



## WAMM CAMPAIGN TO BAN ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly voted overwhelmingly in Oct 2016 towards “..taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament [treaty] negotiations [in 2017] for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons...” Treaty negotiations to ban all nuclear weapons will begin in March 2017 – and hopefully will be finalized by the end of 2017. So far, 127 nations support the ban on nuclear weapons. WAMM supports both national and international groups such as the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). We believe that the time to Ban All Nuclear Weapons is NOW!!!

Our goals include –

- 2,000 postcards sent to each senator by August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017
- To have one MN U.S. Senator and three MN U.S. House member to PUBLICLY support the UN Ban on Nuclear Weapons
- Gather over 5,000 signatures on our petition – to be sent to all federal reps. of MN
- Organize round-table discussions on nuclear weapons: church groups, community organization, interested parties
- Educate 5,000 Minnesotans about the real threat of nuclear war
- To have both mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul issue a statement of support for the ban on nuclear weapons

### WHAT YOU CAN DO?

- Sign our petition
- Write a letter to the editor of your paper
- Sign a post card
- Join our End War committee to coordinate meeting with our state reps
- Organize a round-table OR host a round-table with your group
- Join our End War Committee to coordinate meetings with our cities Mayors
- Educate yourself and others about the costs of nuclear war

See Back Side for Fact Sheet!

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**NUCLEAR WEAPONS FACT SHEET**

- 1. There is no treaty that outright bans nuclear arms – a category of “weapons of mass destruction” (WMDs). However, there are four (4) international treaties that outlaw all arsenals for the following categories of WMDs:** 1) Chemical weapons, 2) Biological & toxin weapons, 3) Anti-personnel [“land”] mines and 4) Cluster bombs.
- 2. Current stockpiles of nuclear weapons held by the world's "nuclear states".** Ploughshares estimates: A total of over 15,000 nuclear arms were in the world in 2016 - held by the 9 nuclear states (Russia, USA, France, China, United Kingdom, Pakistan, India, Israel & N. Korea) – with Russia and the USA combined holding over 90% of them.
- 3. Treaties that have greatly reduced nuclear weapons stockpiles over the last 30-40 years (& continue to do so)** - primarily in the U.S. and the Soviet Union / Russia. Furthermore, the current nuclear arms reduction treaty requires further decreases in these stockpiles for all nuclear states. *However, detonating just a few warheads can still destroy the world – perhaps many times over.*
- 4. Current treaty to prevent the spread / proliferation of nuclear warheads.** The Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty or “NPT”, whose goals are to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons & its technology to non-nuclear countries. India, Israel and Pakistan are the only 3 known nuclear states that have not signed & ratified the NPT.
- 5. Implementing the "Iran Nuclear Deal"** between Iran and the "P5+1" group of world powers (the US, United Kingdom, France, China and Russia plus Germany). Crippling economic sanctions on Iran have been lifted now that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has certified that Iran has restricted its nuclear activities to peaceful purposes only. The Obama White House said the deal will prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. If President Trump’s vow to remove the US from this agreement becomes a reality – it is not certain what will happen to the pact. It could continue to move forward - without any leverage by the US. *Note: It could also result that the deal is dead and that Iran resumes its nuclear weapons program, which may further destabilize the Mideast region.*
- 6. Small ("tactical") nuclear bombs – intending to make their use in war more feasible.** The US is developing and testing a “precision-guided atom bomb” (a stripped-down version of conventional nuclear weapons) - designed for so-called targeted attacks. *Note: This deliberate policy to consider using tactical atomic bombs in war could trigger a new arms race. Additionally, using small nukes could provoke unintended – and unspeakable - consequences of deploying much larger conventional nuclear weapons – either intentionally or accidentally.*
- 7. The long-term (upwards of 30 years) program by the U.S. to modernize its nuclear weapons arsenal – at a cost of about one trillion dollars.** *Note: This expensive program signals military’s attraction, not aversion to nukes.*
- 8. The current U.S. protocols to A) Refuse to vow “no first use of nuclear weapons” and B) Continually maintain its nuclear missiles on "high alert"** - capable of launching on short notice. *Note: Both protocols promote the dangerous idea of nuclear “brinkmanship”, which offers very little time to correct an error in the event of a crisis.*
- 9. Statements during 2016 by Donald Trump - his calls for A) allowing nuclear weapons to proliferate to other countries (e.g., Japan, South Korea, Saudi Arabia) and B) expanding the nuclear arms race** (his tweets: "...the [U.S.] must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until...the world comes to its senses regarding nukes" and "Let it be an arms race. We will outmatch them at every pass and outlast them all."). *Note: Trump’s reckless statements alarmingly counter the deterrence goals of the NPT (point # 5) & the arms reduction treaties (point # 4).*