Abolition 2000 Online AGM Agenda

Date: July 22/23, 2022

Session 1: 90 minutes
Campaign updates and reports. Strategy discussion on challenges and opportunities to advance nuclear abolition in a dysfunctional world, and Introduction of proposals.

[Session 1A timed for Asia/Pacific; 1B timed for Americas, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East]

[2] Welcome & Opening. Remembering those we’ve lost since last year: Dominique Lalanne and Bruce Kent

[3] Overview of the meeting
Welcome to the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons. Even as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc, the world has changed enormously since we last met a year ago. In order to make sense of these changes and their implications for the work of those campaigning to abolish nuclear weapons, the annual general meeting will include a general discussion about nuclear disarmament strategies in the wake of the Ukraine war.

This is a meeting for member groups, though everyone is invited to participate as an observer. If your group is not yet a member, if you agree with our Founding Statement, we encourage you to join. More on this a little later.

As of yesterday, over 200 people from 47 countries on every continent but Antarctica had registered!

Ask people to add their country to their name in the Zoom nameplate. To do that click on the 3 little dots in the upper right corner of your Zoom box, click on rename, and retype your name followed by your country.

Ask people to use the link to the Google form in the chat box to introduce themselves with their name, organization and country.

Ask people to use the link to the word cloud to type in one word to describe the moment we’re in.

Note: We are recording the session for our internal purposes, not for public distribution.

[2] Review agenda
Time is very limited; instead of 1 – 2 days in person as in pre-pandemic times, we have three 90-minute Zoom sessions; so we have to be very creative and very disciplined. To save time, ask participants to post calendar items on the Google form linked in the chat box. You don’t have to do it right now; you can add things throughout the meeting. We will compile the list of events and send it to you in a follow up email.

Briefly review agenda:

- History of the Network
- Introduction to our Founding Statement
• Review of our Operating Principles
• Reports from Affiliated and Allied Networks
• Reports from working groups
• Strategy discussion looking at the broad political context for nuclear disarmament
• Introduction of proposals and announcements

Session 2, which will take place following session 1, will address proposals and Abolition 2000 business, including a report from the Abolition 2000 Secretariat, finances and affirmation of the Abolition 2000 Coordinating Committee and Global Council.

Everyone except for pre-designated reporters will be muted until the strategy discussion. At that time, if you want to speak, please raise your hand in the reaction box at the bottom of your screen. The host will call on you and unmute you.

[1] Briefly Review History of the Network
Abolition 2000 was “born” during the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, where NGOs from around the world came together to demand governmental action on disarmament and agreed by consensus on what became the Abolition 2000 Founding Statement. Eventually more than 2000 organizations in 90 countries signed on. All organizations that agree with the Abolition 2000 Founding Statement are encouraged to join. The Abolition 2000 Statement led to the drafting of a Model Nuclear Weapons Convention by civil society groups that was circulated in 1997 by the UN Secretary-General to UN members as a guide to multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations and updated in 2007.

Abolition 2000 is managed by a voluntary Coordinating Committee and conducts projects and campaigns through working groups and informal sub-networks. We maintain a website and database, send out newsletters and organize webinars among other activities. You can read more about our mission, our successes and our projects on our website.

[6] Introduction to the Founding Statement
Several of the “founding mothers and fathers” of Abolition 2000 are in this meeting, including Jackie Cabasso and Alyn Ware. If there are any others present, please let us know in the chat.

“A secure and livable world for our children and grandchildren and all future generations requires that we achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and redress the environmental degradation and human suffering that is the legacy of fifty years of nuclear weapons testing and production. Further, the inextricable link between the “peaceful” and warlike uses of nuclear technologies and the threat to future generations inherent in creation and use of long-lived radioactive materials must be recognized. We must move toward reliance on clean, safe, renewable forms of energy production that do not provide the materials for weapons of mass destruction and do not poison the environment for thousands of centuries. The true “inalienable” right is not to nuclear energy, but to life, liberty and security of person in a world free of nuclear weapons.

We recognize that a nuclear weapons free world must be achieved carefully and in a step by step manner. We are convinced of its technological feasibility. Lack of political will, especially on the part of the nuclear weapons states, is the only true
barrier. As chemical and biological weapons are prohibited, so must nuclear weapons be prohibited.

We call upon all states particularly the nuclear weapons states, declared and de facto to take the following steps to achieve nuclear weapons abolition. We further urge the states parties to the NPT to demand binding commitments by the declared nuclear weapons states to implement these measures:”

Short video of people reading the 11 points of the A2000 Statement.

