

# URANIUM, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT



## Bamako / Mali

International Conference Centre  
(CIBC) and Maison de la Presse  
Bamako

Friday, March 16-  
Sunday, March 18  
2012

**A conference of the international association of medical doctors, IPPNW - International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in cooperation with ARACF - Association des Ressortissants et Amis de la Commune de Falea (Association of Inhabitants and Friends of the Municipality of Falea), Mali and uranium-network.org, Germany.**

**PSR/IPPNW**  
SWITZERLAND/SCHWEIZ/SUISSE/SVIZZERA



Physicians for Social Responsibility/International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War  
Ärztinnen und Ärzte für soziale Verantwortung zur Verhütung des Atomkrieges  
Médecins pour une responsabilité sociale/pour la prévention de la guerre nucléaire



uranium-network.org

**ARACF**

**In the past years, uranium companies have turned more and more towards Africa to explore and exploit uranium. Mali and other African countries are targeted. People on location, NGOs and governments, mostly are not well informed about the methods and impacts of uranium mining.**

**Uranium is the fuel for nuclear power plants - disturbing in the face of the Fukushima disaster; and it is a raw material for nuclear weapons - whose abolition is demanded on a global level. Uranium mining has a major impact on all areas of life - on health and reproduction, on the natural environment and the traditional way of life, on the land as a basic means of existence.**

**As medical doctors, we see it as part of our responsibility to provide people who are directly concerned, representatives of NGOs, political decision makers, medical doctors and scientists with comprehensive information about the exploitation of uranium, its impacts on health as well as on its environmental and socio-economic impacts.**

**We invite you to the conference „Uranium, Health and Environment“**

**for the organizing committee:**

**Günter Wippel, Many Camara, Andreas Nidecker**

**Günter Baitsch, Hannes Lammler**

# **Uranium, Health and Environment**

## **Program**

Conference: french/english/bambara with translation f/e/b

### **Friday March 16, 2012 – Morning session**

#### **9.00 h**

#### **Welcome and Opening of the Conference by**

- President of the Republic of Mali/a member of the Government (to be confirmed)
- Prof. Andreas NIDECKER, MD, Member of the International Board of IPPNW
- President of the Civil Society Conference
- Prof. Many CAMARA, ARACF - Association des Ressortissants et Amis de la Commune de Falea (Association of Inhabitants and Friends of the Municipality of Falea), Mali
- Representative of the University of Bamako

#### **9.30 h**

#### **A. URANIUM AND THE MINES**

Moderation: Prof. Many CAMARA, ARACF, Mali

#### **Keynote Speech: Uranium and Africa - A historical view**

Dr. Paul SAOKE, MD, IPPNW, Kenya

#### **1. Uranium, Mining, Tailings**

Günter WIPPEL, uranium-network.org, Germany  
(in cooperation with Peter DIEHL, WISE Uranium Project)

#### **2. Uranium and its Properties**

Bruno CHAREYRON, CRIIRAD Commission de Recherche et d'Information Indépendantes sur la Radioactivité (Independent Commission on Research and Information on Radioactivity), France; Engineer Nuclear Technology and Power

#### **11.00 h Coffee-break**

#### **3. Experiences with Uranium Mining**

- a) Representative from Niger
- b) Representative from Namibia  
Bertchen KOHRS, Chairperson Earthlife Namibia
- c) Representative of the Delegation from the US  
„Contemporary Developments in American Indian Uranium Policy“  
Esther YAZZIE-LEWIS, Linguistic Institute Program Director, USA

#### **13.00 h Lunch at the conference centre (CICB)**

**Friday, March 16, 2012 – Afternoon session**

**14.00 h**

**B. URANIUM, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**

Moderation: Bruno CHAREYRON, CRIIRAD, France

**4. Uranium Mining and Health - Impacts on Miners and the Public**

Dr. Dale DEWAR, MD, Physicians for Global Survival (IPPNW) Canada

**5. Uranium and its decay products - Radon, Radium and Thorium - Heavy Metal Toxicity**

Prof. Doug BRUGGE, PhD, Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts Medical School, Boston, USA

**6. Contribution from Niger**

N.N. (to be confirmed)

**7. Health Impact of Uranium Exploitation on the Population of Mounana**

Marc ONA ESSANGUI, Brainforest, Gabun

**17.00 h** **Film: "Uranium - l'héritage empoisonné" (Uranium - the poisonous heritage) by Dominique Hennequin**

**19.30 h** **An evening of celebration, location to be announced**

**Saturday March 17, 2012 - Morning session**

**9.30h**

**C. URANIUM – THE NUCLEAR CHAIN: ECONOMICAL ASPECTS, NUCLEAR POWER AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

Moderation: Dr. Paul SAOKE, IPPNW, Kenya

**Keynote Speech: Uranium as resource and socio-economic consequences / Uranium enrichment / Experience with Uranium Mining in the Dine territory of the Dine (Navajo), USA**

Prof. Doug BRUGGE, PhD, Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts Medical School, Boston, USA

