

ACTIVITY REPORT 2009



INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU



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Rust, they say, never sleeps. Neither does war, nor violence nor the conditions of injustice that underlie them. Which is why our struggle for a peaceful world can never be considered 'completed', and why new energy must constantly be found to move our efforts forward. In 2009 the IPB was once again busy with a wide range of activities and was able to draw many new partners into its work.

DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (totalling \$1531 billion in 2009); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development. Post 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach. Activities organised in pursuit of these goals include: seminars, publications, website, e-newsletter, exhibitions and a media programme. National and international networks are gradually being developed.

The 'D for D' programme continued to expand in all continents through the IPB network, partner organizations and a variety of contacts. We developed this process further through the following activities:

1. **ENDORSEMENTS:** Building the list of endorsing organisations of our *Call for Action on Military and Social Spending*, and working with them to create an active global network.



2. **DIALOGUE:** engaging in dialogue with:
 - a. development, social justice, and environment organisations,
 - b. governments and their representatives, both in capitals and in UN centres, and
 - c. experts, researchers and international agencies;
 - in each case regarding military budgets as possible sources of funding for programmes

to combat poverty, and in particular, concrete proposals relating to the funding of the Millennium Development Goals.

3. **COALITIONS:** encouraging and sustaining efforts among civil society at national and international level to create coalitions and lobbying programmes, esp. on the spending issues;
4. **SOUTHERN OUTREACH:** reaching out specifically to members and partners in developing countries and helping them establish programmes within the frame of D for D. In **Mexico** we organised a special workshop, in the annual DPI-NGO conference (September), Theme of the whole gathering: *For Peace and Development: Disarm Now!* In **Costa Rica**, IPB was active in the conference held on the Peace Boat (July);



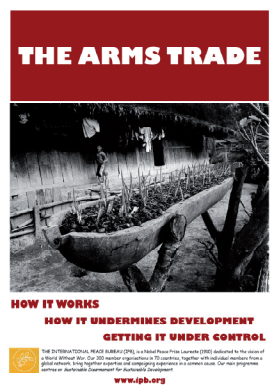
5. and in **Nepal** we made presentations to the Religions for Peace Youth Summit.



6. **PUBLICATIONS and MEDIA:** Much time this year was devoted to exploring plans for a longer term international campaign using electronic and other media, focussing on the upcoming G20 meetings. This would be carried out in conjunction with a major advertising agency. At the same time the Secretariat also devoted considerable resources to a range of publishing and educational efforts supporting the D for D message. These include workshops, production of books and materials, and preparations for the upcoming IPB Nobel Prize centenary in Oslo in 2010. The much-expanded edition of our new book ***Nuclear Weapons: At What Cost?*** was launched both in **London** (July 2009) and in **Hiroshima-Nagasaki** (August 2009);



A 20pp illustrated brochure on the **Arms Trade** was launched at the European Network Against Arms Trade meeting in **Barcelona**.



We continued to publish the much-appreciated *IPB News* every two weeks. Our books are now used in Master's courses as readings and elements in bibliographies – and thus are becoming known more widely through teaching programmes. A 28pp Reflection Paper on ***Challenging Militarisation*** was published for the Washington Conference in Nov. 2009.

RELEASE OF SIPRI MILITARY SPENDING FIGURES. IPB again issued a communiqué on the increasing level of spending highlighted in the annual yearbook of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (June).

TRANSLATIONS: we have translated and distributed a whole range of key IPB texts, from flyers to entire books, into approx. 10 languages.

PEACELAW: we have built on work done in 2008 together with the Global Article 9 campaign and others working on peace constitutions (e.g. the Spanish initiative 'Luarca Declaration') - see special section of material on website.

7. **NUCLEAR:** IPB was one of the core group of NGOs engaged in planning for the activities in May 2010 at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review conference - and is supporting the growing calls for moves towards abolition.



IPB was represented at the NPT PrepComm in May 2009 (**New York**) and at the **Hiroshima-Nagasaki** commemorations in August. We continue to work with Geneva based disarmament organisations via the NGO Committee for Disarmament.

8. **COLLABORATIONS:** making contributions to collective projects such as: the Disarmament to Combat Poverty campaign (run by the French development cooperation NGO Frères des Hommes); the annual Nobel Peace laureate summits;



Ubuntu Forum (World Campaign for In-Depth Reform of International Institutions); and the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC, CONGO.

9. RESOURCE CONFLICTS: The Secretariat has begun to explore a new agenda for longer-term action, which looks at alternatives to military conflict over resources, in a context of climate change. The critique of military spending can only be convincing if it is accompanied by a persuasive set of alternatives.

10. PRIZES

IPB's 2009 nomination for the **Nobel Peace Prize** was the Cluster Munitions Coalition. Board members also made their own nominations, eg for former UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor.

The 2009 **MacBride Peace Prize** was awarded to Prof. Betty Reardon (USA) for her long career of pioneering work in peace education. The ceremony was held at Georgetown University in Washington DC during the IPB's annual conference.



