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A full report of the Mayors for Peace Conference noted below can be found at <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>



NFLA Chair George Regan with New Zealand Mayor of Waitakere, Bob Harvey, at Nagasaki Peace Ceremony

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## We are the 'Obamajority' - Akiba

The NFLA Chair and NFLA Secretary were amongst the guests of honour at the moving and dramatic 64<sup>th</sup> annual commemoration of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-bombings.

At the Hiroshima Peace Ceremony the NFLA Secretary, representing Mayors for Peace Vice President Manchester

City Council, laid a wreath as part of the ceremony.

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, in his Peace Declaration, Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima ended by saying: "We have the power. We have the responsibility. We are the Obamajority. Together we can abolish nuclear

weapons. Yes we can."

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Taue of Nagasaki spoke of taking up President Obama's pledge for a nuclear free world: "We, ask the peoples of the world...to initiate efforts to declare support for Obama's Prague speech and take steps together towards a world without nuclear weapons."

## 8<sup>th</sup> Mayors for Peace Conference pledges 5000 cities by 2010

The City of Nagasaki also hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> Mayors for Peace General Conference, attended to by over 600 delegates from across the world.

The NFLA Chair spoke in the session 'Cities and Citizens can move Nations' of the positive role the NFLA had played over the last 29 years to influence UK

national policy on nuclear weapons.

The NFLA Secretary also spoke in the session 'Future steps for the 2020 Vision Campaign' on how the NFLA was assisting the Mayors for Peace in increasing membership in the UK and Ireland.

The Conference endorsed the cities of Halabja, Granollers,

Biograd, Waitakere and Ypres as new Vice Presidents. It also welcomed its 3000<sup>th</sup> member and is seeking to increase to 5000 cities in time for the May 2010 Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty Conference. It will work for the adoption of the 'Hiroshima Nagasaki Protocol' to eliminate nuclear weapons by 2020.

**NFLA Recent Press Releases:**

NFLA Scotland calls for a Green Energy revolution:  
[http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/green\\_energy\\_scot\\_160709.pdf](http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/green_energy_scot_160709.pdf)

NFLA England / NFLA Wales call for local energy revolution:  
[http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/green\\_energy\\_e+w\\_160709.pdf](http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/green_energy_e+w_160709.pdf)

NFLA Ireland welcomes Hiroshima and Nagasaki Mayors speeches and urges Councils to join NFLA and World Mayors for Peace:  
[http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/ireland\\_PR\\_14-8-09.pdf](http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/ireland_PR_14-8-09.pdf)



The 2009 Hiroshima Peace Ceremony, looking at the A-bomb cenotaph



NFLA Chair George Regan speaking at the Mayors for Peace Conference in Nagasaki

## Environmental Permitting Programme – NFLA response

NFLA have submitted a response to the UK Government Guidance document on the Radioactive Substances Regulations. This is part of the new EPP – the Environmental Permitting Programme.

The EPP is seeking to improve public health

and the environment by bringing all discharge limits under one regime.

The NFLA response notes that the EPP is a missed opportunity at underpinning guidance on the regulation of radioactive substances with a clear set of environmental

principles. Sustainable development and the precautionary principle are not clearly identified under the guidance, while the NFLA suggest the Environment Agency and SEPA should become the justifying authority, not ministers. The response is now on the NFLA website.

## The design of new nuclear reactors – NFLA gives its views

The NFLA Secretary attended a special one day seminar organised by the Health and Safety Executive, Environment Agency and Health Protection Agency on the design process for new nuclear build.

Around 40 NGOs took

part in the event, which allowed for healthy, open discussion and critique of the 2 main designs put forward for new nuclear reactors.

Discussion also took place over radiation safety and nuclear emergency planning and security. The event was well received and it

is hoped will be replicated again. A joint letter asking for a similar approach by the Government to such dialogues has been tabled.

A consultation on a major review of the regulators is now ongoing and will be responded to by NFLA.

## NFLA Steering Committee dialogue on new build with NGOs

The NFLA Steering Committee will meet next on *18<sup>th</sup> September* in Manchester. The meeting will also include an afternoon session with members of NGOs

involved in the debate around nuclear new build.

A series of workshops will be held looking at new build, waste,

alternatives to nuclear power and the economics of nuclear power.

Steering Committee members are urged to attend this important event.



NFLA Chair and Secretary with Hiroshima 'Peace Smile' group

### Letters to the press:

[http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/media\\_letters\\_junjul09.pdf](http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/media_letters_junjul09.pdf)

[http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/media\\_letters\\_aug09.pdf](http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/media_letters_aug09.pdf)

- CBI should promote renewable energy, not nuclear
- Scrapping Trident will save money and lives
- Nuclear industry needs to be calmed down
- Nuclear free Ireland should influence the UK nuclear debate
- Local authorities urge Government to scrap nuclear reactor plans
- NFLA welcomes Welsh Minister's public inquiry call
- Nuclear subsidies
- Concerns over the GDA process
- The nuclear challenge – a firm response
- Nuclear terrorism



Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the Nagasaki Flower Ceremony

## MOD nuclear submarine decommissioning

Councillor Brian Goodall and Fraser Thomson from Fife Council represented the NFLA at an ongoing consultative group considering the national strategy for the decommissioning of nuclear submarines, laying currently at naval yards like Rosyth and Devonport.

The Ministry of Defence's Submarine Dismantling Programme (SDP) involves the decommissioning and dismantling of 27 submarines over a series of stages.

A demonstration programme is being devised as a prototype

with public consultation on a Strategic Environmental Assessment being planned for the future.

The NFLA are a key member of the consultation group and will work closely with Fife Council to ensure this process is kept open and transparent.

## NFLA National Forum October seminars

**NFLA England and NFLA Wales** are holding a joint Forum meeting considering the major changes to the planning laws. We are delighted that this will be held in *Liverpool* as part of their 2009 Year of the Environment.

**NFLA Ireland** is holding a seminar considering the effect of new nuclear build and radioactive discharges

from the UK on Ireland. The Irish Republic's Energy Minister has been invited. We are delighted that *Bray* Town Council in County Wicklow have agreed to host the meeting.

**NFLA Scotland** is holding a seminar in *Glasgow* considering the key nuclear issues in the country since the Scottish Government announced it would not

facilitate any nuclear new build in the country. The Scottish Government have been invited to speak, along with updates on low level radiation and concerns over the development of the Faslane nuclear weapons naval base.

Further details on all seminars and meetings can be found from the NFLA Secretariat or National Secretaries.

## Forthcoming NFLA meetings

NFLA Org'n & Admin meeting, Steering Committee and new build seminar -  
**Thu 17<sup>th</sup> / Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Sept - Manchester Town Hall.**

NFLA Wales / NFLA England seminar -

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October  
Liverpool Town Hall**

NFLA Ireland mtg -  
**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October  
Bray Town Hall,  
Irish Republic.**

NFLA Scotland mtg -  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

**Glasgow City  
Chambers.**

*Early notification:*  
NFLA UK / Ireland  
AGM, SC and  
seminar - **3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dec 2009 (venue  
tbc)**