

## **ABOLITION 2000 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 16 SEPTEMBER 2011 SUMMARY OF MINUTES**

The Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons held its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Geneva, Switzerland on 16 September 2011. Hosted by the World Council of Churches, more than 50 participants from 17 countries, representing dozens of organizations, took part in the all-day meeting.

After establishing agreement on the **Goals of the Meeting** and a **Brief Overview of Abolition 2000**, participants heard a **Report from the Coordinating Committee** and a **Report from the Secretariat**. These were followed by **Thematic Reports from Abolition 2000 Working Groups and Affiliated Networks and Campaigns**: Depleted Uranium; De-Alerting; Energy; Youth; Mayors for Peace; Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament; Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; Divestment; Citizens Weapons Inspections; Indigenous Peoples; International Humanitarian Law; Delegitimizing Deterrence; Nuclear Weapon Free Zones; Radiation and the World Health Organisation; and the Nuclear Weapons Convention.

A lunchtime public forum, **Obstacles and Opportunities for Nuclear Abolition**, was co-hosted with the World Council of Churches. Obstacles identified by the Abolition 2000 panelists were missiles and missile defenses; modernization of nuclear weapons and delivery systems; and the inextricable link between nuclear power and nuclear weapons. Opportunities identified were the Nuclear Weapons Convention; International Humanitarian Law and Regional Prohibitions of Nuclear Weapons, including Nuclear Weapons Free Zones.

After lunch, the Abolition 2000 AGM heard a detailed update on Fukushima from Japanese participants. The group then met in six breakout groups to discuss issues and new proposals: Energy and Radiation; International Humanitarian Law and Delegitimizing Deterrence; the Nuclear Weapons Convention, PNND and Mayors for Peace; Youth and Indigenous People; Divestment and Disarmament for Development; and Space and Missiles. Based on the report backs from these groups, four new Abolition 2000 working groups were established: **Energy** (combines and replaces the old sustainable energy and nuclear chain working groups); **International Humanitarian Law and De-legitimizing Deterrence**; **Youth and Indigenous People**; and **Economic Dimensions**. Criteria were established to ensure working group continuity and accountability.

The meeting next took up **Abolition 2000 Membership, Outreach and Fundraising**. Emerging from a discussion about the new Abolition 2000 E-newsletter, a translation team and social media working group were established.

Finally the meeting turned to **Affirmation of the Global Council and Coordinating Committee**. To clarify expectations and stimulate inspire active participation, a “job description” for Global Council members was agreed to. The plenary affirmed the service of the new Coordinating Committee for the coming year as well as new Global Council nominees. The Coordinating Committee will contact current Global Council members to find out if they wish to continue to serve. The Coordinating Committee also was authorized to determine the date and location of the next AGM.