



# US-India Deal Working Group

Dear friends,

As many of you know, at the Annual General Meeting, in Vienna on 5 May 2007, Abolition 2000 made a decision to launch a year-long campaign against the US-India nuclear deal.

We made two important decisions:

1. To distribute a Briefing Paper<sup>1</sup> to diplomats at the NPT PrepCom, arguing that the deal violates the NPT.
2. To establish a new US-India Deal working group within the Abolition 2000 network.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to join the working group and encourage you to get involved in this campaign and lobby your government about this deal.

The US-India deal

In 2005, the US and India agreed on the terms of a deal to change US laws that, since India's 1974 nuclear test using plutonium separated with technical assistance provided under the U.S. Atoms for Peace program, have blocked the export of nuclear technology and fuel to states that are not Parties to the Nonproliferation Treaty. These laws are almost three decades old and sought to prevent states that are not parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty from using commercial imports of nuclear technology and fuel to aid their nuclear weapons ambitions. In December 2006, US President George W. Bush signed legislation that exempts India from such conditions.

A report for the International Panel on Fissile Materials (an independent group of nuclear experts from 15 countries) has shown that the US-India nuclear deal could allow India to significantly increase its stock of nuclear weapons materials (see article by Zia Mian, M.V. Ramana, Frank von Hippel, "Feeding potential for South Asia's nuclear fire"<sup>2</sup>). Pakistan has already expressed its fears about the deal and warned of increasing its own stock of nuclear weapons material.

Abolition 2000 is very concerned about the implications of this deal for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

- The deal violates the NPT (see analysis in Abolition 2000 Briefing Paper<sup>1</sup>).
- The deal violates a unanimous 1998 UN Security Council Resolution calling on India and Pakistan "immediately to stop their nuclear weapon development programs, to refrain from weaponization or from the deployment of nuclear weapons, to cease development of ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons and any further production of fissile material for nuclear weapons." The Resolution also "encourages all States to prevent the export of equipment, materials or technology that could in any way assist programs in India or Pakistan for nuclear weapons."
- By permitting nuclear trade with India, which developed nuclear weapons outside the framework of the Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and which has made no commitment to abandoning its nuclear weapons, the deal sends precisely the wrong message to countries which might be thinking of developing nuclear weapons themselves. Such countries will conclude that they will not be denied the privileges of nuclear trade for long.
- The three other countries which remain outside the NPT - Pakistan, Israel and North Korea - will expect the same treatment as India. Israel and Pakistan have already asked for this.
- The deal puts no pressure on the five officially recognized nuclear weapons states to give up their nuclear weapons. Rather, it effectively recognizes India as a sixth nuclear weapon state.

It is not too late to stop the deal

To bring the U.S.-India deal into force requires a decision by the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) of countries. Since the Group works by consensus, each of the 45 NSG members must agree to change its rules and allow nuclear sales to India.

NSG members are: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

These countries must decide if they want to go along with a deal that may make money for their nuclear technology companies but would also bolster India's nuclear weapons capabilities and push Pakistan to build up its nuclear arsenal. If NSG countries are not satisfied with the deal, they can prevent its implementation.

Some governments have already expressed their concern. The New Agenda Coalition countries (Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden) made a statement at the May 2007 NPT PrepCom indicating they consider the deal to be a contradiction of the NPT (see attached excerpt from NAC statement<sup>3</sup>).

#### Call to action

Groups in the US<sup>4</sup> and India<sup>5</sup> have been campaigning vigorously against the deal for some time. Groups in several other countries are also active, but it is time to broaden the campaign.

*We call on Abolition 2000 groups in NSG countries to educate themselves and lobby their governments about the dangerous implications of the US-India nuclear deal.*

*We call on all groups to speak out against the deal and urge their governments to oppose it.*

If the United States and India conclude a formal agreement for nuclear cooperation in the next few weeks, the NSG may be asked to change its rules to accommodate India as soon as its autumn 2007 meeting, so we urge groups to take action as soon as possible.

Useful fora for governments to express their concerns about the deal will be:

- i. the (fall) 2007 UN General Assembly in New York;
- ii. the 2008 NPT Preparatory conference, since the deal undermines the NPT and prospects for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Because of its wide membership, including members in countries on all continents, the Abolition 2000 network has the potential to play an important role in ensuring that the US-India deal is fully debated in all the appropriate fora. The working group hopes to act as a focal point for this campaign, so we encourage you to keep us informed of your activities.

