

World Peace Council

let's strengthen the peoples'
struggle for peace



**against imperialist
wars and exploitation**

WORLD PEACE ASSEMBLY & CONFERENCE



Kathmandu, Nepal
July 20-23, 2012



Nepal Peace & Solidarity Council (NPSC)

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Outcome and Documents of the World Peace Council Assembly Kathmandu, 20-23 July 2012



World Peace Council
10 Othonos St.
10557 Athens, Greece
info@wpc-in.org
www.wpc-in.org
Tel:+30-2103316326
Fax:+30-2103224302

President:
Socorro Gómez
*Brazilian Center
of Solidarity to
the Peoples and
Struggle for Peace
- CEBRAPAZ*

General Secretary:
Athanasios Pafilis
*Greek Committee
for International
Peace and Detente
- EEDYE.*

Executive Secretary:
Iraklis Tsavdaridis
*Greek Committee
for International
Peace and Detente
- EEDYE.*

Organization Members of the Secretariat:

- » MOVPAZ Cuba
- » CPPC Portugal
- » CYPRUS PEACE COUNCIL
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- » NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL of Syria
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- » JAPAN PEACE COMMITTEE
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Who we are

The WORLD PEACE COUNCIL (WPC) is an anti-imperialist, democratic, independent and non-aligned international movement of mass action. It is an integral part of the world peace movement and acts in cooperation with other international and national movements. The WPC is the largest International Peace structure, based in more than 100 countries.

Since its creation in 1949-50, the WPC stood for peace, disarmament and global security; for national independence, economic and social justice and development, for protection of the environment, human rights and cultural heritage; solidarity with and support of those peoples and liberation movements fighting for the independence, sovereignty and integrity of their countries, and against imperialism.

The WPC has consistently adhered to the main principles and objectives laid down by its founders and is inspired by the UN charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

As an NGO member of the United Nations, the WPC cooperates with UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, ILO and other UN specialized agencies, special committees and departments; with the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) as official observer, the African Union, the League of Arab States and other inter-governmental bodies.

The WPC initiates and cooperates in actions to eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and to reduce conventional arms. It also acts in particular for the dissolution of military blocks and pacts; the dismantling of all military bases and the withdrawal of foreign troops; for social and economic development, the establishment of a new international economic order, a just solution of the problem of foreign debt; for the recognition of every nation's freedom of choice; for the establishment of a new international information and communication order; in support of the liberation movements; for the settlement of regional conflicts on the basis of respect for the rights of the peoples to self-determination.

Title

In its activities and structures, the WPC pursues the goal of equal participation of men and women.

The WPC believes that the solution of global security problems is possible by enlarging the popular movement and raising the level of public awareness for the causes that generate war and misery to the peoples.

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

The guiding principles of and objectives of the Peace Council are:

- Against Imperialist wars and occupation of sovereign countries and nations
- Prohibition of all weapons of mass destruction and ending of the arms drive; abolition of foreign military bases; total and universal disarmament under effective international control;
- Elimination of all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination;
- Respect for the right of the peoples to sovereignty and independence, essential for the establishment of peace;
- Respect of the territorial integrity of states;
- Non-interference in the internal affairs of nations;
- Establishment of mutually beneficial trade and cultural relations based on friendship and mutual respect;
- Peaceful co-existence between states with different political systems;
- Negotiations instead of use of force in the settlement of differences between nations.

Struggles for National Sovereignty

The World Peace Council has initiated and participated in the many struggles for freedom and self-determination, against Imperialism and its mechanisms:

- The World Peace Council initiated the campaign to free Nelson Mandela from Robben Island and end the barbaric Apartheid system in South Africa. During Apartheid, we demanded that the U.S. and South Africa end aid to counterrevolutionaries who tried to overthrow legitimate

governments in Angola and Mozambique. The WPC supported the independence struggle of Namibia.

