (INESAP), which have joined IPPNW in producing *Securing Our Survival*, a revised edition of the case for a Model NWC; and the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, which is organizing a worldwide series of “Reverence for Life” concerts to com-

memorate Dr. Schweitzer's April 23, 1957 Declaration of Conscience and his call for a halt to nuclear testing.

While the abolition of nuclear weapons, from IPPNW's perspective, is a medical and moral imperative, it can only be achieved through a carefully implemented policy framework. ICAN's policy demands include negotiation of a Nuclear Weapons Convention; an immediate halt to the upgrading, modernizing, and testing of new nuclear weapons; taking existing nuclear weapons off high alert; a pledge by every nuclear weapon state never to initiate a nuclear exchange (“No First Use”); and the expansion of nuclear-weapon-free zones around the world. 



www.icanw.org

The new [ican website](http://www.icanw.org) will contain campaign materials, updates on global activities, and other resources to help abolition activists participate in IPPNW's global effort to achieve a future no longer threatened by the horror of nuclear war.

IPPNW WORLD NOTES

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PEACEMAKERS
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE



PHOTO: IPPNW EUROPEAN
STUDENT ACTIVISTS AT
CONFERENCE IN ITALY

BRITAIN UPHOLDS TRIDENT DESPITE ARDENT PROTESTS **UNITED KINGDOM**

The British government's decision to replace the UK's aging Trident nuclear weapon system became a major focus for IPPNW and its affiliates in the first half of 2007. A briefing paper produced by UK-affiliate **Medact** challenged the rationales for Trident replacement offered in a Blair administration white paper, and described the medical consequences of a nuclear explosion as small as one kiloton—a yield the government has suggested could be the lower limit for the new system. Medact members joined a coalition of Trident opponents in February for demonstrations at the Trident submarine base in Faslane, Scotland, while IPPNW affiliates in other countries wrote to British embassies urging that the UK become the first of the original five nuclear weapon states to abandon nuclear weapons. US medical student Tova Fuller organized an online petition to British MPs on the eve of a hastily

announced Parliamentary debate, and obtained more than 300 signatures from physicians, medical students, and other Trident opponents in a matter of days. On March 14, Parliament voted 409-161 to support Trident replacement. In a statement following the vote, IPPNW said that "The decision to extend the UK's Trident nuclear weapons system until 2055 will undermine efforts by the international community to control the spread of nuclear weapons....[W]hat this really comes down to is a refusal by the British Government, now with the blessing of Parliament, to give up its power to inflict catastrophic levels of instantaneous death and environmental destruction on innocent human populations."

ADDRESSING THE HEALTH RISKS OF URANIUM MINING **INDIA**

Indian Doctors for Peace and Development (IDPD), IPPNW's Indian affiliate and the host of the 2008 World Congress, has received

a \$20,000 grant from the Ploughshares Fund to conduct health surveys and health education in indigenous communities affected by uranium mining and milling at the Jadugoda mines in northeast India. The Jadugoda mine is the only domestic source of uranium for India's nuclear reactors and nuclear warheads. Cancers and reproductive health problems have been widely observed, but poorly documented, among Adivasi populations who live and work near the mines. The Indian government and the mine operator, Uranium Corporation of India Ltd, have steadfastly refused to acknowledge the problem, conduct proper health studies, or provide treatment and compensation for the victims. IDPD's work in Jadugoda, led by Dr. Satyajit Kumar Singh, will strengthen the capacity of these local communities to address the health and environmental issues related to the mining operations, while underscoring the human costs of the nuclear arms race in South Asia.