If your group or organization has not already signed on to the statement and wishes to do so, please send an e-mail stating contact name, organization name, address, fax (if any) and telephone to secretariat@abolition2000.org – A list of member organizations is being posted in the chat.

Abolition 2000 also explicitly recognizes some of the related interlocking injustices that dominate our dysfunctional world. Colonized and indigenous peoples have, in the large part, borne the brunt of nuclear devastation – from the mining of uranium and the testing of nuclear weapons on indigenous peoples land, to the dumping, storage and transport of plutonium and nuclear wastes, and the theft of land for nuclear infrastructure. The Moorea Declaration on Nuclear Weapons, Colonialism & Indigenous Peoples, adopted in 1997 at the Abolition 2000 Annual General Meeting held in French-occupied Polynesia is a supplemental statement to the Abolition 2000 founding statement, which addresses this reality.

Read Operating Principles.

[15] Reports from Affiliated and Allied Networks
We have asked each group to send a 700-word written report. We are posting all of the reports on the Abolition 2000 website and will send them to you with other follow up materials.

Oral reports will be strictly limited to 1 minute each. Jackie will ring a bell when your time is up. If you have questions or comments please post them in the chat box.

• [1] Mayors for Peace
• [1] Middle East Treaty Organization (METO)
• [1] Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament
• [1] Peace and Planet
• [1] UNFOLD ZERO
• [1] IALANA
• [1] United for Peace and Justice
• [1] Basel Peace Office
• [1] Peace Depot
• [1] World Beyond War
[15] Reports from working groups (introduction plus 1 minutes each)

Explain that all working group reports will be 1 minute, with the exception of the Nuclear Weapons Convention Reset working group, which has been given 5 minutes. We have asked each group to send a 700-word written report. We are posting all of the reports on the Abolition 2000 website as they come in and will send them to you with other follow up materials.

- [1] Move the Nuclear Weapons Money
- [1] Moving Beyond Missile Defense and Space Weapons (MBMDS)
- [1] Nuclear Risk-Reduction
- [1] Nuclear Weapon Free Zones
- [1] Youth Fusion
- [1] Special Report: Nuclear Weapons and UN Human Rights Bodies

**Note:** To get more information about any of these working groups, please read their reports. If you want to get involved in any of our working groups or affiliated and allied networks, you can find contact information in most of the reports. You can also go to the Abolition 2000 website and find contact information there.

[1] Introduce the strategy discussion looking at the broad political context for nuclear disarmament in the new moment we’re in.

[3] Briefly frame and introduce the questions.

These questions were included in the meeting information we provided in advance.

- What are the effects of the Ukraine war on our work?
- How has it changed perceptions about nuclear weapons and about prospects for disarmament?
- Are there previous assumptions that have guided our work that might require reflection, and perhaps revision?
- What have you been doing differently due to the changed global context, or what do you think we should consider doing differently?

[30] Discussion – limit to 2 minutes each (15 speakers)

Ask people to “raise hands” in the reactions box to get in the cue; Ask people to adhere strictly to time limit; and warn that host will turn off their microphone if necessary. Ask people to wait for others to speak before they speak again;

Some of the ideas that emerge during this discussion may be referred to our working groups.

[1] Introduction of proposals/announcements

Explain that the Coordinating Committee received and reviewed 2 proposals in advance of this meeting. We referred one of them to the relevant working groups. The others are really announcements and invitations to get involved.
Katsumi Furitsu of the Chernobyl-Hibakusha Support, in Kansai, Japan submitted a request for assistance. Unfortunately her work schedule prevents her from joining this session. She will make a brief presentation in the second session of Session 1. Jackie will summarize her request and try to answer any questions. 2 minutes, including Q & A

If there are any new proposals, they can be introduced now if there’s time. If you have an additional proposal, please raise your hand using the button in the reactions box at the bottom of your screen. If we run out of time, please send your proposal to the Abolition 2000 Secretariat secretariat@abolition2000.org for consideration by the Coordinating Committee, which will be meeting between Session 1 B and Session 2. Proposals will be considered in Session 2.

Fundraising pitch
Abolition 2000 has a tiny budget and relies on funds raised at our annual general meeting as our main source of funding.

A link with information about how to donate is being put in the chat. Abolition 2000’s fiscal sponsor is Western States Legal Foundation. If you’re giving via Paypal, please put Abolition 2000 in the memo line.

Group photo
Ask people to wave hands for photo; note that we will send a short meeting evaluation form via e-mail along with a calendar of events and other follow up materials.

