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Contents:

NFLA AGM 2013 in Cardiff	1
Radwaste response	1
NFLA Cardiff seminar	2
Forthcoming briefings	2
Early 2014 NFLA meetings	2
NFLA media releases	2
NFLA, KIMO & OSPAR	3
Mandela tribute	3
Letters to the media	3
Forthcoming meetings	3

Useful website Links:

NFLA: <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
Mayors for Peace: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>
2020 Vision: <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>
KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>
ICAN-UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Rebecca Johnson speaking at the NFLA Annual Policy Seminar in Cardiff

NFLA holds its 2013 AGM in Cardiff

The NFLA held its AGM, Annual Policy Seminar and Steering Committee in Cardiff County Hall in early December.

Inclement weather had reduced attendance a little, but those who attended were able to approve all NFLA consultation responses and discuss wider nuclear policy within the

Steering Committee.

At the NFLA AGM, members agreed to re-elect Councillor Mark Hackett as its Chair for 2014. It also approved its Budget and 2014/15 affiliation rates, its Service Plan and its Constitution.

NFLA members were joined by a number of

NGO representatives for an informative afternoon Annual Policy Seminar – details of this are below.

In a media release sent out after the meetings, the NFLA Chair noted his desire for the NFLA to remain at the centre of the nuclear policy debate. A full overview of the meetings is on the NFLA website.

NFLA submits detailed response to radwaste consultation

The NFLA Secretariat has submitted its final response to the UK Government's consultation on the siting of an underground radioactive waste facility.

The response adds further detail to its October advice note to NFLA members. There is consideration of what the effect of reducing the role of

County Councils as a decision-making body may have on planning policy.

The central points of the response remain – deep concern over the centralising nature of the Government's approach & its inconsistency with volunteerism, the need for a national geological screening exercise and the need to consider

effective alternatives to deep underground radioactive waste storage.

The NFLA response was developed after its involvement in DECC workshops and liaison with other local government and NGO groups.

The response has been placed on the NFLA website as a Radioactive Waste Briefing.

NFLA media releases
December 2013:
(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA tribute to Nelson Mandela – a true advocate of nuclear weapons disarmament
- NFLA re-elects Chair and hears of major nuclear security concerns
- NFLA's final submission to the UK Government's radioactive waste repository consultation
- NFLA holds Annual Policy Seminar on nuclear security and nuclear weapons proliferation



The NFLA Annual Policy Seminar discusses policy in Cardiff County Hall

The NFLA office will be closed for the Christmas & New Year holidays from December 18th 2013 – January 5th 2014.

The NFLA Secretariat wishes you a very happy Christmas & a peaceful New Year.

NFLA Annual Policy Seminar on nuclear security / weapons

The NFLA Welsh Forum hosted the 2013 Annual Policy Seminar in Cardiff.

The seminar considered nuclear security, nuclear proliferation and the lack of Parliamentary scrutiny.

David Lowry raised concerns around his

view that UK nuclear security is under - regulated. He also raised deep misgivings around the Chinese involvement in new nuclear build.

Rebecca Johnson said that Governments and NGOs needed to take on new approaches to find ways to build an

international nuclear weapons ban treaty.

Paul Flynn MP looked at the lack of quality debate in Parliament on nuclear issues and the need to challenge the current 'pro-nuclear new build' consensus there.

See the NFLA website for a seminar report.

Forthcoming NFLA Policy Briefings for early 2014

The NFLA Steering Committee has tasked the NFLA Secretariat with developing a number of policy briefings to go out early in 2014.

These include providing an overview of progress with the new build debate in the UK and the discussion in the EU over whether to approve the

subsidies given to EDF as legitimate state aid.

The NFLA Secretariat is also developing a Policy Briefing that will consider the increasing amount of Councils establishing new and innovative local 'Energy Service Trusts' to generate their own local energy needs.

A report and update on Fukushima and nuclear emergency planning is being developed.

A strategy paper on a UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter is also being developed – NFLA members are likely to be very interested in its results.

Early 2014 NFLA meetings

The NFLA AGM agreed to hold a special Organisation & Administration meeting after the NFLA Steering Committee in Manchester Town Hall on the 31st January 2014.

NFLA Scotland will be meeting in Glasgow in February.

A public meeting in North Wales is being planned with other groups and the NFLA

Welsh Forum.

NFLA English and Irish meetings are also being developed for March 2014.

NFLA letters to media, December 2013: (emailed to members)

- Its disingenuous for Monbiot to link nuclear with coal
- An Taisce's legal case should have been made by the Irish Government
- Euro Commission is doing us all a favour by fully considering Hinkley Point deal
- Microgeneration is the way ahead for UK & Irish energy

NFLA Service Plan & Annual Newsletter

The NFLA website now contains downloadable copies of the 2014 NFLA Service Plan and the 2013 Annual Newsletter.

The Service Plan gives a full background to the history of the NFLA, who it interacts with, its key achievements for 2013 and its priorities for 2014.

The Annual Newsletter summarises in a more visual manner the work of the NFLA in 2013. It highlights all of its Policy Briefings, its media releases and letters and its involvement in the nuclear policy debate.

NFLA and KIMO co-operate for OSPAR RSC 2014

The Chairs and Officers of the NFLA and KIMO International met in Cardiff to consider renewing their co-operative agreement.

In past years NFLA staff has attended meetings of the OSPAR Inter-governmental Commission and its Radiation Substances Committee.

The OSPAR RSC will be meeting in the UK in 2014 and both NFLA and KIMO are looking to develop reports on joint concerns over radiation discharges into the Irish Sea, along with other pollution concerns.

NFLA and KIMO officers have also spoken at each others conferences

and seminars on related matters and the aim will be to undertake this again in 2014.

NFLA greatly benefits from such co-operative partnerships and the NFLA AGM welcomed the renewing of this agreement with KIMO.

NFLA pays its tribute to Nelson Mandela's disarmament role

The NFLA has paid tribute to the positive role Nelson Mandela played in the nuclear disarmament debate, following sad news of his death in early December, at the age of 95.

South Africa was the first country in the world to dismantle its

nascent nuclear weapons capability in the early 1990s.

As President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela was instrumental in its Government playing a key role in disarmament talks at the United Nations. His speech to the 1998 UN General Assembly on the moral

imperative to ban all nuclear weapons was published in a NFLA media release.

NFLA will work to fulfil his wishes with Mayors for Peace, ICAN-UK, CND-UK and all relevant disarmament groups.

The NFLA media release can be found on its website.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Steering Committee, 31st January, Town Hall, Manchester.

NFLA Organisation & Administration Committee, 31st January, Town Hall, Manchester

NFLA Scotland AGM & business meeting, City Chambers, Glasgow, February (final date to be confirmed).

Dates for NFLA English, Welsh and All Ireland Forum meetings will be communicated in the January NFLA newsletter.