(WORLD NOTES continued on page 4)

AFFILIATES IN ACTION



PHOTO: KAATSCH



PHOTO: M. VALENTI



PHOTO: A. MORIZONO

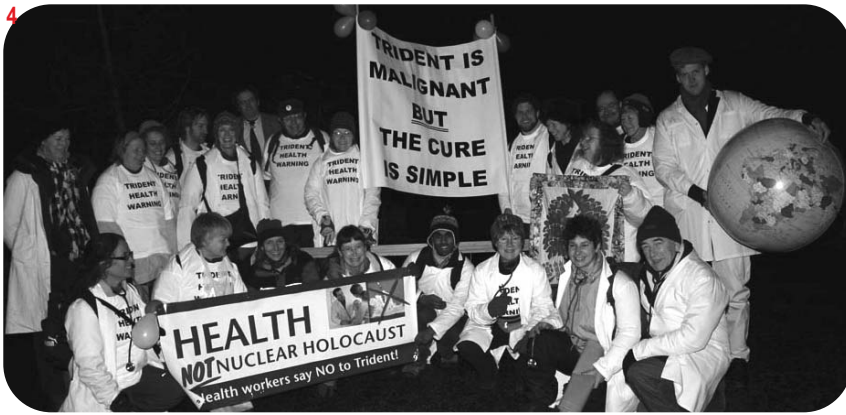


PHOTO: WATERSTON



PHOTO: A. MORIZONO

1 IPPNW CO-PRESIDENTS, GUNNAR WESTBERG, MD (LEFT) AND IME JOHN, MD, MPH (RIGHT) AT THE 17TH WORLD CONGRESS IN HELSINKI, FINLAND

2 MEDICAL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE AIMING FOR PREVENTION PLENARY SESSION AT THE HELSINKI WORLD CONGRESS

3 THE IMMUTABLE BOND AND CAMARADERIE THAT DEVELOP AMONG AFFILIATE MEMBERS BECOMES APPARENT AT THE HELSINKI CONGRESS. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, IPPNW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES (ISR) KHAGENDRA DAHAL OF NEPAL AND RUTH MITCHELL OF AUSTRALIA, DANIELE VILIUNAS OF AUSTRALIAN AFFILIATE MAPW AND LARS POHLMEIER OF GERMANY.

4 BLOCKADE AT FASLANE: 27 MEDACT DOCTORS - MOSTLY FROM SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND AND THREE MEDICAL STUDENTS FROM SWEDEN, ENGLAND AND IRELAND BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE OF THE BRITISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS BASE AT FASLANE IN SCOTLAND.

5 FORMER IPPNW PRESIDENT DR. RON MCCOY OF MALAYSIA SET THE TONE FOR THE HELSINKI CONGRESS DURING HIS OPENING CEREMONY SPEECH. FOR TRANSCRIPTS OF SELECT SPEECHES, GO TO PAST EVENTS IN WWW.IPPNW.ORG

6 PARTICIPANTS FROM NICARAGUA, MEXICO, EL SALVADOR AND THE USA AT THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDENT CONGRESS



PHOTO: M. VALENTI



AMERICAN DOCTORS PLACE AD TARGETING CONGRESS UNITED STATES

US affiliate **Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)** took out a full-page advertisement in the 2007 Congressional Quarterly urging US legislators to oppose military action against Iran. Under the headline “If you like war in Iraq...you’ll love war on Iran,” the ad criticized the Bush administration for refusing to rule out the use of nuclear weapons against Iran and called for direct talks with the country’s leaders, asserting that “the American people want diplomacy, not another war.”

STUDENT ACTIVISTS IN LATIN AMERICA SPEAKING OUT EL SALVADOR

Medical students from El Salvador organized and participated with peers from Nicaragua in a lively and informative four-day Latin American Medical Student Congress at the National University of El Salvador in October 2006, with featured speakers including representatives from

PAHO, the Ministry of Health, Oxfam and IANSA. **IPPNW/Mexico’s** Dr. Jans-Fromow Guerra and IPPNW’s Aiming for Prevention program coordinator Maria Valenti also gave presentations at the Student Congress.

Dr. Emperatriz Crespín of El Salvador and Diego Zavala of Puerto Rico introduced the WHO “TEACH-VIP” violence and injury prevention curriculum at medical schools in their respective countries.