**8. From Falea to Fukushima – the nuclear chain: A doctors perspective on nuclear energy**

Prof. Andreas NIDECKER, President of IPPNW Switzerland, Basel, Switzerland

**9. Uranium: the link to nuclear weapons and the need for nuclear abolition, the fight „at the other end“**

Arielle DENIS, Senior Campaigner - International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear weapons. ICAN office Europe, Middle East and Africa, Geneva, Switzerland

**10. Uranium – A finite resource: export chance for Mali ?**

N.N. Representative of Mali, Ministry of Mining or Ministry of Resources

**12.30 h** **Lunch at the conference centre (CICB)**

**Saturday March 17, 2012 – Afternoon session**

**14.00 h**

**D. URANIUM, MINING AND SOCIAL IMPACT**

Moderation: Günter WIPPEL, uranium-network.org, Germany

**11. Uranium – its impact on Civil Society**

David FIG, Honorary Research Associate, Environmental Evaluation Unit, University of Cape Town, South Africa

**12. Good Governance in regard to Resources and EITI - Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative**

Prof. Jürgen RUNGE, Institut for Physical Geography, University of Frankfurt, Germany (to be confirmed)

**13. Death, a lucrative business: Zambia's Suicidal Uranium Mining (plans)**

Dr. Robert MTONGA, IPPNW, Zambia

**14. Mining Companies in Tanzania - People, Civil Society and Government**

Tundu LISSU, Member of Parliament, Lawyer, Tanzania

**15.00 h**

**E. „CLOSURE“ – SESSION**

**Uranium and the Nuclear Chain - International Declarations and Resolutions**

The 2012 Yokohama Declaration  
Other declarations

**Final panel and discussion**

Günter Wippel. Many Camara, Andreas Nidecker, Tindu Lissu and other participants of the conference

**16.30 h** **Closing of the Conference**

**17.00h** **„YELLOWCAKE - The Dirt behind Uranium“ (Germany, 2010) and / or „The Death that Creeps from the Earth“ (The World Uranium Hearing 1992)**

## Sunday, March 18, 2012 - Morning session

9.30 h

### **African Uranium Alliance (AUA), IPPNW and others Future Projects - Open Discussion for Uranium Activists**

Reports from different countries as to Uranium exploitation

- Niger
- Namibia
- South Africa
- Gabon
- Tanzania
- Malawi
- Cameroon
- DR Congo
- others ...

12.30 h **Lunch break**

## Sunday March 18, 2012 - Afternoon session

14.00 h

### **Open Discussion**

Aspects:

- Which campaigns to educate the general public were successful?
- Which strategies have proven to be useful?
- Which difficulties emerged?
- How can we improve cooperation in the future?

16.30 h **Closure of the Meeting of African Uranium Alliance and IPPNW**

## **Registration**

**Deadline: March 2, 2012**

### **For Participants from Africa**

ASFA21, Abdoulaye Magassouba  
demagass@yahoo.fr  
Tel. 00223 70 70 59 09 or 00223 62 54 13 13

### **For participants from other parts of the world**

IPPNW - Office Switzerland, Claudia Bürgler  
e-mail: sekretariat@ipnw.ch

### **Fees**

The conference is free of charge for all participants.

For lunch on Friday and Saturday as well for the festive event on Friday evening, we kindly ask to contribute with € 10 each per person.  
(This includes softdrinks for the evening but no alcoholic beverages)

### **Accommodation**

#### **Speakers:**

Hotel Tamana, Bamako.  
Reservations by: Chamina Travel, Ms. Nathalie Farenzena, Bamako  
e-mail: chamina.travel@gmail.com

#### **For participants we suggest the following hotels: (please make your own reservation)**

Hotel Tamana, [www.hoteltamana.com](http://www.hoteltamana.com),  
starting at € 40.- / person / night, breakfast not included  
Transfer or Taxi to the conference venue is required

Hotel Mirabeau, [www.hotelmirabeau.net](http://www.hotelmirabeau.net)  
starting at € 60.- / person / night, breakfast included  
within 15 minutes walking distance from the congress venue

Hotel Mandé, [www.mandehotel.com](http://www.mandehotel.com)  
starting at € 60.- / person / night, breakfast and transfer from the airport included  
Transfer or Taxi to the conference venue is required

Hotel Azalai Salaam \*\*\*\*\*  
[www.azalahotels.com/hotel-salam/hotel-bamako.html](http://www.azalahotels.com/hotel-salam/hotel-bamako.html)  
starting at € 125.- / night for the room (1 or 2 persons) breakfast included  
within 5 minutes walking distance from the congress venue

In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.  
Transfers Hotel - Conference Center CICB will be arranged on place

## **Addresses**

### **Friday March 16/ Saturday March 17:**

Centre International de Conférence de Bamako  
(CICB, ancien palais des congrès)  
Quartier du fleuve, face au pont Fahd  
Bamako  
Mali

### **Sunday March 18:**

Maison de la Presse  
17 rue 619 Darsalam -  
Bamako  
Mali

## **entry Requirements**

Visa and a passport valid for at least 6 months after the date of travel  
Yellow Fever certificate of vaccination is required.  
Please check with your Foreign Ministry and the Embassy.