

June 12, 1987
**First Meeting of PPNN Core Group, 12-14th June
1987**

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Summary:

Outline and minutes from the first meeting of the PPNN Core Group, including list of participants, agenda, purpose, activities and structure.

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PPNN-REP.1

FIRST MEETING OF PPNN CORE GROUP
12-14TH JUNE 1987

1. The Core Group of the Programme for Promoting Nuclear Non-Proliferation held its first meeting at St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands, from 12-14 June 1987. The participants in the meeting are listed in the annex. The following is a summary report on the proceedings of the meeting's four sessions. This is intended as an 'aide memoire' for participants and a means to give members unable to attend a general idea of what transpired at the meeting. The report has not been formally adopted or agreed to by the participants. It records conclusions reached and does not pretend to attribute any particular opinions to individual participants. It is meant for distribution only to participants in Core Group meetings, members unable to attend and funding organisations.

2. Objectives and purposes of the Group

The Core Group agreed to formulate within its terms of reference specific approaches to best meet the general purpose of the Programme, ie, to sustain and reinforce the non-proliferation system, of which the NPT is the central element, to facilitate a successful NPT Review Conference in 1990 and Extension Conference in 1995, and, where possible, to expand its coverage and increase its effectiveness. The Group agreed that, to this end, it should try to define the problems that will be faced by the 1990 Review Conference and examine methods of alleviating them; provide an element of continuity and act as a source of collective historical memory for the NPT system; draw into its work a younger generation of scholars and practitioners; and reach out in appropriate ways to such further constituencies as can help promote its purposes.

3. The PPNN Network and Newsletter

The networking activity of the Core Group would involve a three-fold interchange, viz.

- i) receiving contributions from the respective environments of its members;
- ii) conveying input from the Group into those environments through the members;
- iii) conducting exchanges with other bodies engaged in related work,

Specific activities would include:

- a. Enhancing the flow of information on relevant matters to Core Group members by either having their names placed on circulation lists of organisations such as the IAEA or

acting as a mail box to circulate copies of published information.

b. Acting as a clearing house for information, ideas, explanations and analyses originating among members of the Core Group. One possible mechanism would be the circulation among the Group of letters to Sanders/Simpson. Another would be the consolidation of such letters in an edited form and circulation of the resulting document as a private newsbrief. Some of these communications would originate with Core Group members, others would be stimulated by requests for information and opinions from Sanders/Simpson.

c. Holding a reporting session during each Core Group meeting at which members could offer their views on the most significant NPT related developments that they believe have occurred since they last met.

d. Consolidating information from the above levels and other commissioned and contributed material into a newsletter with a much wider circulation.

e. Encouraging production and distribution of longer analyses of relevant issues through op ed commentaries, occasional papers and journal articles.

It was agreed that between the first and second meetings of the Core Group there should be a trial production of an informal newsbrief and its circulation among Core Group members. This would report on the work of non-governmental groups in related areas; would highlight topical developments of interest to the project, include copies of press cuttings on relevant issues, made available by members of the Group and would draw attention to publications or articles having a bearing on the project's work. Its frequency would be dictated by the availability of suitable material. The eventual form, scope, audience and other parameters of this newsbrief would be further discussed at the next meeting. It would have to include a disclaimer indicating that members supplying items did not necessarily associate themselves with the substance thereof.

4. Data Base

The group agreed on the need for a data base linked to the network and the newsbrief. It was emphasised that this should be selective in its coverage and should concentrate on :

- i) creating a registry/inventory on other research programmes and projects in the field;
- ii) building up a registry/inventory of sources of information on non-proliferation related issues;
- iii) seeking access to existing and future data bases through reciprocal agreements with them;

- iv) collecting information on specific issues, particularly those relevant to the 1990 Review Conference, if a clear requirement can be identified for this at a future date.

The newsbrief would be used to carry the latest information from the data base.

The group also agreed that one of its functions would be to consolidate, articulate and communicate to others the collectivity of historical experience it possessed in areas such as the history of the IAEA, the negotiation of the NPT, the organisation of NPT Review Conferences and the principal points of vulnerability of the NPT system. It was emphasised that this process was not to be conducted for its own sake, but to ensure the strengthening of the NPT system. A major means of performing these tasks would be through carefully organised and structured conference activity.

5. Outreach Activities

The group identified four possible targets for such activities:

- i) public opinion and the world at large;
- ii) opinion makers, including the media;
- iii) policy makers;
- iv) other groups engaged in research into non-proliferation.

It was agreed that the group's targets should in be groups ii) and iii), while group iv) would be covered by the networking activity. The need to target university students and industry was discussed, but more particularly the crucial importance of identifying and contacting the key actors in the 1990 Review conference. The importance of rapid action over this latter group was emphasised in view of the approach in 1988 of the establishment of the 1990 Preparatory Committee.

Discussion took place on the forums within which these actors could be contacted and particular emphasis was placed on the use of meetings of regional organisations such as OPANAL, Rarotonga and ASEAN, as well as industrial fora such as the Uranium Institute. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of holding a press conference to publicise the programme and distribute information on the Group at the next General Conference of the IAEA, to be held from 21 September 1987.

