



April 2018. Volume 10, Issue 4

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Websites / partner links:

NFLA: <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

CNFE: <http://www.cnfe.eu>

MFP: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>

KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>

ICAN: <http://www.icanw.org>

ICAN UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Welsh groups meet together in Machynlleth to discuss cooperating more closely

Mayors for Peace at the NPT

A substantial Mayors for Peace & NGO presence took part in the NPT Preparatory Conference held at the UN in Geneva this April.

Led by the Mayors of Hiroshima, Nagasaki & Manchester amongst others the delegation met senior officials and spoke to national delegations at the NGO

session to the nuclear weapons conference.

Mayors for Peace also held an Executive meeting, a European Lead Cities meeting and a Youth Forum. A German NGO meeting considered concerns that the US & Russia may abrogate from the INF Nuclear Weapon Treaty. Many hundreds of NGO

delegates also called for states to sign the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty.

At the conference it was announced that the May High Level Conference on Disarmament was postponed due to issues over the agenda. A full report on all of these meetings will be published in May.

Breakthrough in Korean denuclearisation / Iran concerns

The NFLA welcomes the recent talks between the leaders of North and South Korea which may see significant denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

The talks come after reports that parts of the North Korean nuclear test site have collapsed after repeated tests in the past 12 months. The quiet diplomacy of

the new South Korean government. A summit between North Korea and the USA may occur soon.

This positive news contrasts with concern that the United States may pull out of the Iran nuclear weapons deal. President Trump claims the deal that exists is 'bad' but has not put forward any alternative

to it. A deadline of May 12th has been placed on the EU to table acceptable changes to the deal. European states, along with Russia and China are content with the present deal.

Iran has threatened to pull out of the NPT if the deal is changed against its interests. The NFLA will keep a close eye on both developments.

NFLA media releases

April 2018:
(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA All Ireland Forum welcomes Irish Parliament Hinkley Point C meeting
- NFLA concerned over further cracks found at Hunterston B reactor
- NFLA co-signs Machynlleth Declaration
- NFLA publishes responses on UK / Welsh radwaste repository consultation

NFLA joins with Welsh groups to sign Machynlleth Declaration

The NFLA Welsh Forum joined with the groups Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance (WANA), People Against Wylfa B, the Trawsfynydd pressure group CADNO, the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) and CND Wales for a one day conference on the key Welsh nuclear issues.

A focus for discussion was the prospects for the Hinkley Point C and Wylfa B plants. The ongoing concern over the potential dumping of 300,000 tonnes of sediment from the Hinkley site to an offshore location close to Cardiff Bay also focused minds – a major debate in the

Senedd is now set for May 16th.

Welsh radioactive waste policy, renewable energy futures, small reactors and Brexit was also considered.

The Machynlleth Declaration was also agreed by the attendees and can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA Scotland considers hydrogen and geothermal energy

NFLA Scotland held its spring business meeting, AGM and seminar in Glasgow City Chambers in April.

The business meeting included considerable discussion on Scottish energy policy, nuclear safety and island renewables. There was also agreement to

support a CND / ICAN set of events in September with a joint meeting with Mayors for Peace and PNND. Engagement with the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament was agreed upon.

The AGM reappointed existing members to

their current posts.

An afternoon seminar considered the prospects for hydrogen and geothermal energy in Scotland. It included reps from the Scottish Government, Glasgow University and Scottish Gas Networks was held. These will be placed on the NFLA website.

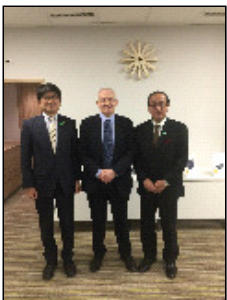
Irish Parliamentary committee considers Hinkley C

The NFLA All Ireland Forum has cooperated with Irish environmental groups to put forward joint views of concern to the Irish Parliament Joint Committee on Housing, Planning and Local Gov-

ernment on the 1st May.

The committee will consider the potential impacts on Ireland of Hinkley Point C and a UK new nuclear programme. It will hear

from Professors John Sweeney and Stephen Thomas, and Attracta Uí Bhroin of IEN. NFLA has recently assisted Irish Councils in putting their views on this issue to the UK Government.



The Mayors of Nagasaki, Manchester and Hiroshima in Geneva



The NFLA Secretary and the Lord Mayor of Manchester with pledge to continue to support nuclear weapon free world



Manchester student Chris Moss addresses the Mayors for Peace Youth Forum in Geneva

**Letters to the media,
April 2018:
(emailed to members)**

- Joint letter from ICAN UK groups, including NFLA, to the UK Government urging involvement in the NPT and other important nuclear non-proliferation initiatives

**Scottish Parliament
considers nuclear
convoys report**

The Scottish Parliament will consider a report by Nukewatch Scotland on the emergency planning issues of nuclear weapon convoys that pass through Scotland on a regular basis.

Green MSP Mark Ruskell is hosting a debate on the report and its wider concerns. The report was profiled at a recent NFLA Scotland seminar. NFLA England are planning to focus on such matters at its next meeting planned for Oxford.



International delegates pledge to campaign on maintaining the key elements of the MPT outside the UN buildings in Geneva

Hunterston B – could new reactor cracks close the plant?

The NFLA has raised concerns with the nuclear regulator after more reported cracks in the graphite blocks of the Hunterston B reactor has seen its reopening after maintenance delayed now twice.

NFLA has become increasingly concerned

with the oldest reactors in the UK – like Hunterston B, Hinkley Point B, Heysham and Hartlepool – after more cracks have been found in the blocks in the past year or two.

The cracks suggest the wear and tear in these reactors is increasing and concerns that this

may lead to a serious safety incident lay at the heart of the NFLA's concerns.

The NFLA has called on the Office of Nuclear Regulation to not allow restart of the Hunterston reactor unless it is clear it remains safe. The NFLA media release is on its website.

Submissions on GDF show real concerns over participation

The NFLA has submitted detailed responses to the UK and the Welsh Governments over the long-term management of radioactive waste in England and Wales.

Both the Governments support the creation of a deep underground waste repository for highly active waste,

sometimes referred to as a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF).

The consultations considered the definition and participation of a host community in the process and a draft National Policy Statement for a GDF.

NFLA argue that the core aim at present is

to ensure long-term interim waste storage. It is concerned that any community that comes forward could be locked into a 20 year process that is easy to join and hard to leave. It is also concerned that County Councils will have no veto role. The full responses are on the NFLA website.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Steering Committee, Scotland Forum and SC seminar, June 21st, Edinburgh City Chambers

NFLA English Forum, Oxford City Hall, late June (date tbc)

Local events for the 73rd Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies, August 6th and 9th

NFLA Scotland / Mayors for Peace joint seminar, September 20th

NFLA SC and joint seminar with Welsh Forum, Cardiff County Hall, September 28th

NFLA All Ireland Forum, Dundalk Town Hall, October (date tbc)