

PRESIDENT

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

Hanoi, 23 July 2014

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

TO THE 2014 WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST A&H BOMBS

I have the great honour, on behalf of the State and people of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and in my own name, to extend the warmest greetings and congratulations to all delegates of the 2014 World Conference against A&H Bombs.

Sixty nine years have elapsed since the day the residents of Hiroshima and Nagasaki fell victim to atomic weapons, the tragic consequences of which persist even until today. It reminds each and every of us of the threats to world peace and survival of mankind from nuclear and other forms of mass destruction weapons.

I take this opportunity to express the solidarity, friendship and deepest sympathy to all victims of nuclear and chemical weapons, and of wars and armed conflicts around the world.

I also greatly appreciate and deeply thank peace movements and forces for having supported the victims of the Agent Orange in Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people during the cause of national defence and development.

We are all aware that maintenance of world peace and security shapes the preconditions to build a brighter life for all. To that end, in addition to efforts to eliminate nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, we should also condemn and fight against the use or threat to use force and acts that violate the sovereignty and legitimate rights of nations. It is also critical for us to demand governments and states respect international law.

I am confident that the 2014 World Conference against A&H Bombs represents an opportunity for peace movements worldwide to join hands in building a world of peace and stability. The Conference also lays ground for the 2015 NPT Review Conference to discuss and define concrete measures to advance the three principal NPT goals, namely, nuclear disarmament, nonproliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Let us unite for a world without nuclear weapons, a world of peace and equality, and a world that will never witness victims of atomic bombings (Hibakusa) or victims of the Agent Orange.

Finally, may I wish you all the best and the Conference great success.

Respectfully,

TRUONG TAN SANG