- We have organized many protest demonstrations against U.S. interventions in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Colombia and invasions of Grenada and Panama.
- We stand for a just and viable, two-state solution in the Israel-Palestine conflict, with an independent State of Palestine within the borders of 1967 and with East Jerusalem as its capital and the withdrawal of all occupation forces from all Arab lands.
- We have been in the first line of the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people in the bloody war of the USA and on the side of the Vietnamese people against the French colonial occupation. The WPC stands firm in solidarity with the victims of “Agent Orange” and demands the compensation of victims and their families
- We stood firmly and organized broad based protests against the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia in 1999
- We have opposed both Gulf Wars and the war on Afghanistan. We call for an end to the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan, express our solidarity to the people resisting occupation for their right to determine their own future.
- We condemn vehemently the blockade against Cuba and demand an end to the US interventions in the internal affairs of Cuba and the release of the Five political prisoners from US jails.
- We stood up clearly during the Coup d’etat in 2002 in Venezuela and insist that the U.S. government and other Imperialists stop their attempts to overthrow the legitimate government of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela.
- We are active part of the struggle against all Foreign Military Bases in the world
- We denounced and opposed the militarization of the European Union and the “Lisbon Treaty”
- We stood up against NATO and its 60 years of crimes against humanity in dozens of countries and in Strasbourg during its summit 2009

- We demand the total abolition of all Nuclear Weapons and the global disarmament.
- We actively organized and participated in the anti-NATO activities in Lisbon(2010) and Chicago (2012) during the respective NATO Summits
- We opposed the Aggression of NATO against Libya in 2011 and the ongoing threats and imperialist interference against Syria and Iran recently

The last Assembly of the WPC took place in July 2012 in Kathmandu, Nepal with more than 120 delegates participated in it. We organized attached to the Assembly a broad World Peace Conference, in which many national and international delegates/participants from Nepal and the whole world participated. Dozens of personalities and intellectuals, representatives from Peace Movements, Youth and Students Organisations, Trade Unions, Women organisations etc., attended the World Peace

Conference along with local delegates from the Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council which hosted the Assembly and Conference. The Head office of the Organisation is situated since the year 2000 in Athens. The elected Secretariat of the WPC in July 2012 is as follows:

- **President:** (Brazilian Center for the Solidarity with the peoples and the struggle for Peace CEBRAPAZ) Socorro Gomes, former MP and State minister
- **General Secretary:** (Greek Committee for International Détente and Peace EEDYE) Athanasios Pafilis, Member of the Greek Parliament
- **Executive Secretary:** (Greek Committee for International Détente and Peace EEDYE) Iraklis Tsavdaridis
- **Additional Organisations from Japan, USA, Nepal, Cuba, Portugal, Cyprus, Congo, India, Palestine, Syria, South Africa**

Speech by NPSC Coordinator Com. Rabindra Adhikari on Inaugural Ceremony of the World Peace Assembly and World Peace Conference - 20 July 2012

Comrade Chairperson



Chief guest former prime minister comrade Madhav Kumar Nepal

Distinguished Guests senior leaders of Nepalese political parties and

world peace movement

Distinguished delegates and invitees of our program and friends

Let me proudly welcome you all in this grand opening ceremony of the World Peace Assembly and Conference with all enthusiasm to strengthen the struggle

for peace and heighten the peoples' struggle against imperialist war and exploitation.

Distinguished delegates, guests and friends

Today, the world has been grappled by wars of imperialists' forces with the interest to exploit oil resources, capture strategic geopolitical position of the various geographic regions and to establish a unipolar imperialism directed world order which is and will ultimately result in suffering, deprivation, disaster for the

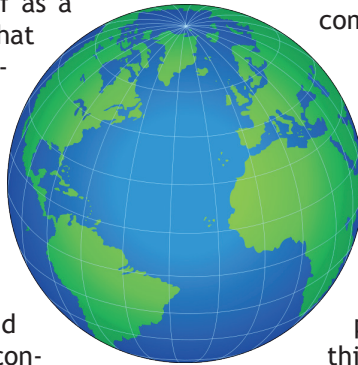
people with the opening of an unending war against all by few.

In last decades despite of global struggle for the peace and aspiration to establish harmony among religions, races, regions and global population, growth of military expenses has gone significantly higher, number of countries spending on arsenal and suffering of internal conflict has increased with severity. Currently more than 1.5 billion population is living a life in conflict and war affected countries and other many millions are living a life in threat of war and conflict.

The World Peace Assembly and Conference would prove itself as a significant global event that highlights the major underlining cause of war, which is imperialists' exploitation and militarization capturing of resourceful countries' sovereignty. I am very much confident that leaders and campaigners for a just and global peace through this conference would be able to come up with several conclusions and find out ways ahead on coping with financial crisis and the imperialists imposed war; further it will also encourage the people lead peace initiatives.

We the Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council is very much pleased and feels proud to host this conference in Nepal for it's own political significance and potentiality for global peace message.

