



Short Report on activities as IFOR's UN Representative in Vienna for 2009

(by Pete Hämmerle)

1. NGO Committee on Peace Vienna

My main activity is taking part in the meetings of the NGO Committee whenever possible. They take place about every 6 weeks, and I participated in the presentations of H.E. Dr. Jargalsaikhany Enkhsaikhan (Ambassador of Mongolia to Austria and the UN) on "Mongolia's Quest for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status" (28/01/2009), Andreas Zumach (Journalist, Geneva) on "An Escalating Global Arms Race and More Wars over Resources" (25/03/2009) and Bernardo Mariani (Saferworld) on "Towards an International Arms Trade Treaty – the Role of Civil Society" (17/06/2009). In the General meeting of the Committee on October 21, 2009, my status changed from "board member" to "auditor" for the period 2009 – 2011.

Additionally, the Committee writes letters, occasionally in regard to upcoming issues of peace and disarmament, e.g. to the U.S. Embassy in Vienna on the U.S. position concerning the Arms Trade Treaty (17/06/2009) and an appeal for the commemoration of August 8th as an Atomic Bomb Memorial Day (21/10/2009), which I signed on behalf of IFOR.

Two commemorative ceremonies were held at the Vienna International Centre on the occasion of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (August 7) and the International Day of Peace (September 21).

2. Other Activities

None in 2009, but in 2010 there are several to report on (ATT Conference February 2010, NPT).