Session 2: 90 minutes

Welcome & Opening; Overview of the meeting
Welcome to Session 2 of our 2022 online AGM. The first session, which was held twice earlier today to accommodate as many time zones as possible, included a brief history of Abolition 2000, campaign updates and reports, and a strategy discussion looking at the broad political context for nuclear disarmament in the new moment we’re in. I believe that most of you were on one or both of those calls, but just to remind you, this is a meeting for member groups, though everyone is invited to participate as an observer.

All organizations that agree with the Abolition 2000 Founding Statement are encouraged to join. If your group is not yet a member, if you agree with our Founding Statement, we encourage you to join. More information about this a little later.

As of yesterday, over 200 people from 47 countries on every continent but Antarctica had registered!

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Briefly review agenda:

- Operating Principles and Decision-Making Process
- Consideration of proposals and announcements from Session 1
- Secretariat and Coordinating Committee Report
- Finances and fundraising
- Building, serving and strengthening the network
- Affirmation of Coordinating Committee and Global Council
- Evaluation and follow up

Note that everyone except for pre-designated reporters will be muted until Q & A or discussions are opened. At that time, if you want to speak please raise your hand in the reactions box at the bottom of your screen. The host will call on you and unmute you.

Read [Operating Principles](#)

Explain decision-making process

[10] Consideration of proposals/review announcements from Session 1

- Katsumi’s request for support re dumping by Tepco of radioactive water from Fukushima
- Announcement re Peace & Planet conference and NPT side events
- Other things than may emerge

[5] Secretariat and Coordinating Committee Report

[10] Finances and fundraising

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Summary financial report

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[15] Building, serving and strengthening the network—website, newsletter, webinars

Encourage people to use A2000 resources and make suggestions for improvement.
Highlight Views from the Global Council

Open the floor for questions and suggestions

Invite groups that are not already members to join A2000. To do so, please send an e-mail stating contact name, organization name, address, fax (if any), and telephone to secretariat@abolition2000.org

[15] Affirmation of Coordinating Committee and Global Council

Under the current situation we can’t handle this the way we did it in-person, pre-pandemic meetings, where we could spend time chatting informally and getting to know each other during breaks and meals, and during side events during the NPT meetings.

In this section, we’re asking you to reaffirm the current members of the Coordinating Committee and the Global Council.

Responsibilities of the Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee is mainly responsible for administrative matters. It usually meets once a month by Zoom, but more frequently in the run up to the AGMs. The CC:

- Works with the Secretariat in planning the AGM and carry out followup
- Look for fundraising opportunities
- Stays in touch with the working groups and the Global Council
- Works with the Global Council to occasionally issue statements in the name of the Global Council
- Occasionally organizes webinars
- Occasionally organize strategy sessions on the margins of NPT and UN meetings

The current CC members are:

- Reiner Braun, Germany/alternating with Arielle Denis, France
- Jackie Cabasso, USA
- Regina Hagen, Germany
- Marzhan Nurzhan, Kazakhstan alternating with Vanda Proskova, Czech Republic
- Tony Robinson, United Kingdom
- Alyn Ware, Czech Republic and Aotearoa/New Zealand
- Yosuke Watanabe, Japan
- Dave Webb, United Kingdom

The CC is empowered to add members between AGM’s and we have recently added Joshua Cooper, USA, and Andrew Lichterman, USA, who helped in the preparation of this AGM

Responsibilities of Global Council (GC) members (adopted at the 2011 Abolition 2000 AGM):

- The GC is made up of individuals, not representatives of organizations
- GC members are expected to be active with Abolition 2000
- GC members are encouraged to serve as advisors and ambassadors for Abolition 2000, and work with Abolition 2000 groups in their regions and thematic areas
• We need to hear from GC members at least annually. GC members are expected to check in with or respond to the CC at least once a year (respond to a draft statement, contribute to the e-newsletter or some other way)
• GC members are expected to abide by the Abolition 2000 Operating Principles

If you are interested in joining or nominating someone for the CC or GC, please let the Secretariat know; the CC is empowered to add additional members between AGMs.

Q & A

Please affirm the CC and the GC for the coming year by raising your hand using the reaction button at the bottom of your screen.

[7] Evaluation and follow up

Word cloud. Describe your feelings about this AGM in two – three words

Time permitting, invite people to offer additional comments with specific ideas. Please raise your hand in the reaction box at the bottom of your screen.

Announce that we will be sending out a short evaluation form to all participants by e-mail. We will also be sending other follow-up material including reports from our affiliated networks and working groups the calendar of events we have collectively compiled.

[1] Group photo

Thank everyone for the participation and contributions.

Ask people to wave hands for photo