SLMK DOCTORS SEE IRAN’S WAR VICTIMS FIRST-HAND IRAN

Physicians and medical students from IPPNW’s Swedish affiliate, **SLMK**, made a long-anticipated visit to Tehran from January 20-23, 2007. Led by Co-President Gunnar Westberg, the six-person delegation was invited to Iran by the Society for the Chemical Weapons Victims Support (SCWVS), which arranged visits for the SLMK leaders to three hospitals and rehabilitation centers for war victims, including many with lung injuries from mustard gas and other chemical-induced injuries. The Iranian physicians plan to form a new organization within SCWVS that hopes to apply for affiliation with IPPNW later this year. With global concerns running high about Iran’s nuclear research programs and its intentions regarding nuclear

weapons, this example of doctor-to-doctor diplomacy—long a trademark of IPPNW—could serve as a model for more constructive engagement in this volatile region of the world.

NEW AFRICAN REGIONAL OFFICE LAUNCHES GUN FREE AFRICA CAMPAIGN AFRICAN REGION

IPPNW has new regional leadership in Nairobi, Kenya led by African Vice President Dr. Walter Odhiambo, assisted by new Regional Office Coordinator Racheal Gitau.

The new African regional office has undertaken an ambitious agenda, including an African regional newsletter whose first edition has already been published, a regional web site, and a creative new Gun Free Africa campaign, already underway with ambassadors such as Miss India Kenya who is a physician, and popular singer Gidigidi.

Additional plans include an African Regional Conference scheduled for Nairobi in September 2007 entitled Healing The Wounds Of War In Africa ‘The Role Of Health Professionals’, which will bring together African health professionals to present and share experiences on the impact of war on health, with a view to prescribing preventive strategies while focusing on care and rehabilitation of the victims, preceded by an African medical students conference. The region also has a goal to develop two additional affiliates this year in Rwanda and the Sudan.



DIALOGUES IN ISLAMABAD

IN PHOTO, FROM LEFT: GERMAN MEDICAL STUDENT INGA BLUM; TIPU SULTAN, PRESIDENT, PAKISTAN DOCTORS FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT; IPPNW PROGRAM DIRECTOR JOHN LORETTZ; MOHAMMEDIAN SOOMRO, CHAIR, PAKISTAN SENATE; ALI AFRIDI (PDPD).

**Join the monthly sustainer program,
Partners in Peace, and help ensure
the continuity of our global campaigns.**

TO GET INVOLVED TODAY,
CONTACT DANIEL KARP
DKARP@IPPNW.ORG
617.868.5050 x204



SECURITY, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT ROUNDTABLE RUSSIA

Russian Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War participated in round table discussions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow in March. The Department for Security, Arms Control and Disarmament brought together about 20 high-level career diplomats with leaders of a number of Russian and international NGOs to exchange views on nuclear disarmament, proliferation, and other security issues. IPPNW Regional Vice President Vladimir Garkavenko said he hoped that “the openness demonstrated by the MoFA in these discussions and its readiness to more closely interact with civil society will help us more effectively bring our message and affect the decision-making process.”

NUCLEAR FREE ZONES DISCUSSED WITH IAEA VIENNA

IPPNW physicians met in Vienna with Tariq Rauf of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on January 24, 2007, to discuss prospects for a nuclear weapons free zone in the Middle East; IPPNW concerns about the dual role of the IAEA in both preventing proliferation and promoting nuclear energy; and support for renewable energy resources as an alternative to nuclear energy.



IAEA CONSULTATION IN VIENNA

AUSTRIAN MEDICAL STUDENT MINA LAHLAL; GÜNTHER BAITSCH (PSR / IPPNW SWITZERLAND); TARIQ RAUF; ANDREAS NIDECKER (PSR / IPPNW SWITZERLAND); ANGELIKA CLAUSSEN (IPPNW GERMANY); AND KLAUS RENOLDNER (IPPNW AUSTRIA)


MORE HOSPITAL-BASED FINDINGS ON GUN INJURIES EL SALVADOR

IPPNW's affiliate **MESARES** (Salvadoran Physicians for Social Responsibility), working in conjunction with PAHO and UNDP, recently completed a replication of their successful hospital-based gun injury research in two additional Salvadoran provinces. Dr. Ignacio Paniagua and others presented the research findings at El Salvador Medical College in January 2007, where they called upon leaders in the country to focus on bringing peace to the country, framed by the 15th anniversary of the Salvadoran peace agreements that ended the armed civil conflict.