Friends, Nepal has been portrayed in global political map for it's own initiated peace process and ups and down in the road. The peace conference will also observe the peace process in Nepal and would share views from the global peace campaigners.



Distinguished guests and friends,

We had also planned to celebrate this inauguration ceremony for the promulgation of new constitution of Nepal together with global peace movement. With recent political development we have not been able to do that, yet we are again proud to share that we have not lost our hope and limited our struggle. Let me share the positive spirit of people of Nepal that has continued the hopes for new constitution and a successive peace process with independent and protected sovereignty, harmony and unity among the population from more than one hundred diverse communities.

Friends and Guests, We all are aware that peace is not just an end of war, neither peace can be achieved with militarized struggle, we are also confirmed that democracy, peace and peoples' rights are evolving things inside the state itself with it's own sovereignty and thus rejects foreign invasion with vested interest. The imperialism in today's world with increasing it's own military bases, production, trade, supply and arsenal of nuclear weapons and encouraging use of war and weapons have threatened the world peace. Therefore it is very important for global community to understand the causes of deprivation, causes of exclusion and intention of war lead exploitation. The World Peace Assembly and Conference would serve the global peoples' struggle for peace and against wars ad exploitation, once again let me welcome you all and wish you best for the success of this conference along with your pleasing stay in Nepal.

Thank you!

Political Declaration of the Assembly of the World Peace Council

The 2012 Assembly of the World Peace Council held from July 20-23 in Kathmandu and hosted by the Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council concluded with the adoption of the following Political Declaration:

The World Peace Council salutes the people of Nepal and all peace-loving forces in the country. We express our solidarity with the struggle to establish the New Democratic Republic of Nepal where the Nepali people, following the abolition of the monarchy, will become the masters of their fortunes.

Since the last WPC Assembly, held in Caracas, in 2008, several international events have shaped the central issues in the struggle for peace. Despite imperialism's dominance, it faces an intensifying conflict with its victims - the peoples of the world who are struggling against exploitation, for social justice and peace, for sovereignty and the right to determine their own future. At the same time

antagonism between different imperialist centres is growing, as they each manoeuvre to increase their spheres of influence and control over resources, and also of these with the so-called emerging economies.

Our struggle can be only successful if it aims at the causes of suffering for hundreds of millions, at the causes of wars and occupation, and at new threats to peace and security. To fight for peace, we must fight against imperialism.

The deepening capitalist economic crisis, first felt in the US in 2008, has rapidly expanded through Europe and is reverberating throughout the world. The response from imperialism and anti-people governments has been to impose barbaric austerity measures and attack hard won labour and social rights. Their objective is to increase exploitation,

dismantle and privatize public services, and minimize the social role of the state. The result is worsening living conditions for the majority of the population, deepening inequality and social injustice, and reduced democracy, as it is happening, for example, in EU.

Alongside these attacks is a growing ideological campaign whose objective is to rewrite history, confuse the population and weaken resistance. This offensive includes the anti-communist campaigns in Europe, the recognition of fascist groups in the Baltic States, and the strengthening of fascist organizations in the attack on people's movements - searching to erase fascism's responsibility in increasing militarism and in beginning World War II.

Despite the economic crisis, military spending continues to increase. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, global military spending rose by 50% between 2001 and 2010. This is led by the US, whose 2011 military budget of 700 billion dollars was the highest in its history and half of all global military spending. The combined military expenditures of NATO member countries constitute 72% of the world's whole.

Imperialism increases its aggressiveness against the peoples around the world

Imperialism is becoming increasingly aggressive, threatening peace and sovereignty, and moving to reassign markets and redraw borders to plunder natural resources. The US, NATO, EU and other imperialist forces are seeking new instruments and pretexts for aggression. Among these are so called "responsibility to protect", plans for "democratization" of the Middle East and other regions, heightened use of subversive

action, and recruitment of mercenaries to carry out crimes against humanity. This strategy includes blatant violation of international law and the UN Charter, distortion of the UN to make it an instrument for aggression, and massive manipulation of the media. The WPC condemns both those who initiate and carry out expansionist wars, and calls upon others not to remain silent in the face of crimes against humanity such as occurred in Libya under UNSC Resolution 1973.

Regions like the Middle East, Central Asia, Africa, the Mediterranean and Latin America, are targeted by imperialism for their abundant natural resources and strategic importance. Interference, aggression, war and occupation continue, with actions in the Balkans, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa.

