

BASIC Information Council

Visions for a New Century: Launch of new public conversation on nuclear disarmament

Event summary

February 1, 2010

Brian Eno, rock musician and artist, invited an eclectic collection of fellow musicians, artists, business people, senior politicians, officials, philanthropists, actors and writers to his London studio on the evening of February 1st to broaden support for nuclear disarmament.



L-R: Rt. Hon. Sir Menzies Campbell, MP; U.S. Under-Secretary of State Ellen Tauscher; Rt. Hon. Baroness Shirley Williams of Crosby; musician Brian Eno, BASIC Board Member; Rt. Hon. Des Browne, MP; Lord Geoffrey Howe of Aberavon; and former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn, Co-Chairman and CEO of the Nuclear Threat Initiative (Photo credit: Sophie Ziegler)

Guests included musician Peter Gabriel; philanthropist Vanessa Branson; film maker Stephen Frears, and writer Armando Ianucci. Specially invited US policymakers were Under-Secretary of State Ellen Tauscher and former Senator Sam Nunn (currently Co-Chair and CEO of the **Nuclear Threat Initiative**); UK politicians included Rt. Hon. Des Browne, MP (former Defence Secretary), Lord Howe, Baroness Shirley Williams and Sir Menzies Campbell, MP.



Trevor McCrisken, BASIC Chair; Peter Gabriel, musician; and Vanessa Branson, philanthropist (Photo credit: Sophie Ziegler)

Comedian Rory Bremner kicked off the evening with customary panache. He was followed to the podium by Brian Eno, Ellen Tauscher, Des Browne (convener of the **Top Level Group** of UK Parliamentarians for Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation), Ploughshares President Joseph Cirincione, BASIC Executive Director Paul Ingram and Baroness Williams (UK member of the **International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament**). All came to contribute to and hear impassioned calls for people across the social spectrum to get involved with the cause of global nuclear disarmament at a moment of great promise. A series of international opportunities are in the offing for 2010, but the message was clear —our leaders would be unable to follow through without clear public support.



Sir Menzies Campbell, MP and Rory Bremner, comedian (Photo credit: Sophie Ziegler)

Brian Eno, a board member of the British American Security Information Council, collaborated with BASIC and the U.S. **Ploughshares Fund** to host the event.



Brian Eno and Lord Howe (Photo credit: Sophie Ziegler)

British American Security Information Council

In the United Kingdom The Grayston Centre, 28 Charles Square London, N1 6HT +44-(0)207 324 4680 In the United States 110 Maryland Ave., NE, Suite 205 Washington, DC 20002 +1 202 546 8055

On the Web http://www.basicint.org