PEACE THROUGH HEALTH: LANDMINES STILL A THREAT INDIA

Drs. Balkrishna and Nalini Kurvey of **IIPDEP** in India completed a 3 month series of mine risk awareness seminars in the northeast border areas of India where landmine injuries are widespread and have injured and killed many of the most vulnerable including women and children.

DIALOGUES IN ISLAMABAD ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND DISARMAMENT PAKISTAN

An **IPPNW** delegation traveled to Islamabad, Pakistan in January as part of the Dialogues With Decision Makers program. The group met with government representatives and nuclear policy experts to press the case for South Asian leadership on nuclear disarmament, to discuss the status of confidence-building measures between Pakistan and India, and to encourage investments in the country's public health services and other social infrastructure as a basis for long term security. Currently, about 60% of state spending is for the military, while about 1% or less goes to health. While Pakistani officials, including the Minister of Health, the Chair of the Pakistan Senate, and an arms control expert with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs all insisted that Pakistan's nuclear weapons are strictly for deterrence against India, they said that the country will maintain its moratorium on nuclear tests and will continue to work for a comprehensive Fissile Materials Cutoff Treaty. 



PHOTOS: R. GITAU



IPPNW'S REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFRICA, DR. WALTER ODHIAMBO, SPOKE TO REPORTERS AT UHURU PARK WHERE KENYAN AUTHORITIES DESTROYED MORE THAN 8000 GUNS IN SUPPORT OF TIGHTER CONTROLS ON ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF SMALL ARMS ACROSS EASTERN AFRICA.

LANDMARK GUN INJURY RESEARCH LAUNCHED, NEW AFRICAN REGIONAL OFFICE ESTABLISHED



IPPNW's Aiming for Prevention seeks to reduce deaths and injuries from small arms on a global scale.

In late 2006 Aiming for Prevention launched the data collection phase of IPPNW's landmark gun injury study at hospitals in Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, Zambia, and DR Congo. This followed training of research teams and collection of preliminary information last year. Small Arms Survey (SAS), an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, provided the needed infusion of funds along with IPPNW/Norway and several private donations, to get this important research off the ground. SAS also provided support for a secondary research project focused on documenting injuries from gun violence prior to and post elections in Nigeria.

Teams of IPPNW physicians and medical students in the five countries are deeply engaged in the research in the hospitals, using modern technologically to send data half way

around the world to Principal Investigator Dr. Diego Zavala at the Ponce Medical School in Puerto Rico. Teams have been interviewing and collecting information from firearm victims who present in hospital emergency rooms in cities such as Nairobi, Kenya; Kisangani, DR Congo; and Kano, Nigeria, entering the data into a common survey form and into a dedicated computer with specialized software at each hospital, and then transmitting it 9,000 miles via internet to Dr. Zavala for analysis.

The ultimate goal is to construct aggregate profiles of firearm injury victims that can help inform who is at risk from firearm violence and why, and how to prevent such injuries on a country-specific as well as cross-regional basis. The first summary of the research will be provided to Small Arms Survey for the 2008 edition of their prestigious international annual report, which will focus on public health. **VS**

“ Ours is a continent of extremes.

Enormous resources exist side by side with extreme scarcity, poverty side by side with abundance and opulence. This has created a fertile ground for violence and despair.

The potential is great, yet the present situation remains grave. Poverty, disease and violence coalesce into a powerful synergy against human survival.

