A2000 Secretariat, Coordinating Committee, Finances and Fundraising report

Submitted by Jackie Cabasso, Coordinating Committee member and Executive Director of Western States Legal Foundation, Abolition 2000’s fiscal sponsor

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Secretariat hosts
Abolition 2000 mainly is a volunteer network but has received essential administrative support from a series of organizations that have served as its Secretariat since its founding. These have included:

- The California-based, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
- The New York-based, Global Resource Action Center for the Environment (GRACE)
- The Polaris (now Rideau) Institute, Ottawa, Canada,
- Pax Christi USA, and
- IKV Pax Christi (now PAX), The Netherlands
- (There was no Secretariat in 2015)
- The Basel Peace Office performed interim Secretariat services in 2016
- International Peace Bureau (IPB) 2017 – present

Coordinating Committee
The Secretariat works closely with the Coordinating Committee to maintain the Abolition 2000 database, website, and social media, send out e-mail newsletters, coordinate with working groups, and plan the Annual General Meetings. In the last couple of years, we have also produced Abolition 2000 Annual Activity Reports. The 2019 Annual Activity Report has just been completed and is now available on our website. Since 2019 we have produced an outstanding series of webinars, and we intend to continue doing more:

- January 2019 – Preserve the INF Treaty
- April 2019 – Nuclear Disarmament Events and Campaigns
- July 2019 – Divesting from Destruction. Investing in peace and sustainability
- October 2019 – The Breakdown of the Iran Deal – Global perspectives
- April 2020 – Move the Nuclear Weapons (and fossil fuel) Money
May 2020 - Youth voices and actions on climate, peace and nuclear disarmament

Links to the webinars, summary reports and transcripts of the presentations are available on the Abolition 2000 website.

Finances
Western States Legal Foundation serves as Abolition 2000’s fiscal sponsor.

For four years in a row, the Craigslist Charitable fund in the U.S. provided annual grants of $10,000. This allowed us to fund staff time for the Basel Peace office to clean up our data base and reconnect with the working groups, and to provide funding to the Moving Beyond Missile Defense Working Group to produce the report that’s been mentioned. It also allowed the IPB to hire a part-time dedicated Abolition 2000 staff person. The Craigslist Charitable Fund stopped funding us and funds ran out almost a year ago. As a result, IPB had to lay off its Abolition 2000 staff and the Coordinating Committee has been doing all the work of the Secretariat.

IPB is happy to continue hosting the Abolition 2000 Secretariat in name and address and would be happy to hire an Abolition 2000 staff person if the money can be raised. However, they are not in a position to raise money for this purpose. Reiner Braun from IPB will continue to serve on the Coordinating Committee.

If there is an Abolition 2000 member group that has interest and the capacity to host the A2000 Secretariat and provide dedicated staff, please contact us.

At present Abolition 2000 has about $1000 in the bank. At a minimum, expenses include maintaining the website and paying for this Zoom platform that is allowing us to hold this online Annual General Meeting and host the webinars. Ideally, we would like to again be able to hire a dedicated staff person for the Secretariat.

Fundraising
In the past we have asked for voluntary member group dues, which have largely fallen off; we would like to ask member groups now to reinstate their voluntary dues if they are able.

We’d also like to ask the participants in this meeting to make a donation now, if you can.