TOGETHER FIRST

A global system that works for all

Asia	Nobel Peace Prize Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons	Yes
technology		**Short**
Global catastrophic risks mitigated	**Risk multipliers managed**	**Implementation timeframe**

DETAILS

We are working to achieve the Entry into Force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

In 2020, ICAN and its partners around the world will work with like-minded governments to secure the 16 further ratifications needed for entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Achieving this goal in 2020 will be especially symbolic, as it is the 75th anniversary year of the founding of the United Nations and of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which claimed a quarter of a million lives.

We will work to achieve entry into force by engaging persistently with around 100 governments that we have assessed as most likely to ratify the treaty in the foreseeable future. These are principally the governments that have signed the treaty and/or voted in favour of its adoption in 2017.

Our activities will include:

• Meetings with government officials in capitals and ambassadors in New York and Geneva to stress the importance of prompt ratification.

• Outreach to other relevant stakeholders, including members of parliamentary foreign affairs committees that are charged with reviewing the treaty.

• The dissemination of technical papers and other briefing materials to assist governments with their ratification processes.

• The convening of workshops to build regional support and momentum for entry into force and to enhance the capacity of our campaigners.

• Advocacy in the margins of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review conference in April and May in New York.

• A major campaign for ratifications in August around the anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

• The convening of a high-level ceremony at UN headquarters in September 2020 for further signatures and ratifications.

• Online meetings for campaigners to coordinate outreach and enhance their understanding of the technical requirements of signature and ratification.

• A social media campaign to count down the number of ratifications needed for entry into force.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Overview:

On 7 July 2017 – following a decade of advocacy by ICAN, like-minded governments and its partners – an overwhelming majority of the world's nations adopted a landmark global agreement to ban nuclear weapons, known officially as the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It will enter into legal force once 50 nations have signed and ratified it.

Prior to the treaty's adoption, nuclear weapons were the only weapons of mass destruction not subject to a

consequences. The new agreement fills a significant gap in international law.

It prohibits nations from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, transferring, possessing, stockpiling, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, or allowing nuclear weapons to be stationed on their territory. It also prohibits them from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in any of these activities.

Further countries can join the treaty in the future. Article 8 provides for the withdrawal of a party from the treaty. Article 9 addresses the accession of nuclear-armed states that may join the treaty as long as they agree to destroy their nuclear weapons within a time-limited plan. Similarly, a nation that hosts another nation's nuclear weapons on its territory may join, so long as it agrees to remove them by a specified deadline.

Nations must also provide assistance to victims of the use or testing of nuclear weapons and to take measures for the remediation of contaminated environments. The preamble acknowledges the harm suffered as a result of the use of nuclear weapons, including the disproportionate impact on women and girls, and on indigenous peoples

The study models a scenario where Pakistan uses 150 nuclear weapons and India uses 100 weapons on urban targets, each detonating 15 kilotons of explosive power. It assumes that 5 Tg of soot would be generated and lofted into the upper troposphere, a conservative estimate, given that the cities would burn for days. The researchers found that the soot would remain in the upper troposphere for more than a decade because it would be self-lofted by heating of the surrounding gases. Average global temperatures would decrease by 1.25°C and remain at least 0.5°C below normal for more than 10 years, and cooling of 2-3°C would persist for more than 25 years. Moreover, precipitation would decrease by 15 to 30% globally, with even more severe regional variations: while the US Midwest would receive 30% less precipitation, central China would receive 40% more. Declines in sunlight and precipitation would severely disrupt net primary production, and thereby the entire global food chain. Two billion people would be at risk of famine.

The treaty was negotiated at the United Nations headquarters in New York in March, June and July 2017, with the participation of more than 135 nations as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and representatives of civil society. It was adopted on 7 July 2017 and opened for signature on 20 September 2017. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons seeks to bolster this international norm by establishing a comprehensive prohibition of nuclear weapons.

Article 6 it explicitly requires that states-parties help to remediate land contaminated by nuclear weapons use and testing.

Please see our Campaigner Guide to TPNW Signature and Ratification for more information on how campaigners can help their governments to join the treaty :

https://www.icanw.org/campaigner_guide_to_tpnw_signature_and_ratification.

Full text of the treaty: https://www.icanw.org/full_text_of_the_treaty

- Outreach to other relevant stakeholders, including members of parliamentary foreign affairs committees that are charged with reviewing the treaty.
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