Health which is our primary responsibility remains a wishful mirage for a majority of inhabitants of our continent. Our role as physicians is obvious and yet challenging. ”

WALTER ODHIAMBO, MD
IPPNW REGIONAL VP - AFRICA



And in other AfP news...

The international Journal of Public Health Policy solicited a special section from IPPNW on public health and armed violence in Africa, with a focus on Aiming for Prevention accomplishments that have policy implications, as well as IPPNW's overall campaign approach to small arms and light weapons issues. A series of papers is now in development for publication later this year.



Announcing a two-day conference that aims to develop a scientific foundation for the international Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

IPPNW will hold an international medical conference on the nuclear threat this October in London. "Nuclear Weapons: The Final Pandemic—Preventing Proliferation and Achieving Abolition" will be organized in partnership with the Catastrophes and Conflict Forum of the Royal Society of Medicine and IPPNW's UK affiliate, **Medact**, and will provide a scientific foundation for the federation's new International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

The two-day conference program will include plenary sessions on the climate effects of low-yield, regional nuclear wars; radiation and health; the human impacts of nuclear weapons development in existing and new nuclear weapon states; and prescriptions for ending the nuclear threat. Expert working groups will be convened to develop recommendations for new research, education, and advocacy programs to advance the goal of a nuclear-weapons-free world.

Co-President Gunnar Westberg explained the urgent need to reacquaint the public, the medical profession, policy makers, and the media with the medical and moral imperative to eliminate nuclear weapons.

"With the collapse of the 2005 NPT Review and subsequent calls for a renewed civil society campaign to achieve a Nuclear Weapons Convention, we urgently need to reestablish IPPNW's medical message about nuclear war as the central organizing principle of the global movement to abolish nuclear weapons."

For program updates and registration information, please visit www.ippnw.org or contact John Loretz, 617.868.5050 ext 280, e-mail: jloretz@ippnw.org

The updated publication "**Securing Our Survival: The Case For a Nuclear Weapons Convention**" is available for \$10 plus shipping and handling from IPPNW.

To order, write to ippnwbos@ippnw.org, or call 617.868.5050, ext. 200.

PRESIDENTS

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- GUNNAR WESTBERG, MD - SWEDEN

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International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)

is a non - partisan federation of national medical organizations in 60 countries dedicated to safeguarding health by working to ban nuclear weapons and to address the impact of militarism and war on human health.

IPPNW is a non - profit organization registered under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

All gifts to IPPNW are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



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ANNOUNCING THE
2007 INTERNATIONAL
MEDICAL CONFERENCE

NUCLEAR WEAPONS: THE FINAL PANDEMIC

PREVENTING PROLIFERATION AND ACHIEVING ABOLITION

ORGANIZED BY IPPNW AND
CATASTROPHES AND CONFLICT FORUM
OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

OCT 3 – 4

LONDON, ENGLAND

WWW.IPPNW.ORG

4/20 – 4/22
WORLDWIDE

4/29 – 4/30
PORTO, PORTUGAL

4/30 – 5/11
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

6/4
FRANKFURT, GERMANY

6/15 – 6/17
ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

6/21 – 6/22
MONGOLIA

9/7 – 9/9
NAIROBI, KENYA

10/5
LONDON, ENGLAND

Worldwide Albert Schweizer concerts
Albert Schweitzer Reverence for Life, Music for Life
www.reverenceforlife.org

IPPNW European Student Conference 2007
Theme: Nuclear War Throughout Time
www.ippnw-porto07.blogspot.com

**2007 NPT PrepCom for the
2010 Review Conference**

Albert Schweitzer Concert
"The Armed Man, A Mass for Peace" by
British composer, Karl Jenkins

Regional Meeting - Southeast Asia / Pacific

Regional Meeting - North Asia
Theme: Promotion of Nuclear Weapon-Free
Zones in Asia

Regional Meeting - Africa
Theme: Healing the Wounds of War in Africa
Role of Health Professionals

Regional Meeting - Europe

CONFERENCE LOGO: STEVEN BURDICK



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