We call upon all peace loving forces to confront the growing danger of religious fundamentalism and forms of sectarian politics in the Middle East, Asia and throughout the world. This danger has a new dimension, as it is being utilized by imperialism to promote destabilization and interference and weaken the united struggle of the people.

Israel remains imperialism's spearhead in the Middle East, pursuing a policy of hostility and aggression in the region. It continues its occupation of the Golan Heights in Syria and the Sheba Farms in Lebanon. Israel has one of the biggest nuclear weapons forces in the world, yet it uses the claim of Iran's nuclear program to justify repeated threats, sanctions and a debilitating economic embargo. Its objective, in conjunction with the US and other imperialist forces, is to provoke Iran's economic collapse and facilitate military intervention. The WPC expresses our solidarity with the people of Iran, in their complex struggle



to achieve peace, democracy and social progress, and we categorically oppose external threats and sanctions.

In Palestine, with the support of the US and EU, Israel continues its policies of occupation, expansion of settlements, the wall of separation and checkpoints, arbitrary arrests and selective assassinations. These policies together constitute a slow genocide before the eyes of the world.

We reaffirm our support and solidarity with the Palestinian people, for ending the occupation and for an independent Palestinian State within the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. Furthermore, we demand the right to return for Palestinian refugees, based on UNGA Resolution 194, and the release of all Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails.

At the time of our Assembly, the most immediate target of imperialist aggression is Syria. Operating with the political, military and financial support of the US, leading EU countries, Turkey and some willing Arab monarchies, the self appointed "Free Syria Army" has carried out acts of subversion and sabotage

against Syria. It is the sole right of the Syrian people to determine their future and leadership, free from foreign interference. We support the just demand of the Syrian people for peaceful political, economic, social and democratic change, and we denounce all foreign efforts to intervene and undermine Syria's national sovereignty. From this Assembly, we urgently call on all progressive and peace-loving forces to express their solidarity with the Syrian people.

Inter-imperialist rivalries are intensifying in the energy-rich eastern Mediterranean, where a large multinational military machine has gathered. These developments seriously threaten peace and security for the people of the region. The WPC reiterates our condemnation of the 38-year Turkish occupation of Cyprus. We demand the full demilitarization of the island, including the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops and closure of all foreign bases, and the reunification of Cyprus. We support a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation, with political equality as described in the relevant UN resolutions.

In central Asia, the US is trying exit its



disastrous military presence in Afghanistan, while maintaining its extensive network of military bases. It continues to grossly violate the sovereignty of Pakistan, carrying out criminal bombings using drone aircraft.

The US has declared it will deploy 60 percent of its naval force in the Asia Pacific region, through its “pivot to Asia.” Alongside this, it is developing strategic alliances with several countries in the region. These include US-led joint military and naval exercises, increased US military aid to certain countries, and US military deployment to Australia which is expected to reach 5000 US troops by 2015. All of this is aimed at expanding US military presence and exploitation of resources in a region that is a centre of world economic development. This is a grave threat to stability, security and peace in the region - the struggle for peace in the Asia Pacific has become a priority in the struggle for peace in the world.

On the Korean Peninsula, the DPRK continues to be threatened by US military bases and nuclear warheads. Repeated joint military exercises by the US, Japan

and South Korea serve to escalate tension. The WPC supports the Korean people’s struggle against imperialist plans, for independence and sovereignty, for demilitarization and nuclear disarmament, and for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The peoples of the Asia Pacific region continue to suffer from past US aggressions - the continuing effects of Agent Orange used against the people of Vietnam, the thousands of unexploded bombs in Laos, and the ongoing damage from the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The WPC demands that the perpetrators of these war crimes assume full responsibility. The struggle against the development and use of weapons of mass destruction is a key element in the global struggle for peace.

In Africa, brutal exploitation by multinational corporations continues with the full military support of the US and EU. Millions of people live in misery and thousands die every day due to hunger, lack of medicine, and contaminated water. Imperialist forces pursue their long-standing policy of divide and rule by direct intervention, and also indirectly

by fostering divisions and civil clashes.

Poverty, instability and insecurity are made worse by high levels of corruption in a number of African governments (similar to other continents), and also by tragedies like the 2011 food crisis which threatened the lives of 13 million people in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. These conditions are also causes of war and conflict.

