

The Need for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World

'Two basic ideas at the heart of the NPT continue to have strong international support – that more fingers on more nuclear triggers would result in a more dangerous world, and that non-proliferation by the have-nots and disarmament by the haves will together lead to a safer world.' (WMDC Report, 2006)

The 2006 Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission Report makes a number of recommendations on initial nuclear disarmament steps including the establishment of nuclear weapons-free zones, international fissile materials control, entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, taking nuclear arsenals off high-alert, further reductions in nuclear stockpiles and the enhancing of verification capabilities for nuclear disarmament.

In addition, the Commission calls on nuclear weapon States to develop plans for security without nuclear weapons, and for the exploration of legal, technical, political and procedural options for the comprehensive outlawing of nuclear weapons, as has been done with chemical and biological weapons.

Initial disarmament steps are vital in order to reduce the danger of nuclear weapons use by accident, miscalculation or intent, whether by governments or non-State actors (terrorists). However, the nuclear threat will only be eliminated through the comprehensive prohibition of nuclear weapons, which would require a fundamental shift in security thinking by the nuclear weapon States.

The World Federation of United Nations Associations

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The World Federation of United Nations Associations

A peoples' movement in support of the United Nations

Dr Hans Blix Launches:

"Students for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World"

Win a trip to participate in the

Students for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World Conference

at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
Summer 2008



chaired by
Dr. Hans Blix



About WFUNA

Established in 1946, the *World Federation of United Nations Associations* (WFUNA) is inspired by the opening words of the United Nations Charter "We the Peoples", as a peoples' movement to support the United Nations.

Today the World Federation is a global network of hundreds of thousands of people linked together through United Nations Associations (UNAs) in over 100 nation states. They have many diverse programs and means of interaction including the monthly e-newsletter, 'UN Connections'.

Visit www.wfuna.org to join with others to become engaged in the critical global issues affecting us all.

About the World Academy of Art and Science

The *World Academy of Art and Science* is an international association for exploring major concerns of humanity. Established in 1960, its activities focus on "the social consequences and policy implications of knowledge." Influential in its founding were Albert Einstein, Robert Oppenheimer, and Bertrand Russell, who were deeply concerned about how the atom bomb and other scientific advances might be used – or misused.

To join in discussions on the vital problems of humankind, visit www.worldacademy.org.



Students for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World

The World Federation's President, Dr Hans Blix, has launched, *Students for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World*, in close partnership with the World Academy of Art and Science.

This initiative, built on the recommendations of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission chaired by Dr Blix (www.wmdcommission.org), is working alongside a group of over 15 civil society organizations including: research institutes, international lawyers, parliamentarians, student groups and activists – all dedicated to ensuring that a world free of nuclear weapons becomes a reality.

Aims and objectives:

1. To inspire students around the world to undertake independent research and analysis of the case for nuclear disarmament.
2. To encourage students to participate in open debate and discussion of disarmament issues and what is required to create a nuclear weapons-free world.
3. To bring to the attention of the international community, particularly the nuclear weapons states, the case for nuclear disarmament, as articulated by students.

Visit www.disarmamenthub.org for full details.



"What do you think can lead governments to stay away from, or do away with, nuclear weapons?"



Students around the world are invited to respond to the above question by participating in one of the following three activities:

- Write an essay of 1500 words
- Produce a 2 minute video interview
- Design a poster

The students who submit the best essays, videos and posters will be awarded an airfare and accommodation to attend the *Students for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World Conference* chaired by Hans Blix, to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, in the summer of 2008.

It's easy to participate.

For full details of how to enter, simply go to:

www.disarmamenthub.org

