



Basel Peace Office

*Advancing international peace and security through
the abolition of nuclear weapons*

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2012/13 Report of the President

The BPO was inaugurated on November 16th, 2012 in a ceremony held in the major Aula of the University of Basel. Even before that date the BPO director, Mr. Alyn Ware (AW) has personally made efforts to collect funds for its operations by organising the [Basel Peace Run](#). The following list outlines the more important activities being organized by the BPO and its director.

1. Events in Basel

- a. Nov 16/17 [BPO Inauguration](#) Univ. of Basel including public discussion (including [Universal Models for Peace](#) and representatives of the ATOM Project) and [International Symposium on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons](#).
- b. Feb 5, 2013: BPO promotion and fundraising reception.
- c. Apr 20, Roundtable discussion with Tad Akiba, former Mayor of Hiroshima, Chair of the Middle Powers Initiative MPI.
- d. May 24/25, [Seminar on Peace and Sport](#) with World class runner Wilson Kipketer, speaking out on the power of sport to overcome conflicts, including [workshop using sport and games](#) to advance conflict resolution and peace.
- e. Jul, Launch of [Open the door to a Nuclear Weapons Free World](#) project.
- f. Aug 14, „[Open the door](#)“ filming with OEWG (open ended working group) president Amb. Dengo.

2. Events organised by Basel Peace Office

- a. Aug 23 - Sept 2, 2012. Astana. [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament \(PNND\) Assembly](#) with over 100 parliamentarians and nearly 100 disarmament experts and launch of the ATOM Project.
- b. Oct 10, New York City. [Framework Forum conference](#) hosted by German Mission to the UN.
- c. Oct 24, Quebec City. [Launch of PNND / IPU \(Interparliamentary Union\) Hand- book](#)
- d. February 20-22, 2013. [Berlin Framework Forum Conference](#)
- e. Mar 1, Oslo. Conference on humanitarian consequences [Training program for youth to engage their representatives](#)
- f. Mar 4, Oslo, Norwegian Parliament. [Seminar on humanitarian consequences](#)
- g. Mar 6, [European Parliament conference on Global Zero](#). plus MEP written declaration project.
- h. Mar 26, Quito. [Launch of spanish edition of PNND/IPU handbook](#)
- i. Apr 5, Prague. [Launch of NATO Parliamentarians letter to President Obama on Prague Vision](#)
- j. Apr 9, Geneva. [Launch of 2nd Edition of Nuclear Abolition Forum: Moving beyond nuclear deterrence to a Nuclear Weapons Free World](#)
- k. Apr 16-19, Edinburgh. [Abolition 2000 Annual Assembly](#)
- l. May 3, Geneva. UN [Panel at the NPT Prep Comm Conference on Engaging Legislators in Building the Framework for a Nuclear Weapons Free World](#).
- m. May 21, Geneva. UN [Nuclear Weapons Convention Seminar](#)

- n. May 23, Geneva. UN Panel of the OEWSG on the Role of Parliamentarians, see [Opening the door to a nuclear-weapons-free world: UN Open Ended Working Group off to a positive start!](#)
- o. Jul 3, 2013. Istanbul. See [OSCE Parliamentary Assembly resolution on nuclear disarmament](#).
- p. Aug 24, Geneva. [Framework Forum conference](#)
- q. Sept 25, New York City. UN [Launch of Religions for Peace Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide](#).
- r. Oct 8, Geneva. [Panel at the IPU on achievement of a nuclear weapons free world](#)

3. Events in which Basel Peace Office played a key role

The director of the BPO, also in his capacity as Global Coordinator of PNND, has furthermore attended numerous Peace and Disarmament conferences, mostly as key note speaker (Mannheim, Aug 12-18; 2012, Delhi; Aug 19-21. Dubrovnik; Sept 14-17; Helsinki, Dec 14 see [Basel Peace Office launches archive to support a Middle East Zone free of Nuclear Weapons and other WMD](#); Fribourg, March 14-17 2013; Copenhagen, April 3/4; Munich, April 26; Ottawa, May 28-30; Geneva, June 5; Seoul, June 17-20; Bonn, Sept 1/2; Geneva, Sept 3; Prague, Sept 4 – 8.

The funding situation of the BPO, which initially had to be considered difficult, has meanwhile been alleviated somewhat, due to an agreement between swisspeace and the BPO. Shortly a 2nd agreement is being planned between swisspeace and the Canton of Basel. Both agreements are being facilitated by the Director of swisspeace and BPO board member, Prof. Dr. Laurent Goetschel, which is greatly appreciated.- We furthermore regret the leaving of Christoph Pilger, who has served as assistant to the BPO director until the end of September 2013, and we are grateful for the contributions he has made in the context of establishing the appropriate legal conditions for the BPO. We furthermore thank Prof. Ueli Mäder for hosting the office of the BPO in his premises.

Andreas Nidecker, President BPO

Basel, October 29th, 2013