We denounce the reactivation of the US Africa Command (AFRICOM), through which US imperialism seeks to deepen and expand its military presence and operations on the continent. The recent US-led aggression against Libya - with the full support of the powerful EU and NATO countries - had clear imperialist aims. The resulting instability in Libya has caused multiple problems for neighbouring countries.

We condemn the illegal occupation of Western Sahara by the Kingdom of Morocco and reaffirm our solidarity with the just struggle of the Saharawi people, for their inalienable right to self determination under a free and democratic referendum.

Many Latin American nations, inspired by the Cuban Revolution, have produced progressive social, economic and political achievements that have improved the living conditions of the poor and working people. The WPC supports these developments, which reflect the peoples' long



struggles for empowerment and control of their destiny.

Several governments in Latin America are now committed to democracy, social progress, regional economic integration, national sovereignty and peace. US imperialism, in league with reactionary forces in the region, is threatening anti-imperialist governments with particular pressure on socialist Cuba and Venezuela. It is also trying to subvert progressive governments in Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia. The WPC condemns the recent coups in Honduras and Paraguay. We affirm our solidarity with the Paraguayan resistance and the struggle for restoration of the democratically elected president, Fernando Lugo. We repeat our condemnation of the US blockade of Cuba and demand the release from the US of the Cuban Five political prisoners. We also denounce State terrorism in Colombia and express our solidarity with the Colombian people in their struggle for a political solution to the conflict in their country.

NATO: enemy of peace and the peoples.

NATO, the largest military organization in the world, is imperialism's key military instrument. At the Lisbon Summit in November 2010, NATO adopted a new strategic concept that expanded its area of operation to a global scale. The



Lisbon Summit also marked the deepening coalition of the EU with NATO, and restated NATO a pillar of defence for the European Union.

At its Chicago Summit in May 2012, NATO reaffirmed that nuclear weapons, particularly through the US nuclear arsenal, are a core component of its military capabilities. It also declared its commitment to nuclear first strike, to expanding its nuclear sharing program, and to the US antimissile system in Europe.

The dissolution of NATO is a priority demand for the WPC, as is the right of each people to struggle within each NATO member state for withdrawal from the criminal alliance.

Military bases: imperialism's tentacles around the world

Other military instruments of imperialism are its foreign bases, scattered around the world, and its naval fleets present in all the seas and oceans. These aim to control natural resources and trade, and are a threat of aggression and interference against peoples and nations. The struggle to eliminate foreign military bases is part of the indivisible struggle for peace and against imperialism.

Holding our Assembly in Asia, we express our solidarity to the peoples of Japan, Philippines, and Korea who are struggling for the removal of the US military bases in their countries.

We also condemn the drive by NATO and imperialist countries to militarize the Arctic region, and we support efforts toward an international treaty creating a demilitarized Arctic zone of peace.

Reaffirming the Stockholm Appeal and the ban on nuclear weapons

While imperialist countries speak about

nuclear non-proliferation they continue to develop, test and stockpile their own nuclear arsenals. They use the NPT as a tool to interfere with countries who are developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Imperialist countries are developing new aspects of nuclear weapons proliferation, particularly through "tactical" or "smart" nuclear weapons and multinational and drone-based delivery systems.

We reaffirm, the historical document of the WPC, the "Stockholm Appeal", which in the 1950's mobilised hundreds of millions of people around the world in the struggle to ban nuclear weapons and to declare their use a crime against humanity. We repeat our demand for such a ban, and we support the international signature campaign, "Appeal for a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons".

The WPC expresses solidarity with the people of Japan who are suffering the grave consequences of the nuclear accident of Fukushima. We support the demand of peace-loving forces in Japan to shut down all nuclear power plants, which were installed in the framework of the US nuclear strategy under the US-Japan Security Treaty.

Strengthen the WPC for a new wave of struggles against imperialism and in defence of peace

Imperialism's increased aggression against the peoples of the world puts humanity at serious risk. Today, more than ever, we need to intensify our anti-imperialist and solidarity actions and strengthen WPC member movements in each country. This way, we can confront and defeat our main enemy.