If you are interested in joining the working group, please contact the Abolition 2000 US-India Working Group Coordinator:

Philip White  
Citizens' Nuclear Information Center  
Akebonobashi Co-op 2F-B, 8-5 Sumiyoshi-cho,  
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 162-0065, Japan  
Tel: 03-3357-3800 Fax: 03-3357-3801 Email: [cnic@nifty.com](mailto:cnic@nifty.com)

**Philip White, Working Group Coordinator**  
**Anthony Salloum, on behalf of Abolition 2000 Secretariat, Steven Staples (Rideau Institute)**

The working group's web site is as follows:

<http://cnic.jp/english/topics/plutonium/proliferation/usindia.html>

Abolition 2000 also has a site which contains basic information on the working group at:

[http://www.abolition2000.org/site/preview.asp?cid={23F7F2AE-CC10-4D6F-9BF8-09CF86F1AB46}&key=7dKJIVNuEnG&staging=2&go=http://www.abolition2000.org/site/lookup.asp?c=cdJIKKNpFqG\\*-b=2750893](http://www.abolition2000.org/site/preview.asp?cid={23F7F2AE-CC10-4D6F-9BF8-09CF86F1AB46}&key=7dKJIVNuEnG&staging=2&go=http://www.abolition2000.org/site/lookup.asp?c=cdJIKKNpFqG*-b=2750893)

### **Helpful References....**

1. Abolition 2000 Briefing Paper distributed to diplomats at the May 2007 NPT PrepCom may be found at: <http://www.abolition2000.org/atf/cf/%7B23F7F2AE-CC10-4D6F-9BF8-09CF86F1AB46%7D/A2000.US.INDIA.DOC>
2. Paper by Zia Mian, A.H. Nayyar, R. Rajaraman, and M.V. Ramana available on the web site of the International Panel on Fissile Materials: [http://www.fissilematerials.org/ipfm/site\\_down/ipfmresearchreport01.pdf](http://www.fissilematerials.org/ipfm/site_down/ipfmresearchreport01.pdf)  
Op-ed article by Zia Mian, Frank von Hippel and M.V. Ramana: <http://www.asahi.com/english/Herald-asahi/TKY200703290073.html>
3. Excerpts from official statements at the May 2007 NPT PrepCom are pasted below.
4. The Arms Control Association has a valuable resource page on its web site: <http://www.armscontrol.org/projects/india/>
5. The Resolution of the "International Seminar on Indo-US Nuclear 'Deal' - India, South Asia, NAM and the Global Order", held in Mumbai on March 10-11, can be found at the following link: <http://publish.indymedia.org/en/2007/05/886061.shtml>

### **Excerpts from official statements at the May 2007 NPT PrepCom**

#### ***Switzerland (30 April 2007)***

"...the project of co-operation in the field of civilian nuclear energy between India and the USA will not be without consequences for the non-proliferation regime based on the NPT. If this project is carried out it will call into question the validity of the compromise which enabled a consensus to be found on the extension of the NPT at the 1995 Review Conference."

#### ***Japan (30 April 2007)***

"For the purpose of achieving the universality of the NPT, Japan reiterates its calls for India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States."

#### ***Ireland (on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition) (1 May 2007)***

"While the NPT's membership now comprises almost the entire international community, the Treaty has not achieved universality despite its entry into force 37 years ago. This remains a source of concern to the New Agenda Coalition. The Coalition has consistently called upon all States Parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the NPT, and urges India, Israel and Pakistan, which are not yet Parties to the Treaty, to accede to it as non-nuclear weapon-States promptly and without conditions."

#### ***New Agenda Coalition (1 May 2007)***

From working paper submitted by Ireland on behalf of Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden as members of the New Agenda Coalition (1 May 2007)

"14. Considering that universality is highlighted in Decision II of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference as an essential element in achieving international peace and security and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, it is imperative that concrete steps are taken towards achieving this pivotal goal in order to fully realize both the declared objectives of the Treaty and the commitments made by the States Parties to the Treaty as part of the consensus package of decisions and resolutions achieved at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference.

15. The New Agenda Coalition calls upon all States Parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the NPT, and in that regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan, which are not yet Parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without any conditions.

16. The New Agenda Coalition recalls that, at the Review Conference in 2000, States Parties reaffirmed the unanimous agreement at the Review and Extension Conference in 1995 not to enter into new nuclear supply arrangements with parties that did not accept IAEA full-scope safeguards on their nuclear facilities."

#### ***Malaysia (1 May 2007)***

"Malaysia is of the view that such cases whereby a non-party is accorded preferential treatment in comparison to States Parties, constitutes a gross violation of the spirit and letter of the Treaty....Malaysia is also concerned that access by certain States not party to the NPT to nuclear materials, technology and know-how that could be diverted to the development of nuclear weapons, is being facilitated by certain nuclear weapon States. In this regard, if States Parties are serious in achieving the goal of universalising the Treaty, they would join Malaysia in calling for a total and complete prohibition on the transfer of all nuclear related materials, resources, assistance and cooperation in nuclear scientific or technological fields to States non-parties to the Treaty, without exception."

#### ***United Arab Emirates (1 May 2007)***

"...our main priority should be to enhance our deliberations in this meeting by focusing on six main axes, which will contribute towards making gradual scientific progress towards nuclear disarmament..."

5- Taking more effective measures to ensure accession of States that are not party to the Treaty to do so in order to strengthen the universality and effectiveness of the Treaty."