

Cross-Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament (AGM)

13 Dec 2023 and 1.00pm

Minute

Present

MSPs: Bill Kidd, Richard Leonard, Mercedes Villalba, Ross Greer

Non-MSP Group Members

Chris White (Bill Kidd MSP's office) Margaret Ferguson Burns (Secure Scotland) Bill Ramsey (Peace Education Scotland) Seonaid Stewart (Peace & Justice) Janet Fenton (ICAN Scottish Liaison, Sec Scottish CND)

Apologies

MSPs:

Katy Clark, Ruth Maguire, James Dornan, Bob Doris, Rona McKay, Gillian McKay, Maggie Chapman

Non-MSP civil society members who sent apologies

Lynn Jamieson (Scottish CND) Aine Beattie (WILPF Scottish Branch) Fiona McOwan Gari Donn (UN House Scotland and UNA Scotland) David Mackenzie (Trident Ploughshares and Nukewatch) Guy Johnstone (MEDACT Carol Acutt (Soka Gakkai UK) Tony Wilkes (Quakers in Scotland) Marianne Pallister (PAX Scotland) Anne-Marie Clements (Justice and Peace Scotland)

Agenda item 1 Welcome

Bill Kidd Msp welcomed everyone to the meeting

Agenda item 2 Adoption of minutes, election of officers and membership

2.1 The minutes of the last AGM were adopted and the purpose CPG iwas restated

To provide a platform for MSPs to engage with a range of organisations seeking to address nuclear issues in Scotland and to act as a forum for the challenges and opportunities in Scotland arising from the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

2.2 Appointment of officers:

Convenor Bill Kidd MSP Proposed by Richard Leonard, seconded by Mercedes Villalba

Deputy Convenor Ross Greer MSP Proposed by Janet Fenton, seconded by Seonaid Stewart

Secretary Janet Fenton (Scottish Liaison ICAN) Proposed by Margaret Ferguson Burns, seconded by Bill Kidd

2.3 MSP members were identified as:

Bill Kidd (Convenor) SNP

Ross Greer (Vice Convenor) Greens

Katy Clark Scottish Labour

Maggie Chapman Greens

Richard Leonard Scottish Labour

Mercedes Villalba Scottish Labour

Ruth Maguire SNP

James Dornan SNP

Bob Doris SNP

Rona McKay SNP

Gillian McKay Greens

2.4 Civil Society organisational members:

Scottish CND (including SNP CND, Scottish Greens CND Network)

WILPF Scottish Branch

UN House Scotland

UNA Scotland

Trident Ploughshares

Peace and Justice Scotland

Nukewatch

MEDACT

Soka Gakkai UK

ICAN (Scotland)

Secure Scotland

Trident Ploughshares

Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA)

Quakers in Scotland

PAX Scotland

Justice and Peace Scotland

Agenda item 3 Review of activities since the last AGM

The following meetings and events were noted:

25th Jan 2023 Meeting with special guest, Tuva Widskjold (Coordinator ICAN Norway) [Minute of meeting held 25 January 2023](#) is posted on the CPG page on the website

1st March 2023 – Bill Kidd MSP invited some MSPs to a closed door Parliamentary Round Table meeting with Senator Tom Clonan from Ireland, who was visiting Edinburgh as a guest of CPG member Secure Scotland. This was attended by several CPG members, including Bill Kidd and Maggie Chapman

8 – 11 March 2023 Oslo Bill Kidd MSP, Group Secretary Janet Fenton and a delegation of civil society representatives attended the ICAN Forum in Norway. Bill Kidd MSP participated in a Parliamentarians gathering hosted by the Norwegian Parliament

13 June 2023 special guest Clare Duncanson spoke on Nuclear Weapons in context of Scotland's approach to Feminist Foreign Policy [Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2023](#) is posted on the CPG page on the website

Between 1st and 11th August 2023 Bill Kidd MSP, Group Secretary Janet Fenton and a delegation of civil society representatives attended the UN Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee in Vienna

26 Sep 2023 Special guests Sharon Dolev and Kiyaei from the Middle East Treaty Organisation – the minute is attached.

12 October 2023 Members of the CPG including Bill Kidd MSP, Maggie Chapman MSP and Ross Greer met representatives of Keep Space for Peace and Scottish CND outside Parliament for a vigil to protest spaceports in Scotland and commemorate nuclear testing on the Marshall Islands

2nd November 2023 The CPG welcomed a visit to Parliament by Melissa Parke, new Executive Director of ICAN, Melissa Parke had a private meeting with International Development Minister Christina McKelvie and was welcomed by her to the Parliament during Bill Kidd MSP's members motion debate.

4th November 2023 Bill Kidd MSP and several other MSP and civil society members of the CPG participated in Scottish CND's Festival For Survival in Glasgow

26 Nov – 1 December 2023 Bill Kidd MSP, Group Secretary Janet Fenton and a delegation of civil society representatives attended the UN Treaty on The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Second Meeting of States Parties in New York, participating in several side events at the Conference

13 December 2023 AGM – minute attached.

Richard Leonard MSP offered congratulations to Convenor Bill Kidd for keeping Nuclear Disarmament in Parliamentary business and it was suggested that relevant **Parliamentary motions submitted be added to the review** Action in parliament generated through the CPG includes the following

Thursday, 23 November 2023 S6M-11395 submitted by Bill Kidd MSP Global Day of Action Against Nuclear Weapons

Thursday, 09 November 2023 S6M-11007 submitte by Maggie Chapman MSP Russia and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Tuesday, 03 October 2023 S6M-10712 submitted by Bill Kidd MSP, Nuclear-free Europe taken in the chamber on **2 November 2023**

Tuesday, 26 September 2023 S6M-10610 submitted by Bill Kidd MSP, International Day for Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Thursday, 07 September 2023, S6M-10297 submitted by Maggie Chapman MSP, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Tuesday, 08 August 2023 S6M-10094 submitted by Bill Kidd MSP, 78th Anniversary of Atomic Bombing of Nagasaki

Tuesday, 24 January 2023 S6M-07610 submitted by Bill Kidd MSP, Second Anniversary of the TPNW's Entry into Force at the United Nations

Ongoing CPG concerns include advocating for the TPNW and nuclear-weapons-free zones, sharing the voices of Hibakusha and other affected persons and communities, and continuing to monitor and report activities relating to civil contingency and risks concerning nuclear weapons convoys in Scotland