To meet this challenge, and place our movement at the forefront of the global struggle for peace, we must build a

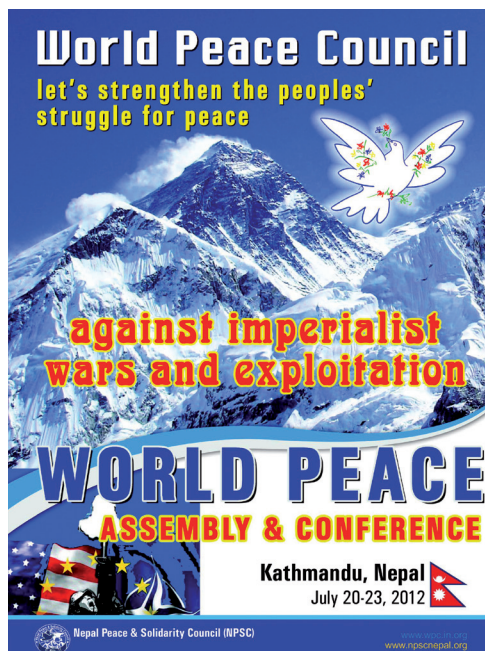
broad anti-imperialist front for peace. We much connect our peace agenda with all progressive struggles - for decent jobs and wages, against commercialization of culture and education, for a safe and secure environment.

We highlight some priorities for the WPC's anti-imperialist struggle for peace in the present period:

The struggle against all imperialist wars, aggression and provocation

- The struggle against foreign military bases, for the dissolution of NATO and for right of each people to withdrawal in each NATO member state
- The struggle against revived fascism and the rewriting of peoples peace and anti imperialist struggle history
- Solidarity with the just struggles of peoples around the world, for peace and the right to determine their own future.
- The elimination of all nuclear weapons around the world
- The end of all types of foreign occupation, support for peoples sovereignty, and the rights of Indigenous Peoples
- To denounce violations of the United Nations Charter and of international law, the instrumentalization and abuse of the UN
- Solidarity with workers, progressive youth, poor farmers and all people all over the world who are struggling against barbaric attacks on their rights and achievements imposed by imperialism and anti-people governments

WPC will strive to divulge the work and conclusions of its Assembly held in Nepal, namely on September 21st, the International Day of Peace. |





Special Resolutions ***adopted at the WPC Assembly*** ***- on 22nd July 2012 -***

Resolution in solidarity with the people of Palestine

The Assembly of the World Peace Council, held in Kathmandu/Nepal reaffirms its solidarity with the struggle of Palestinian people for their just cause and for the end of the occupation of the Palestinian lands.

The delegates of the Assembly condemn the Israeli policy - backed by the USA and with the complicity of the EU - of continuing the occupation, building settlements, the separation wall, demolishing housing, invasions and arresting Palestinians, as well as continuing the unjust blockade of Gaza strip and holding thousands of Palestinians in Israeli jails.

The WPC supports demands to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories, to establish an independent Palestinian state within the borders of June 4th 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital, and to resolve the issue of

Palestinian refugees on the basis of the resolution 194 of UN. The WPC demands the immediate release of the Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails.

The WPC also supports the Palestinian demand for the admission of Palestine as a full member of the UN.

Resolution of the WPC on the Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs) still kill people in Laos

Parallel with the Vietnam War, the USA waged an undeclared war in Laos in the 1960s and 1970s. Three million tons of bombs were dropped on the Lao territory. At that time, the population of Laos was three million, which makes Laos the most heavily bombed country, per capita, in history. From two airfields in Thailand, fleets of B-52s took off daily for bombing missions on Laos, amounting to a total of some 580 000 missions over Laos.

Upon return from these missions, since planes cannot land with bombs on board, remaining bombs were dropped at random on Lao territory. 30% of the cluster munitions failed to detonate, so out of the 270 million “bombies” dropped, 80 million unexploded ordnances (UXOs) remain in Laos after the war.

Over 50,000 people have been killed or injured as a result of UXO accidents in the period between 1964 and 2008. Specialists say it will take centuries to rid Laos of UXOs.

The World Peace Council expresses solidarity with and support to the victims of unexploded ordnances in Laos. We demand that the United States assume responsibility and provide just compensation to the Lao people.

Resolution of the WPC assembly on Iran

The WPC expresses its categorical rejection of the imperialist plans of the USA, EU and NATO to attack Iran under any pretext, with particular regard to the nuclear program of that country.

The people of Iran are solely responsible to decide upon the future and the leadership of that country without any political and military interference.

The WPC expresses its solidarity with all progressive and peace-loving forces in Iran that are committed to the struggle for peace and are resisting imperialism. The Assembly expresses its militant solidarity with the working people of Iran in their complex struggle for peace, social progress and a decent life, and in addition expresses its support for the struggle for their democratic and people's rights.

