



## News from the Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA)

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### 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>

## NFLA at the NPT PrepCom

The NFLA Secretary and the NFLA Chair were in Geneva to attend the UN Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Conference, and Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision meetings.

The Chair and Secretary represented Manchester City Council, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace.

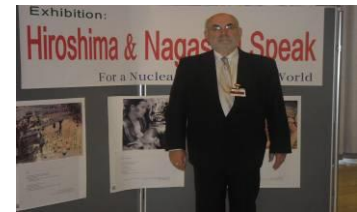
Over 60 international NGOs attended the NPT Prep Com, which saw considerable unanimity on speeding up the debate over nuclear disarmament.

The Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision General Meeting endorsed a number of reports for the reorganisation and financial underpinning of

the 5,600 member group.

The NFLA Chair & Secretary also attended a very useful seminar on the UK – France Defence Treaty and met with the UK NPT Ambassador.

A full report on the proceedings of these meetings is being developed.



The NFLA Chair Mark Hackett by the Hiroshima exhibit at the NPT PrepCom, Geneva UN buildings

## NFLA tribute to former Chair George Regan, who has died

The NFLA notes with regret the sad passing of its former Chair, Bailie George Regan, who died in early April, after a long battle against cancer.

George was a Dundee Councillor for over 20 years and its NFLA representative for 14 years. He was the NFLA Chair from 2004 – 2006 & 2009 – 2011.

He had also been NFLA Vice Chair (Scotland).

As NFLA Chair, George was a passionate advocate of its policies of the phasing out of nuclear power and a nuclear weapons free world. He was also SCCORS Chair and influenced the Scottish Government's policy on the management of highly radioactive waste.

Amongst his highlights as NFLA Chair was representing the NFLA at Mayors for Peace Conferences in Hiroshima & Nagasaki and the NPT Conference at the UN in New York.

George was a warm and engaging man and will be sorely missed. A minutes silence is being held at NFLA meetings in his memory.

**NFLA media releases**

**April 2013:**

***(On NFLA website.)***

- NFLA Scotland joint seminar considers future trends in nuclear weapons policy
- NFLA Welsh Forum seminar considers key energy and other issues
- NFLA tribute to George Regan

**NFLA LIBRARY AND SECRETARIAT CHANGES**

In early April the NFLA library was transferred for safekeeping and academic use by the Praxis Centre in Leeds Metropolitan University. A future SC meeting will be held in Leeds at some point to allow NFLA members to look at it.

The NFLA Secretary has also moved offices and is now located in the City Policy Team in Manchester Town Hall. The new address can be found at the top of this newsletter.



Torfaen Council Leader Bob Wellington welcomes NFLA delegates to Pontypool.

**Former Mayor of Hiroshima speaks at NFLA Scotland event**

NFLA Scotland held a high profile and very well attended joint seminar in Edinburgh City Chambers on the nuclear weapons issue.

The seminar was held in conjunction with the Abolition 2000 AGM and in association with the Mayors for Peace and PNND. It considered the

future trends in the global nuclear weapons debate.

Keynote speaker was Tadatashi Akiba, former Mayor of Hiroshima, who noted the key role cities & the 'hibakuska' (survivors of the 1945 bombings) should play in the nuclear weapons debate.

Other speakers included the former New Zealand Arms Control Minister Matt Robson, the Nuclear Free New Zealand Director Laurie Ross and Bill Kidd MSP.

A very useful business meeting followed the seminar. The speaker presentations will go on the NFLA website.

**NFLA Welsh Forum considers key energy & other issues**

The NFLA Welsh Forum held its spring seminar in Pontypool and it looked at a number of important energy and proliferation matters.

Opened by the Leader of Torfaen Council, Bob Wellington, it began with an analysis of how to develop a non-nuclear future in Wales by

independent consultant Neil Crumpton.

Marine pollution expert Tim Deere-Jones talked about the NFLA's submission to the Food Standards Agency and concern over a Welsh 'Dalgety Bay' type incident.

WANA representative

Tim Richards outlined concerns over new build at Hinkley and Wylfa.

The NFLA Secretary outlined the role of NFLA and Mayors for Peace in the nuclear weapons debate.

The four presentations will go on the NFLA website.

**NFLA meets Irish Government, Forum meeting rescheduled**

The NFLA Irish Forum Chairs & NFLA Secretary are meeting with officials from the Irish Environment Department on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to consider a wide range of nuclear policy issues.

Meanwhile, the NFLA All Ireland Forum has had to be rearranged for 7<sup>th</sup> June in Fingal.

The seminar will look at the RPII report on the risks to Ireland of a UK

new nuclear reactor programme. It will also consider onshore wind and fuel poverty matters. Go to the NFLA website for a flyer & full registration details.

**NFLA letters to the media, April 2013:**

- Electricity reforms – a new approach is needed
- The only solution to managing plutonium is to immobilise it

**HMS TIRELESS LEAK – NFLA BRIEFING**

The NFLA have drafted a short briefing on the recent reported leak of the HMS Tireless nuclear submarine.

The briefing outlines the key concerns of this incident and how the NFLA is following up the matter with the UK and Irish Governments. The report is on the NFLA website.



Lord Provost of Edinburgh welcomes delegates to joint NFLA, Mayors for Peace, Abolition 2000 & PNND seminar



NFLA Scotland Chair Bill Butler, Dr Tadatoshi Akiba and Bill Kidd MSP at the NFLA Scotland seminar

**NFLA comments on MOD submarine dismantling decision**

The NFLA Secretariat has published a detailed overview considering the Ministry of Defence (MOD) response to its public consultation on the dismantling of redundant nuclear-powered submarines.

The submarines lay at the Royal Naval sites of Rosyth in Fife and at

Plymouth Devonport.

The MOD has decided that it plans to remove and store the Reactor Pressure Vessels (RPV) in each submarine. They will then be stored in a theoretical deep-underground repository, if it is ever built.

The NFLA welcome the

decision not to cut up the RPV as NFLA policy is always to concentrate and contain waste.

Sites to store interim intermediate level waste also need to be located.

The NFLA overview, as a radioactive waste briefing, is on the NFLA website.

**Other news in brief****NFLA SC / ENGLISH FORUM SEMINAR**

**REARRANGED:** Due to the severe weather on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the NFLA SC / English Forum seminar had to be postponed. It will now be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June in Manchester. It will look at waste, shale gas and contaminated radioactive scrap issues.

**HINKLEY POINT NEW NUCLEAR IMPASSE?**

A protracted discussion with the UK Government and EDF over financing new nuclear build at Hinkley Point remains. The blockage is over the 'strike price' for new nuclear. Any agreement would need EU approval. The NFLA will monitor this issue closely.

**RADWASTE POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

The future direction of UK radwaste management policy remains unclear following Cumbria's decision not to go ahead with a deep-underground waste facility process. The NFLA's June seminar will consider what direction it may take.

**Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members**

**NFLA Chair & Secretary meeting Vienna Environment Council, 17<sup>th</sup> May, London.**

**MOD SDP Advisory Group, 30<sup>th</sup> May, Edinburgh.**

**NFLA All Ireland Forum, 7<sup>th</sup> June, Fingal County Hall.**

**NuLeAF seminar on Magnox contract process, 19<sup>th</sup> June, Manchester Town Hall.**

**NFLA Steering Committee, 28<sup>th</sup> June, Manchester Town Hall.**

**NFLA English Forum / SC seminar, 28<sup>th</sup> June, Manchester Town Hall.**