

2010 NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE—PANEL EVENT

GETTING TO A MIDDLE EAST NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE

Hosted by Daisy Alliance
Friday May 7, 2010, 10am-1pm
UN, NGO Room A, Temporary North Lawn Building

A Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ) in the Middle East was first proposed to the UN General Assembly in 1974, and similar resolutions have been adopted each subsequent year. This issue has played an important role in every Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference. A resolution in support of a Middle East NWFZ was adopted at the 1995 NPT Review Conference, which was one of the reasons it was agreed to extend the NPT indefinitely. While supported in principle, numerous regional challenges have prevented successful negotiations resulting in a treaty. This panel will discuss the current regional challenges to a Middle East NWFZ and provide policy recommendations and confidence and security building measures to encourage success at the 2010 NPT Review Conference. The panelists are:



Dr. Michael Yaffe

Dr. Michael Yaffe is a Professor of International Relations at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. Prior to this position, Dr. Yaffe was a career Foreign Affairs Officer in the U.S. Department of State, specializing in Middle East security and nuclear proliferation. From 1993-2001, Dr. Yaffe served on the U.S. delegation to the multilateral Arms Control and Regional Security Working Group of the Madrid Peace Process and as the senior advisor and a U.S. negotiator on Middle East issues at several NPT Review Conferences and Preparatory Committees.



Dr. Avner Cohen

Dr. Avner Cohen is a Public Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and a Senior Research Fellow with the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland. Dr. Cohen is an internationally recognized expert on non-proliferation issues and the author of *Israel and the Bomb* and forthcoming *The Worst-Kept Secret: Israel's Bargain with the Bomb*. Dr. Cohen was a Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace (1997-98 and 2007-08), working on nuclear proliferation in the Middle East and co-director of the Project on Nuclear Arms Control in the Middle East at the Security Studies Program at MIT (1990-1995).



Dr. Gawdat Bahgat

Dr. Gawdat Bahgat recently accepted the position of Professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. Prior to this position, Dr. Bahgat was the Director of the Center for Middle East Studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bahgat has authored numerous books and articles on nuclear proliferation in the Middle East, including his most recent book, *Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the Middle East*.



Daisy
Alliance

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Daisy Alliance is a nonpartisan grassroots peace organization that educates the public about the devastation that nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons are capable of inflicting and the threat they pose to civilization. We work to improve global peace and security by reducing the threat or use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and by promoting the rule of international law.