We reject the harsh economic sanctions against Iran, which only victimize the people of Iran.

We call upon the peoples of the world to be vigilant about the war plans of imperialism in the coming period.

Resolution on solidarity with the victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam

Considering the Resolution passed in on October 24, 2009 by the Executive Committee of the World Peace Council, declaring August 10 as the Day of Solidarity with the Vietnamese victims of Agent Orange/dioxin, and calling upon all World Peace Council members and the entire world peace movement to undertake initiatives in support of their struggle for justice;

Recalling the strong appeal and commitment of the Second International Conference of Victims of Agent Orange held in Hanoi on August 8-9, /2012, and signed by the World Peace Council President, to build greater solidarity and intensify international efforts to support victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam;

Recognizing that the victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam are still subject to injustice as a result of the actions of those perpetrators who still remain outside the law and who still have taken very little action to fulfill their responsibility to their victims;

Feeling great urgency to act immediately because many Agent Orange victims suffer daily torment and pain, and their lifetimes are coming to an end;

Emphasizing that the rights of victims of Agent Orange to life and peace - rights which are supported by international public opinion and, especially, that of the various human rights organizations and of the United Nations - have yet to be fully and effectively realized;

Now, therefore, the World Peace Council Congress hereby declares:

1. That all of humanity - all governments, organizations and individuals, whatever their social or political position - should take immediate, resolute and concrete action to support all victims of Agent Orange, particularly Vietnamese Agent Orange victims. In every country and region, those who believe in peace and justice should organize and develop specific programs for mobilizing material resources to help the victims and raise their voices in every way possible in support of the struggle of Vietnamese Agent Orange victims for justice.
2. That the responsibility of the United States government and chemical companies in solving the Agent Orange problem in Vietnam remains unfulfilled and that all of humanity must call upon those responsible for the suffering of the victims of Agent Orange to take responsibility and compensate their victims.
3. That we pledge to organize and activate members of the World Peace Council to implement the 2009 resolution of the Executive Committee in making August 10 a united and annual focus for concerted and ongoing activity to support the victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam, working together with all organizations and individuals to build a strong international movement which can finally, 51 years after the first use of Agent Orange in Vietnam, win justice for those who have suffered so much.

**Resolution of the WPC for
establishment
of a Nuclear-Free Zone
in the Middle East**

Whereas the international Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) calls for both liquidation of their nuclear weapons by

nuclear states and discouraging of non-nuclear states from obtaining or developing nuclear weapons;

Whereas, the United Nations General Assembly has called for the convening of a Conference in Helsinki, Finland in December, 2012 for the establishment of a Nuclear-Free Zone in the Middle East; and further

Whereas other regions of the world, including Latin America and Africa, have already been recognized as Nuclear-Free Zones; and further

Whereas the reported military build-up in the region by the United States is only increasing tensions in the Middle East, thus threatening peace and security of all nations in the region and the world; and further

Whereas, the establishment of a Middle East Nuclear Free Zone, under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency, would eliminate processing, refining, manufacturing and possession of ALL nuclear weapons in the Middle East; Therefore, the Assembly of the World Peace Council demands the abolition of all Nuclear weapons deployed in the Middle East and its recognition as Nuclear Free Zone along with our opposition to the imperialist war plans in the region whether through conventional or nuclear weapons arsenal, which are deployed on land or on war ships and planes.

**WPC Assembly resolution of
solidarity with
Socialist Cuba**

The Assembly of the World Peace Council, held in Kathmandu/Nepal reaffirms its profound solidarity with Socialist Cuba, its people and revolution.

The delegates of the Assembly condemn the criminal economical blockade imposed by the USA on Cuba, which is

aimed at punishing the Cuban people for defending their achievements and their sovereign right to decide their future.

The WPC supports demands for the release of the five Cuban political prisoners from the US jails, in which they are being held unjustly. We likewise denounce the “Common Position” of the European Union, which is aimed at interference in the domestic affairs of Cuba.

The Assembly of the WPC reiterates its denunciation of the USA for its military base in Guantanamo, on Cuban soil. We demand the closure of the concentration camp and the removal of the entire base.

