



UNFOLD ZERO intervention to the UN Open Ended Working Group on Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations

Friday August 5, 2016
Delivered by Caroline Leroy

Thank you Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to present,

On behalf of UNFOLD ZERO, I would like to propose the following remarks on paragraphs 18 and 25:

Paragraph 18

When mentioning the urgent and necessary actions by all States leading to a world without nuclear weapons, civil society should be also mentioned for the impacts on civilians that nuclear weapons cause. Therefore, we recommend an amendment to add the words “and civil society” after the text “action by all States”.

Paragraph 25 bis

We recommend the addition of a paragraph after p. 25 acknowledging the role of civil society in the general exchange of views. We propose the following text:

Civil society representatives participating in the OEWG also contributed to the exchange of views, demonstrating strong support of civil society around the world for action on measures to reduce nuclear risks, increase awareness of the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, and achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world through multilateral negotiations.

UNFOLD ZERO has been actively engaging civil society in the OEWG. Most recently we launched Chain Reaction 2016, starting on July 8th, the 20th anniversary of the historic decision of the International Court of Justice on nuclear weapons, and running until October when the UN General Assembly meets.

This weekend, for example, there are actions around the world to commemorate the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, including the Appeal from Hiroshima for a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons.

More information is found in the Chain Reaction 2016 leaflet and the appeal from Hiroshima copies of which are on the documents table at the back of the room.

UNFOLD ZERO is a platform for United Nations (UN) focused initiatives and actions for the achievement of a nuclear weapons free world. **UNFOLD ZERO** aims to unfold the path to zero nuclear weapons through effective steps and measures facilitated by the UN General Assembly, UN Security Council, UN Secretary-General and other UN bodies. **UNFOLD ZERO** is a project of PragueVision, PNND, Basel Peace Office, Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign, Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace and Global Security Institute