

End government support for military exports

To the House of Representatives

Every day, on average, global military expenditure is more than (US) \$3.2 billion, while close to 29,000 children under the age of five die from mainly preventable causes; including lack of access to clean water, food and basic health care. To provide clean water for 2.6 billion people and save an estimated 4,000 lives each day would cost just (US) \$7 billion - less than two and a half days of global military expenditure.

We, the undersigned, are appalled that the New Zealand government contributes to this deplorable situation by funding and promoting companies involved in military and weapons related production and export.

Taxpayers' money is used to support those companies through grants, tax breaks, and the costs of providing advice and export promotion by government departments and agencies (including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Economic Development, NZ Trade and Enterprise, Crown Research Institutes, and others). Any such use of public money is totally unacceptable to us.

We therefore demand an end to all government support for companies that produce and export:

- weapons or components for weapons systems or their guidance and control systems;
- communications equipment, or components for such systems, used by armed forces;
- military training equipment, including aircraft used for military training purposes, weapons and combat simulators, bomb scoring systems, and remote detonation systems;
- loading equipment, vehicles, vessels, or parts of these, for military use;
- ammunition, clothing, rations or any other supplies for armed forces;
- all other products and services for military purposes, including IT, management, consultancy, maintenance, and refurbishment of military equipment.

We also demand an end to government contracts with companies involved in the production or deployment of nuclear weapons overseas.

	Name	Address [optional]	Signature [essential]
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Supported by the following groups: Abolition 2000*, Anglican Pacifist Fellowship*, Arena, Auckland University Students Association, Centre For Peace Studies, Christian World Service*, Disarmament and Security Centre, GATT Watchdog, Global Peace and Justice Auckland, Indonesia Human Rights Committee, Pacific Centre for Participatory Democracy, Pax Christi*, Peace Foundation, Peace Movement Aotearoa, St. Andrew's Social Justice Group, South Pacific Christian Anarchists, Spend for Peace, Students for Justice in Palestine, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*. Additional copies of this form are available at www.converge.org.nz/pma/nowarp.htm or from No WARP! (Network Opposed to Weapons and Related Production) - all signatures collected for this petition must be on the front of this form, as the Office of the Clerk will not accept signatures submitted in any other way. Please consider making a donation to support No WARP!'s work, send your cheque payable to 'Peace Movement Aotearoa' with your name and address (for a receipt) to No WARP! c/o Peace Movement Aotearoa, PO Box 9314, Wellington 6141, thank you. Please return signed petition forms by 1 May 2009. [*Aotearoa New Zealand]