WPC Resolution on Trial of International Crimes of 1971 in Bangladesh

The Assembly of the WPC, meeting in Kathmandu/Nepal, expresses its support to the trial of the war criminals of Bangladesh Liberation war of 1971. The WPC ardently desires to see the rapid conclusion of the trial and punishment of the perpetrators of genocide, murder, arson, rape, plunder, forced religious conversions and other international crimes against humanity, which took place during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971. The trial of the perpetrators of these criminal activities is proceeding now in Bangladesh in the International Crimes Tribunal, which has been constituted in full accordance with constitutional and legal process.

The WPC Assembly strongly condemns the conspiratorial attempts by imperialism, reactionary communal rulers of the Middle East and Pakistan, and fundamentalist terrorist forces, to bring about the miscarriage of justice and thwart due process law.

The Assembly expresses its solidarity with the people of Bangladesh in their efforts to complete the trial and punish the criminals who had murdered 3 million people and carried on other crimes against the people of their country in 1971.

Resolution Against Militarization of the Arctic

Whereas NATO and its member states are actively debating how to militarize the Arctic region, including discussing whether such militarization will be multilateral or unilateral, and how militarization will impact on the related drive to industrialize the Arctic;

Whereas NATO is enormously concerned that the melting icecaps are opening up increased opportunities for Russian military presence in Arctic waters;

Whereas militarization of the Arctic will increase global tensions and escalate the risk of war;

Whereas, the process of militarizing the Arctic means trampling the social, economic and political rights of the Indigenous people who live in the Arctic, and endangering the delicate and precious natural environment in the Arctic;

Whereas the drive to militarize the Arctic has marginalized the discussion of what is really needed - an international treaty that would make the Arctic an international zone of peace;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the World Peace Council condemn the drive by NATO and imperialist countries to militarize the Arctic region;

Therefore Be It Further Resolved That the World Peace Council support efforts toward an international treaty creating an Arctic zone of peace. |

Executive Committee WPC

(elected on 22nd July 2012 in Kathmandu)

(In bold letters the members of Secretariat, the regional coordinators underlined)

1.	<u>MOVPAZ Cuba</u>
2.	CEBRAPAZ Brazil
3.	PEACE COUNCIL USA
4.	MOPASSOL Argentina
5.	MOMPADE Mexico
6.	Canadian Peace Congress
7.	Union of Journalists for Peace Dominican Republic (UDPP)
8.	CONADESOPAZ of Panama
9.	COSI Venezuela
10.	<u>CPPC Portugal</u>
11.	EEDYE Greece
12.	Cyprus Peace Council
13.	Peace Council of Germany
14.	Peace Association of Turkey
15.	Czech Peace Movement
16.	CEDESPAZ Spain
17.	INTAL Belgium
18.	Movement de la Paix France
19.	Danish Peace Council
20.	<u>Palestinian Committee for Peace and Solidarity (PCPS)</u>
21.	National Peace Council of Syria (NPCS)
22.	Egyptian Peace Committee
23.	Jordanian Peace Council
24.	Association for the defense of Peace, Solidarity and Democracy Iran (ADPSD)
25.	Peace Committee of Israel

26.	<u>Congo Peace Committee</u>
27.	South African Peace Initiative
28.	Angolan League for the Friendship with the Peoples
29.	Senegal Peace Committee
30.	Peace Committee of DR Congo
31.	Peace Committee of Madagascar
32.	<u>All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation</u>
33.	Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council
34.	Japan Peace Committee
35.	Vietnam Peace Committee
36.	Union of Friendship and Peace of Mongolia
37.	Bangladesh Peace Council
38.	Korean National Peace Committee of DPR Korea
39.	Laos Peace and Solidarity Committee
40.	Philippines Peace and Solidarity Committee Council

The new 40 member Executive Committee elected on 22nd July at its first session as President the Brazilian Center for the Solidarity of the Peoples and the Struggle for Peace (CE-BRAPAZ) and as the General Secretary the Greek Committee for International Détente and Peace (EEDYE). The President of WPC is Mrs. **Socorro Gomes**, the General Secretary Mr. **Tha-nassis Pafilis** and the Executive Secretary Mr. **Iraklis Tsavdaridis**, coming from the host Organization of the head-office of the WPC.



World Peace Council



**let's strengthen
the peoples'
struggle for peace**

**against imperialist
wars and exploitation**



**WORLD PEACE
ASSEMBLY and CONFERENCE**

**Kathmandu/Nepal
July 20-23, 2012**



www.wpc-in.org wpc@otenet.gr