6. Conferences

The Group had a lengthy discussion about the purpose, timing

and subject matter of the two conferences foreseen in the programme description. It was agreed that the first one could most profitably be held in the period April/May 1989. This would serve in the first place to reach, to the extent possible, those involved in the preparations for the fourth NPT review conference and others who might be instrumental in awakening interest in the topic among media, NGOs and the universities. The substance of this conference would be the broad issues likely to be encountered in the Review Conference, drawing on previous experiences and practices. A maximum of about thirty participants would be involved, in addition to the members of the Core Group. Proposals were also made for the attendance of some observers and for splitting the conference if necessary into several sub-groups. A preliminary proposal for the programme will be presented to the November Core Group meeting. It was noted that the increase in participation over the number originally envisaged in the programme document would necessitate an increase in the budget.

It was decided to postpone definitive decisions on the second conference to a later date. The view was expressed that this conference might be held shortly before the review conference and serve as a 'dress rehearsal' for it.

7. Other Activities

The Group explored a number of other activities, including

- (i) making it known that members of the Group would be available for lecturing and other public information activities;
- (ii) promoting the establishment of national groups to support the Programme; and
- (iii) supporting selected research proposals.

8. Composition of the Core Group

It was agreed to retain the existing composition of the Group but that it would be highly desirable to attempt to include a member from Black Africa within it. Efforts would continue to be made to find suitable candidates. It was also agreed that a substitute Japanese member should be sought if Ambassador Imai proved not to be available. Ambassador Yatebe was suggested as a possible candidate. Rather than expanding the membership further, persons whose expertise was required would be invited to attend part of Core Group meetings on an ad hoc basis, but that any special invitee should currently be actively involved in his/her area of expertise.

9. Structure of Core Group Meetings

Future meetings of the Core Group would consist of closed sessions attended solely by Core Group members and other sessions with invited speakers. The presentations by non-members of the

Core Group would in principle take place at the second and/or third session of a Group meeting and be preceded as well as followed by a working session attended only by the regular members of the Group. Time would be allocated at these working sessions to statements from members on their involvement in studies, meetings and publications in areas related to the work of the Group. Statements of this nature were made to the meeting by Fischer, Goldblat, Pilat, Simpson and Smart.

10. Second meeting of the Core Group, November 1987

It was reported that tentative arrangements have been made by the programme directors to hold the second meeting at Charlottesville, Virginia from 6-9 November 1987. Several members indicated that they had prior commitments during this period, and that the weekend of 19-22 November would be more convenient. Attempts will therefore be made to switch to this later date.

It was agreed that the programme for this second meeting might be as follows:

- (i) Thursday 19 - travel to Charlottesville;
- (ii) Friday 20 am - First session limited to Core Group;
- (iii) Friday 20 pm - Second session with invited speakers;
- (iv) Saturday 21 am - Third session with invited speakers;
- (v) Sunday 22 am - Fourth session limited to Core Group.

It was agreed that this second meeting of the Core Group would examine regional issues. This examination might include presentations on the Tlatelolco Treaty by John Redick and the Rarotonga Treaty by Ambassador Richard Butler of Australia. Leonard Spector might be asked to speak about the India/Pakistan situation, while William Potter and David Fischer could discuss the findings of the recent study on newly emerging suppliers. In addition, Lawrence Scheinman would be asked to speak about developments at the General Conference of the IAEA and particularly the potential impact of actions affecting Israel and South Africa.

11. Further meetings of the Core Group.

It was agreed that there would be at least five further meetings of the Core Group, some of which might be held in association with conferences. They would probably be in March/April and October/November of each year. To facilitate a systematic approach towards the topics to be covered, the programme directors would suggest central themes for each individual meeting. Attempts would be made to identify gaps in coverage and expertise of Core Group members and people with specific knowledge in these areas would be invited to address the Group.

Among other subjects which it was suggested should be tackled by the Group at future meetings were Article VI arms control questions, including a Comprehensive Test Ban; the issue of new emerging suppliers and nuclear trade; changes in technology and the fuel cycle and their impact upon non-proliferation policies; and controls over trade in delivery vehicles.

12. Budget

An updated budget was presented to the Group. This reflected the reduction in the value of the United States dollar against sterling. The result is that there exists a shortfall of \$130,000 on a very lean budget. It is to be expected that further falls in the value of the dollar will aggravate this situation. It was suggested that more funders be sought urgently and that donors should be asked to transfer funds early so that benefits could be obtained through interest payments. In addition ways should be sought to hedge against inflation and loss of value. One specific suggestion was that an attempt should be made to persuade individual foundations to fund each of the conferences. It was also agreed that the venue of meetings and conferences might be adjusted as appropriate to take cost considerations into account. One method of doing this could be to encourage governments to provide facilities for meetings.

PPNN/CG-1

Programme for Promoting Nuclear Non-Proliferation

PARTICIPANTS IN CORE GROUP MEETING No.1
St. Helier, Jersey, 12-14 June 1987

Mr. D.A.V. Fischer, Cambridge, UK
Mr. Jozef Goldblat, Stockholm, Sweden
Amb. Oleg Grinevsky, Moscow, USSR
Dr. Harald Muller, Frankfurt, FRG
Amb. Jorge Morelli Pando (Peru), Vienna, Austria
Dr. Joseph Pilat, Washington and Los Alamos, USA
Dr. Walter Rehak, Berlin, GDR
Mr. Ben Sanders (Netherlands) New York, USA
Dr. Lawrence Scheinman (USA), Vienna, Austria
Mr. Ian Smart, Tetbury and Richmond, UK
Amb. Mohamed Shaker (Egypt), Vienna, Austria
Dr. John Simpson, Southampton, UK