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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>



The Lord Mayor of Leeds and attendees at the recent NFLA / Mayors for Peace seminar in Leeds Civic Hall

7th Fukushima anniversary marked

Events were held in the UK and around the world to remember the 7th anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear disaster in NE Japan.

National events were held in Japan, along with remembering the many thousands that were killed by the associated earthquake and tsunami.

In the UK, a public meeting was held in Westminster at which experts outlined the ongoing problems that remain unresolved.

In a media release, NFLA commented that much remains to be resolved at the site and wider area. This includes a huge radioactive waste problem, including over

a thousand steel drums of contaminated water.

It was only a few weeks ago that TEPCO managed to get cameras into the damaged reactors, Over 160,000 people also remain in temporary accommodation as the debate on nuclear in Japan remains divisive. The media release is on the NFLA website.

NFLA / MFP discusses disarmament & peace education

The NFLA held its spring Steering Committee and a joint seminar in March with the UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter in Leeds.

The Steering Committee endorsed its recently published reports and consultation responses.

The seminar focused on the national and inter-

national nuclear disarmament debate and local initiatives to develop peace education.

The meeting followed a successful recent visit to the UK from ICAN's CEO Beatrice Fihn.

Shadow Disarmament & Peace Minister Fabian Hamilton outlined the issues around the UK nuclear debate and the

need for government to engage in multilateral disarmament initiatives. Dr Rebecca Johnson of ICAN outlined the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and its plans for 2018.

The seminar focused on peace education schemes led by Peace Jam, CRESST and in Greater Manchester. The presentations are on the NFLA website.

NFLA media releases

March 2018:
(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA All Ireland Forum submits Hinkley Point C transboundary issues
- NFLA All Ireland Forum raises issues over the urgency of climate change
- NFLA commemorates 7th anniversary of Fukushima
- NFLA notes damning Public Accounts Committee report on NDA Magnox contract



Speakers and Co Chairs at the NFLA All Ireland Forum spring seminar in Council Offices in Omagh, Co Tyrone



The NFLA English Chair Cllr David Blackburn signs the ICAN / CND Mayors and councillors pledge on nuclear disarmament

NFLA Omagh seminar discusses real urgency of climate change

The NFLA All Ireland Forum held its spring seminar in Omagh Council offices and considered the real urgency of climate change and concerns of policy drift, particularly in N. Ireland.

Keynote speaker was Prof Barry McMullin of Dublin City University.

He noted that new climate change models suggest the problems it will create across the world may become exacerbated in the late 2030s, rather than later. He also said governments had to get an urgent grip of this and implement wholesale low carbon generation schemes.

Meabh Cormacín of the NIREG agreed with this analysis and noted policy drift in the north with the lack of an operating government.

Declan Allison also urged major changes to financially support renewables in Ireland. The NFLA Secretary also outlined nuclear issues of concern in Ireland.

NFLA develops response to deep radwaste repository process

The NFLA Secretariat has developed a model Policy Briefing and responses to three consultations that consider how radioactive waste will be managed in England and Wales.

The UK and the Welsh Governments support the development of a deep underground radioactive waste repository with a

volunteer host 'community'.

The NFLA remain sceptical over such a development due to over 100 technical and scientific issues and our concern over the need for retrievability of such waste.

NFLA is also concerned

that the UK government consultation suggests the final decision on hosting a repository is made just by a District & not a County Council.

NFLA members also inputted their views to the NuLEAF LGA response. The full NFLA response will be on its website shortly.

NFLA Welsh & Scottish Forums plan major April meetings

The NFLA Welsh and Scottish Forums will take place in April and it gives members a chance to consider key nuclear and renewable policies.

The NFLA Welsh Forum

is cooperating with WANA, PAWB, CADNO, CND Cymru and other groups for a major one day conference in Machynlleth, Powys. It will consider Welsh new nuclear and renewable

energy matters.

The NFLA Scotland Forum has rescheduled its meeting to April and will include a seminar on geothermal and hydrogen energy.

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

- Why doesn't the UK follow Belgium's example with potassium iodine tablets?
- Concerns over the 275th Dounreay particle found on a Caithness beach

**ONR NGO FORUM HEARS
OF PROPOSED NUCLEAR
SAFEGUARDS REGIME
AND EP ISSUES**

The NFLA Secretariat was amongst 15 NGO reps who attended the spring meeting of the ONR NGO Forum to discuss nuclear safety matters.

A focal part of the meeting was a presentation from the lead ONR staff member that is implementing a domestic safeguards regime as a result of the UK's plans to leave the Euratom Treaty and the EU. The ONR confirmed extensive work is taking place including recruiting inspectors and a new IT system. The House of Lords though has voted against the UK leaving the Euratom Treaty arrangements.

A very useful discussion was also held on plans to change UK nuclear emergency planning in order to implement the European Basic Safety Standards Directive. The changes are expected later this year.

Hinkley Point C – safety and environmental issues mount

The slow pace in developing new nuclear in the UK continues due to its economic cost and the complexity of the developments.

The lead new nuclear site is Hinkley Point C in Somerset, which is being cleared ready for deployment in around 2025 – 27. Major delays

in similar developments in Finland, France and China is hampering progress.

In March concerns were published in 'the Guardian' of the UK nuclear regulator with EDF over management failings it warns could affect safety at Hinkley C if left unaddressed.

NFLA is also developing a response for its Irish members to an Irish Government consultation on the trans-boundary impacts of Hinkley and other UK new nuclear plants.

The NFLA Welsh Forum joint conference will also consider these & related issues.

Mayors for Peace prepare for NPT Prep Con meetings in Geneva

The Mayors for Peace International Secretariat are preparing for a number of meetings in Geneva next month to move forward with nuclear disarmament & non-proliferation after positive moves in the UN in 2017.

The NPT Preparatory Conference takes place in April, bringing both

nuclear weapon & non-nuclear weapon states together. It is the first meeting since over two thirds of UN members voted for a Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty. In May, a High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament will take place at the UN in New York to discuss how the treaty is implemented.

In Geneva, the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will lead an international delegation at the NPT and cooperate with ICAN and other groups.

There will also be a European meeting to discuss local matters and a Board meeting on wider progress with its 7500+ network.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

Welsh seminar with NFLA, WANA, PAWB, CADNO & CND, April 14th, Machynlleth, Powys

NFLA Scotland, April 19th, Glasgow City Chambers

Mayors for Peace European meeting and Executive Board meeting, 25th and 26th April, Geneva City Hall

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

Other meeting dates to follow