SPECIAL EVENT:

London – 3rd Peace History conference, April 24-25: organised by the Movement for the Abolition of War, in collaboration with IPB. Many IPB members attended this successful event, which was once again held in the Imperial War Museum. Presentations made included:

Henry Dunant, Solferino (1859) and the origins of the Red Cross - Peter van den Dungen; Dawn of a European Middle East Policy, Bruno Kreisky and the Socialist International - Gabriele Matzner-Holzer; The influence of St. Francis of Assisi, messenger of peace and reconciliation - Paula Pearce; Remembering Humanity, Pugwash, scientists and peace - Sandra Butcher; Henry Ford's Peace Ship - Terry Charman; Conscientious Objectors in action, working with the fighting forces in WW2 - Lyn Smith; Civilian Resistance in the US to the war in Vietnam - Joseph J. Fahey. In addition: live music from the MAW CD 'Call Back the Fire, and short historic peace films: Attention, The Red Stain, The Big If, Histoire du Soldat Inconnu.



Annual Conference Washington – ROLLING BACK MILITARISM

Much of the Secretariat's time in 2009 was taken up with preparations for the Annual Conference (+ other meetings and seminar) held in the US capital in Nov 2009. This proved to be a very successful event.

Topics covered included nuclear disarmament, military spending, Middle East, Afghanistan, peace education. Event co-organised with IPB member organisation Peace Action.

Representatives of IPB member organisations and other peace movements from 21 countries, as well as individual participants, gathered at Georgetown University in Washington DC on the weekend of November 14-15, 2009 for the annual IPB conference – the first held in the USA since 1904. The conference was followed by the IPB Council, a planning meeting for the nuclear abolition activities at the NPT Review next May, and a day-seminar on military spending. Speeches and/or articles supplied by conference presenters and photogallery available at www.ipb.org



Advance planning: 2010

Much time has also been spent preparing for the centenary of IPB's Nobel Peace Prize in 2010. This includes activities in many places, and with two special highlights:

Geneva (June) : a 4 week period in June-July 2010 in which IPB held an outdoor exhibition and other events on the shore of Lake **Geneva**, in front of the Palais Wilson. The theme was '*Making Peace*' and focused attention on the contributions of the peace and disarmament movements over the last century.

Oslo (Sept): We are organizing a major international conference with well known keynote speakers and contributions from IPB member-organizations, to strengthen the connection between Nordic and international peace organizations. There will also be a youth programme and two concerts, the *Making Peace* exhibition, 'hot spot' debates and more. The programme will take place in venues such as the Nobel Institute, the Nobel Peace Center, and the Literature House in the heart of Oslo. We shall also hold in Oslo the Triennial IPB Assembly. All are welcome !

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

IPB's network of members now totals 320 organisations in 70 countries, including 20 internationals. Membership Directory and information on membership can be found at: <http://ipb.org/i/membership/membeship-generic/IV-generic-membership.html>

IPB OFFICIALS 2006-2009

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TREASURER

Urban Gibson - Sweden

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Yayoi Tsuchida - Japan

Bo Wirmark - Sweden

Alicia Cabezudo - Argentina

Agneta Norberg - Sweden

Luciano Scambiato – Italy

COUNCIL MEMBERS (REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES)

AFRICA

ELECTION TO BE RE-RUN

ASIA-1

Farhana Ferdoush (F) – Bangladesh

Raza Shah Khan (M) - Pakistan

Johirul Munna (M) - Bangladesh

Jahangir Piara (M) - Pakistan

Fatima Vasanth (F) - India

ASIA-2

Alfredo Ferariz Lubang (M) – Philippines/
Thailand

EUROPE-1

Alexander Harang (M) - Norway

Poul Ek Sorensen (M) - Denmark

Bent Christensen (M, alt) – Denmark

EUROPE-2

Kate Hudson (F) – UK

Vijay Mehta (M) - UK

Peter Nicholls (M) - UK

EUROPE-3

Ben Cramer (M) - France

EUROPE-4

Fulgida Barattoni (F) – Italy

Etta Carignani (F)- Italy

Ayse Irem Demiriz (F) – Turkey

Cristiano Franceschini (M) - Italy

L. AMERICA

ELECTION TO BE RE RUN

N. AMERICA

ELECTION TO BE RE RUN. Meanwhile, co-opted:

Hannah Hadikein, Canada (f)

Frances Mercer, USA (f)

Robert Stewart, Canada (m)

Scott Gilbert, Canada (m)

OCEANIA

Joe Camilleri (m) - Australia

INTERNATIONALS

ELECTION TO BE RE RUN

CONSULTANTS

Ade Adenekan

Mubarak Awad

Aline Boccardo

Göran von Bonsdorff

David Cortright

Phyllis Creighton

Stephen Dankowich

Kate Dewes

Jules Dufour

Johan Galtung

Ann Gertler

Helen Golombek

Jonathan Granoff

Rob Green

Gerd Greune

Verdiana Grossi

Guido Grünewald

Gennady Grushevoy

Ernst Gülcher

Mubashir Hasan

Chris Hunter

Bruce Kent

David Macharia

David McReynolds

Rodrigo Montaluís Vivas

Yeshua Moser-Puangsuwan

Sheila Oakes

Eva Quistorp

Anna Rehin

Adi Roche

Rainer Santi

Georg Schöfbänker

Sorina Serbotei

Horst Stasius

Augustin Loubatau Tabo

Anick Sicart

Ilkka Taipale

Rev. Junsei Terasawa

Aaron Tovish

Achin Vanaik

PAST PRESIDENTS

Cora Weiss 2000-06

Maj-Britt Theorin 1992-2000

Bruce Kent 1985-92

Sean MacBride 1974-1985, died 1988

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Secretary-General

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Independent consultants (contractual)

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Leesa George Friday

Sorina Serbotei

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Kate Johnson

Jacob Romer

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Latif Al-Bayati

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Frédéric Durand

David Hay-Edie

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<http://www.ipb.org>



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