Framework Forum Roundtable:
Reviving nuclear threat-reduction and disarmament through the NPT, Conference on Disarmament and UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament

Thursday April 19, 13:15 – 17:00
Geneva Centre for Security Policy
Maison de la Paix, Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2D, Geneva
Lunch session at Salsabeel Restaurant, 27 Avenue de France

Co-sponsored by the Basel Peace Office, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Middle Powers Initiative, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament and World Future Council

Introduction

On January 25, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock to 2 Minutes to Midnight, reflecting the lack of progress on nuclear disarmament and the increased threat of conflicts escalating to the actual use of nuclear weapons. The promise of progress from the successful 2010 NPT conference has all but disappeared, with the commitments not being implemented and States Parties to the NPT failing to agree on a final document in 2015. Since then, we have seen an increasing division between non-nuclear States and nuclear-reliant States on approaches to nuclear disarmament.

These developments have implications for the forthcoming Preparatory Committee Meeting of 2020 NPT Review Conference and for the NPT Review Conference itself. These new developments also have bearing on the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, scheduled to be held on May 14-16, 2018 and the decision by the Conference on Disarmament on February 16, 2018 to resume substantive disarmament work after two decades of inaction. Furthermore, as announced by the UN Secretary-General a review of security and disarmament in order to shape a UN disarmament agenda is planned for release in April or May.

In advance of these events the above sponsors have decided to organize a Framework Forum Roundtable in Geneva to review the issues and propose action.

Draft Program

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch session: Toward a useful and effective High-Level Conference.

Key issues: What initiatives can be advanced at the High-Level Conference? How can the HLC support the NPT, CD and diplomatic processes such as the North Korea/USA summit? How can governments be encouraged to participate at the highest level? How can parliamentarians and civil society support and promote the HLC.

Welcome: Hubert René Schillinger, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva

Speakers: Marc Finaud, Geneva Centre for Security Policy
Nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament measures that could be advanced by key international forums

Marzhan Nurzhan, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament. Abolition 2000 Youth Network
Youth and parliamentary calls for government action on nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament
14:45 – 15:45  
**Session 2: How to bridge the security v disarmament divide**

**Key issues:** How is the role of deterrence changing in the future? The balance between conventional and nuclear arms in providing security? Regional approaches to disarmament?

**Chair:** H.E. Michael Biontino, Permanent Representative of Germany to the CD

**Speakers:**
- **Paul Ingram,** British American Security Information Council
  *Initiatives nuclear-armed states could take to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons while enhancing security.*
- **Oliver Meier,** German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)
  *Addressing divides in the nuclear order: the importance a dialogue on the role of nuclear weapons in international security*
- **Louise Doswald-Beck,** Former Professor of International Law at The Graduate Institute Geneva
  *Implementing the UN Charter Article 2 (4) obligation as a contribution towards achieving security without nuclear weapons*

16:15 – 17:00  
**Session 3: Reviving the NPT and Conference on Disarmament:**

**Key issues:** What disarmament measures can be taken forward at the 2018 NPT Prep Com and in the Conference on Disarmament? How can we ensure adoption and implementation of key measures? Reform needs in a shorter and longer term?

**Chair:** HE Mr. A L A Azeez, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the UN in Geneva

**Speakers:**
- **Sico van der Meer,** Clingendal Institute, the Netherlands.
  *How the make the NPT RevCom in 2020 a success?*
- **Tarja Cronberg,** Chair Middle Powers Initiative, SIPRI Stockholm.
  *Long term reform needs for the NPT survival?*

**Concluding Comments:** Alyn Ware, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament