

# 原水爆禁止2017年世界大会

## *2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs*

*Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 3-9, 2017*



Organizing Committee  
World Conference against A and H Bombs



# 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 3-9, 2017

*Main Theme:*

*Building with the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons -  
For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World*



Organizing Committee  
World Conference against A and H Bombs

# Table of Contents

<b>Declaration of the International Meeting</b> .....	1
<b>Letter from Nagasaki to the World’s Governments</b> .....	4
<b>International Meeting, 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs</b> .....	5
<b>Opening Session (August 3)</b> .....	5
<b>Address of the Organizer:</b> Noguchi Kunikazu, Organizing Committee of the World Conference	
<b>Greetings on behalf of the Hibakusha:</b> Fujimori Toshiki, Japan Confederation of A- and H- Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)	
<b>Messages from Heads/Leaders of National Governments and International Organizations</b> .....	10
<b>Plenary Session I: “Damage and Suffering from A-Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Inhuman Nature of Nuclear Weapons; Struggle of the Hibakusha” (August 3)</b>	
<b>Introductory Reports:</b> .....	17
Fujiwara Seigo, Chair of the Legal Counsel for the No More Hibakusha Lawsuit	
Park Jung-Soon, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association, ROK	
Abacca Anjain-Maddison, Former Senator/Iju in Ean Club, the Marshall Islands	
Mores Abraham, Elimondik, the Marshall Islands	
Sue Coleman-Haseldine, Aboliginal Nuclear Test Survivor, Australia	
Saito Osamu, M.D., Watari Hospital (Fukushima)/ Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo)	
Nguyen The Luc, Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA)	
<b>Plenary Session II: “From Prohibition Treaty to Abolition of Nuclear Weapons-- Role of Peace Movement and Civil Society” (August 3)</b>	
<b>Introductory Reports:</b> .....	27
Jacqueline Cabasso, Abolition 2000/ Western States Legal Foundation, U.S.A.	
Hannah Tweddell, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, U.K.	
Roland Nivet, French Peace Movement	
Lee Jun Kyu, Center for Peace Research and Education of KYOREH HANA, ROK	
Yasui Masakazu, Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo)	
<b>Statements:</b> .....	37
Ogata Yasuo, Committee of Chairpersons, World Conference Organizing Committee/ Vice Chair, Japanese Communist Party	
Kasai Kimiyo, New Japan Women’s Association (Shinfujin)	
Jammu Narayana Rao, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space	
Youssef El Kaidi, University of the Middle East Project, Morocco	
Ray Matsumiya, University of the Middle East Project, U.S.A.	
Gopal Prasad Pokharel, Afro-Asian Peoples’ Solidarity Organization of Nepal	
<b>Plenary Session III: “Action and Cooperation for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World -- Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Radiation Damage; Safe and Secure Life and Environment” (August 4)</b>	
<b>Introductory Reports:</b> .....	44
Joseph Gerson, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security, U.S.A.	
Lisa Clark, International Peace Bureau	
Dong Huy Cuong, Vietnam Peace Committee	
Toguchi Osamu, Member of Okinawa Prefectural Assembly/ Japanese Communist Party	
<b>Statements:</b> .....	51
Nagao Yuri, National Confederation of Trade Unions (Zenroren)	
Guerrero AG Saño, Teach Peace Build Peace/ Art for Peace Missions/ International Youth Relay Marcher, the Philippines	
Kayla Worley, Tufts Peace Action/ International Youth Relay Marcher, U.S.A.	

Samuel Joseph, Tufts Peace Action/ International Youth Relay Marcher, U.S.A.  
 Rashmi Shakya and Rajesh Bajracharya, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal  
 Sheshrao Mate, District Bar Association, Nagpur, India  
 Manisha Thapa, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal  
 Rabindra Adhikari and Suman Shrestha, Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council

<b>Closing Session (August 5)</b> .....	58
<b>Reports of Workshops:</b>	
Workshop I: Abeline Salacata, Stop the War Coalition, the Philippines	
Workshop II: Eulit Fernandez Torres, Tri-People's Organization against Disaster Foundation, the Philippines	
Workshop III: Christian Ciobanu, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, U.S.A.	
<b>Hiroshima Day Rally - 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs (August 6)</b> .....	62
<b>Keynote Address on Behalf of the Organizer:</b>	
Tomida Koji, Drafting Committee Chairperson of the International Meeting	
<b>Greetings from the Hiroshima Mayor:</b>	
Matsui Kazumi, Mayor of Hiroshima City	
<b>Greetings from the Hibakusha:</b>	
Tanaka Terumi, Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)	
<b>Statement by the National Government Representatives:</b> .....	66
Martin Krüger, Deputy Director for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Foreign Ministry of Austria	
<b>Orizuru Presentation at Hiroshima:</b>	
Hiroshi Taka, Steering Committee Co-Chair, World Conference Organizing Committee	
<b>Greetings from Political Party Representative</b>	
Shii Kazuo, Chair, Japanese Communist Party	
<b>Messages from Japanese Political Parties:</b>	
Ozawa Ichiro, Liberal Party and Itokazu Keiko, Okinawa Whirlwind	
<b>Never again Hiroshima/Nagasaki -- Appeals from Hiroshima:</b> Mimaki Toshiyuki, Hibakusha of Hiroshima/ Nihon Hidankyo and Ohira Yumiko, Hiroshima Chapter of New Japan Women's Association	
<b>Speech by the Victim of Nuclear Tests:</b>	
Sue Coleman-Haseldine, Aboriginal Nuclear Test survivor, Australia	
<b>Report on the A-bombing on Hiroshima and Its Consequences:</b>	
Fujiwara Hidefumi, M.D., Hiroshima Federation of Democratic Medical Institutions	
<b>Speeches by Overseas Delegates:</b> .....	73
Corazon Valdes Fabros, Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition	
Frances Motiwalla, Peace Action, U.S.A.	
Jammu Narayana Rao, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space	
Jacqueline Cabasso, Abolition 2000/Western States Legal Foundation, U.S.A.	
<b>Young People's Panel Talk: "How Can We Change the Politics"</b> A.G. Saño, Teach Peace, the Philippines/ Kayla Worley, Tufts Peace Action, U.S.A. Hironaka Takae, Democratic Youth League of Japan	
<b>Appeal from Hiroshima</b>	
<b>Opening Plenary, 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki (August 7)</b> .....	81
<b>Keynote Address on behalf of the Organizer:</b>	
Anzai Ikuro, Committee of Chairpersons, World Conference Organizing Committee	
<b>Greetings of the Hibakusha:</b>	
Kido Sueichi, Secretary General, Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations	
<b>Orizuru Presentation at Nagasaki:</b>	
Hiroshi Taka, Steering Committee Co-Chair, World Conference Organizing Committee	
<b>Greetings from the U.N. and National Government Representatives:</b> .....	85
Nakamitsu Izumi, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations	
Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador to Japan, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	
Maylem Rivero, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan	
<b>Solidarity with the All-Okinawa Struggles:</b>	
Senaga Kazuo, Okinawa United Action Liaison Council against Japan-US Security Treaty	
<b>Message from Okinawa Governor:</b>	
Onaga Takeshi, Governor of Okinawa Prefecture	

**For nationwide promotion of the “International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign”:**

Tomonaga Masao, M.D., Nagasaki Association to Promote Hibakusha Signature Campaign  
Iwanaga Hisayuki, Nagasaki Prefetural Federation of Co-operative Unions  
Tanaka Shigemitsu, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council

**Greetings from Nagasaki Mayor:**

Taue Tomihisa, Mayor of Nagasaki City

**Actions for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World – Speeches by Overseas Delegates: .....91**

Park Jung-soon, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association, R.O.K.  
Roland Nivet, French Peace Movement  
Dong Huy Cuong, Vietnam Peace Committee  
Lee Jun Kyu, Center for Peace Research and Education of KYOREH HANA, ROK  
Jim Anderson, Peace Action New York State, U.S.A.

**Marchers of the 2017 National Peace March and International Youth Relay March:**

Igarashi Shigeomi, Nishida Shigeyoshi, Yamaguchi Itsuro, Shimada Noriko, Yamada Tae, Kobayashi  
Kazue and Lee Jae-Hwan (Civil Network for Justice in Sports - ROK)

**International Forum: Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons - Dialogue between Governments and Grass-Roots Movements (August 8):.....97**

**Panelist Presentation:**

Martin Krüger, Deputy Head of the Department for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Foreign Ministry of Austria  
Hannah Tweddell, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, U.K.  
Hiroshi Taka, Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo)  
Jim Anderson, Peace Action, U.S.A.

**Closing Plenary: 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki (August 9).....103**

**Video Message:**

Taniguchi Sumiteru, Co-Chair, Nihon Hidankyo/ President, Nagasaki A-Bomb Survivors Council

**Greetings of Solidarity:**

Kakinuma Tomiko, National Federation of Regional Women’s Organizations

**Greetings by the National Government Representative: ..... 104**

Martin Krüger, Deputy Head of the Department for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Foreign Ministry of Austria

**Report on the Nagasaki A-Bombing and Its Consequences:**

Honda Takaya, M.D., Nagasaki Doctors and Dentists Association

**Appeal by the Hibakusha:**

Matsuya Hideko, Former plaintiff of Nagasaki Matsuya A-Bomb Lawsuit

**Appeal by the Victims of Nuclear Tests:**

Abacca Anjain-Maddison, Former Senator/Rongelap Atoll, the Marshall Island  
Mores Abraham, Enewetak Atoll Local Council/ Elimondik, the Marshall Islands

**Actions for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World: Speeches by overseas delegates: ..... 110**

Joseph Gerson, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security, U.S.A.  
Hannah Tweddell, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, U.K.  
Han Seok-ho, Committee for Social Solidarity, Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, R.O.K.  
Lisa Clark, International Peace Bureau

**Determination of Grass-Roots Activists of the A-bombed Country:**

Yamamoto Jura, Sapporo Committee, Democratic Youth League of Japan

**Proposal for Actions:**

Yasui Masakazu, Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo)

**Call from Nagasaki**

**Appendices:.....118**

List of overseas delegates and guests in the 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs  
List of messages of solidarity  
Program of events of the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs  
List of Organizing Committee members

## **2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs**

### **Declaration of the International Meeting**

On July 7 of this year, 72 years after the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons was finally adopted. Having worked with the Hibakusha since the First World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955 to call for the prevention of nuclear war, the elimination of nuclear weapons and the relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, we heartily welcome the adoption of the treaty as a historic event, and pledge to move forward with renewed determination to achieve a “Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World”.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a milestone leading towards their total elimination, the long cherished aspiration of the Hibakusha and the people around the world.

The treaty recognizes that nuclear weapons are inhumane weapons that would cause catastrophic consequences, running counter to the U.N. Charter, international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law. It thus stigmatizes them. Nuclear weapons are now not only immoral, but also explicitly illegal for the first time in history. It rightfully acknowledges the struggle of the A-bomb survivors in their call for “No More Hibakusha”, stating that it is “mindful of the unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the victims of the use of nuclear weapons (hibakusha), as well as of those affected by the testing of nuclear weapons”, and by describing them as bearer of “the role of public conscience in the furthering of the principles of humanity”.

The treaty prohibits all activities connected with nuclear weapons, including development, production, testing, manufacturing, acquisition, possession, stockpiling and use or threat to use, without allowing loopholes. Importantly, it provides a framework for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by elaborating the ways for the nuclear powers to become parties to the treaty. It also stipulates the responsibility to provide assistance to Hibakusha and victims of nuclear tests, meeting expectations of the people of the countries having suffered from A-bombings or nuclear testing. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is the fruit of global struggles over some 70 post-war years to achieve a “world without nuclear weapons.”

The world still sees some 15,000 nuclear weapons threatening the survival of the humanity. The development and modernization of nuclear weapons continue. The danger of the actual use of nuclear weapons remains real. There is a growing concern over tensions in various parts of the world leading to the possible use of nuclear weapons. We call on all states to face up to the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. To achieve peace and security of the world, a ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons is essential. All states should join the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons without delay. We further demand that any activity banned by the treaty be ended and renounced forever.

That the treaty bans the use or threat to use nuclear weapons signifies that it denies the “nuclear deterrence” argument used as major justification to keep possessing nuclear weapons. We urge nuclear powers to abandon their nuclear deterrence policies, and their allies to renounce their dependence on it and break away with the “nuclear umbrella”.

Further, we must move forward from adoption of the treaty to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to achieve a “nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world.”

It is necessary above anything else to make the best use of the potential inherent in the treaty. All

activities that run counter to the treaty are to be condemned by the international community. Given that the legal norm is now established to render nuclear weapons illegal, no state that refuses to sign the treaty can evade political and moral restrictions. It carries the possibility of restricting and paralyzing the global nuclear strategies of nuclear superpowers.

It will be even more important than before to develop cooperation between the governments that have worked for the treaty, the United Nations and civil society movements. With the nuclear prohibition treaty, there is now a new opportunity on which to build up the movements and public support for them. With the participation of representatives of both anti-nuclear movements in the world and national governments, and the U.N., the World Conference against A and H Bombs has promoted dialogues and cooperation among them. Growing public awareness encouraged by such activities will exert pressure on the nuclear powers and their allies into abandoning the policy of clinging to their nuclear arsenals.

To move forward towards completely eliminating nuclear weapons, it is of decisive importance to build a majority of opinion in support of the treaty in the nuclear-armed countries and their allies and press their governments to sign and ratify the treaty with the force of public opinion and movements. The U.S., the U.K. and France rejected the treaty, saying that they would not “ever become party“ to it. Some other nuclear powers expressed that they were in favor of a “step-by-step” approach and that they would not participate in the treaty. In these countries, we need to build public opinion to question the position of the governments towards the treaty and press for their participation in it. Big steps forward towards a world without nuclear weapons will be made possible by bringing together these voices and actions.

The nuclear and missile development of North Korea in violation of international agreements constitutes a serious threat to peace in the region and the world, and must not be tolerated. All military threats and provocations should stop immediately. All parties concerned should take steps for a diplomatic and peaceful solution without delay. Based on the spirit of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, we urge North Korea to stop nuclear activities and abandon all its programs. Practices and consolidation of the existing nuclear weapons-free zones, as well as regional efforts to create new such zones are also important.

Disappointment and resentment are spreading among the Hibakusha and other sectors of people at the refusal of the Government of the A-bombed country to participate in the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty. We urge the Japanese Government to leave the U.S. “nuclear umbrella” and sign the Prohibition Treaty without delay. Large numbers of people are standing up against the destruction of peace principles of the Constitution and the preparations to join in wars overseas. In Okinawa, a struggle involving all Okinawa residents is growing against the construction of a new U.S. base. We express solidarity with the movement in Japan for the defense of the Constitution and for a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan.

At the root of the nuclear prohibition treaty has been the role played by the anti-nuclear peace movements working with Hibakusha at grassroots in the world. The opinion and movement of the people around the world will determine the outcome and future course of events. We call for following actions:

- To build up people’s opinion to demand from all governments participation in the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty and further engagement in achieving the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. From September 20 to 26, we propose to launch international simultaneous actions “Peace Wave” linking diverse grass-roots activities to call for participation in the Treaty.

- To initiate extensive dialogues to inform the general public about the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and the imperative of the total elimination of nuclear weapons; to promote events and activities to listen to the testimonies of Hibakusha, exhibiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki photo panels, inheriting the memories of Hibakusha, and learning about the nuclear prohibition treaty itself; to enhance peace education as encouraged by the treaty.

- To accelerate and broaden the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons with the goal of hundreds of millions of signatures worldwide by 2020.

- To expand cooperation between national governments, the U.N. and civil society movements on such occasions as the September 20th opening for signing the Treaty, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on September 26, the regular session of the First Committee of the UNGA, the UN High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament in 2018, and the next Preparatory Committee meeting of the NPT Review Conference.

- To extend relief and solidarity to Hibakusha and help to achieve state compensation for them; support the efforts of second and third generation Hibakusha; call for support of the nuclear test victims; strengthen solidarity with the movements demanding the relief of the sufferers of the nuclear power plant accident and demanding ZERO nuclear power; support the victims of Agent Orange, depleted uranium and other war damage.

- To extend solidarity to the struggles and movements against war and for peace, for the reduction and removal of foreign bases in Okinawa and others, opposition to military-industrial complex; a reduction in military spending and improvement in living standard, employment and social welfare, overcoming of poverty and social gap, prevention of climate change and protection of global environment, overcoming of the discrimination based on sex and other factors and struggle for the development of Culture of Peace.

The nuclear prohibition treaty emphasizes the role of Hibakusha and the movements of civil society in their advocacy of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Let us open up our future together with the Hibakusha. Now that the door to a “nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world” is open, let us walk forward with young people in high spirit to achieve it.

August 5, 2017  
International Meeting  
The 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

**Special Resolution:  
2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki  
August 9, 2017**

## **Letter from Nagasaki to the World's Governments**

We met in Nagasaki, a city that suffered an atomic bomb attack 72 years ago, to call on the world's governments to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a first step towards completely eliminating nuclear weapons.

The two cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were annihilated in an instant by the atomic bombings, which took the lives of about 210,000 people by the end of the year. Those who barely survived had their hometowns burnt down, had to endure emotional damage from the loss of their loved ones and have suffered from various aftereffects from exposure to A-bomb radiation. Further, they were forced to live in economic and social hardships. But the Hibakusha have expressed the lofty determination to live, saying "Thus, we have reassured our will to save humanity from its crisis through the lessons learned from our experiences, while at the same time saving ourselves," (\*) and they have continued to call for "No more Hiroshimas or Nagasakis."

We wholeheartedly welcome the adoption of the treaty, which meets this aspiration. The treaty, mindful of the unacceptable suffering and harm caused to the victims by the use of nuclear weapons (Hibakusha), makes provision to support the Hibakusha and recognizes the role of the Hibakusha and civil society in calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. We urge the world's governments to act on this humanitarian position.

Just as the treaty recalls the first resolution of the UN General Assembly, the elimination of nuclear weapons is a task that marked the start of the United Nations and postwar international politics. The realization of a world without nuclear weapons is essential for equally providing all countries and their people with peace and security.

The treaty outlaws nuclear weapons on the grounds of principles of international law and prohibits any activities linked to such weapons. It also opens the way for the states possessing nuclear weapons to join the treaty and suggests a framework whereby nuclear weapon states can work to achieve a complete elimination of nuclear weapons. This has been made possible thanks to the reason and intelligence demonstrated by people in many countries. We call on all governments to fulfill their responsibilities in line with reason and law.

On September 20, the treaty will be open for signature to all states. We request that your government swiftly sign and ratify the treaty.

As members of civil society that helped produce this treaty, and also as a movement in the only A-bombed country, we are determined to work to fulfill our duties, in cooperation with the United Nations as well as governments that share the objective.

(\*) From the "Message to the World", the founding declaration of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) in 1956

# International Meeting

## 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

*Main Theme:  
Building with the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons --  
For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World*



### Opening Session (August 3)

#### Address of the Organizer:

**Noguchi Kunikazu**  
Co-Chair, Steering Committee,  
Organizing Committee of the World  
Conference

On behalf of the organizer, I would like to extend my hearty greetings of welcome and solidarity to the delegates and participants in the 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs from across the world and all corners of Japan.

Upholding the goal of achieving a “Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World”, the World Conference will welcome the representatives of national governments who played key roles in the U.N. Conference to negotiate a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons held this year. And we appreciate the participation of many delegates of the anti-nuclear peace movements, dedicated grassroots activists and nuclear victims from

Asia-Pacific, Europe, Middle-East, Africa, and North America, working and playing essential roles in attaining our common goal. From Japan, we have the participation of mayors of local municipalities, people opposing the revision of Article 9 of Japan’s Constitution and forced passage of the “anti-conspiracy law” which infringes the fundamental human rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Conference will also be joined by the leaders and activists in the campaigns against nuclear power and for dismantling of military bases, as well as many Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

#### **Starting point of the movement against A & H Bombs: Prevention of Nuclear War, Total Ban and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons and Relief and Solidarity with the Hibakusha**

As we look back on the past, we recall the First World Conference against A & H Bombs held in August 1955, in Hiroshima where the world-first nuclear weapon was used in wartime. More than 5000 delegates, including those from Asia, Europe and the Americas, took part in the conference. The Declaration of the First World Conference states as follows:

-- The delegates are strongly supported by the

public opinion of several hundred million people of the whole world, who signed the Appeal against atomic and hydrogen bombs. Based on this strong support, the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs renewed the determination that atomic and hydrogen weapons should be banned; the forces planning to launch atomic war must be defeated by the combined action of the people of the world; and atomic energy must be utilized to promote human welfare and happiness.

-- The delegates to this Conference have witnessed the agony of the sufferers, ....and after hearing the view of distinguished scientists [and] specialists.... We record our opinion that the use of these weapons is a denial of all standards of humane and civilized behavior. Should an atomic war break out, the tragedies of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Bikini would be repeated throughout the world, with a very real danger of the extermination of mankind.

-- The misery of the atomic and hydrogen bomb victims and sufferers must be made known to the whole world. Relief for them is urgently required and should be organized through an international solidarity movement. At the same time, we affirm that prohibition of atomic and hydrogen bombs is the only way to [offer them a genuine relief and] avoid a repetition of their sufferings.

Sixty-two years have passed since the First World Conference against A & H Bombs set the three fundamental goals of the movement -- Prevention of nuclear war, Total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons, and Relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, but nuclear weapons have not yet been abolished. However, at the United Nations, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was finally adopted. Our nuclear abolition movement that has succeeded over generations has borne fruit. We are now at a crucial turn in history that could lead us closer to a nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world.

### **Groundbreaking Ban Treaty and its Content**

At the U.N. Conference to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to outlaw nuclear weapons held in New York, a Ban Treaty was adopted with 122 countries voting in favor. They account for 63% of the Member States (with 1 against and 1 abstention). At the moment of its adoption, everyone in the conference hall stood up in ovation and cheered the event. National delegates and civil society representatives hugged and congratulated each other saying that a new history had just began. For the first time nuclear weapons were made

illegal and an international norm was established, declaring that the most atrocious weapons of mass destruction history had ever seen must be banned and abolished.

The preamble of the Ban Treaty expresses deep concern about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. It recognizes the need to completely get rid of such weapons and underlines that it is the only way to guarantee that they are never used again under any circumstances. It also recognizes that a legally binding prohibition of nuclear weapons will constitute an important contribution for achieving and maintaining a world free of nuclear weapons by eliminating these weapons in an irreversible, verifiable and transparent fashion and expresses determination to act towards that end.

Recognizing that the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is an essential factor for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security, the preamble promises to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in nuclear disarmament. At the same time, it refers to hibakusha as victims of the use of nuclear weapons and stresses the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity as evidenced by the call for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and commends the efforts to be undertaken, especially by the Hibakusha. It is a wonderful preamble.

Article 1, "Prohibitions", constitutes the core of the entire Treaty, banning development, testing, production, manufacture, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, transfer and reception of nuclear weapons. It also prohibits the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons. The "threat of use" was not in the first draft but added in the course of discussions. This element is very important because it denies the nuclear deterrence theory. Article 1 also bans assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in any activity prohibited under this Treaty, and also prohibits allowing any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear weapons. This prohibition provision outlaws the "nuclear umbrella" policy to secure national security by relying on the nuclear deterrence of the nuclear weapon states. This article is truly groundbreaking in that it closes all loopholes in order to achieve a complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

Article 4 "Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons" stipulates the ways for countries possessing nuclear weapons to join the Treaty. One way is to eliminate their nuclear

arsenals and then join the Treaty, and the other is to sign the Treaty first and swiftly dismantle their nuclear weapons in possession. I am impressed by the flexible stance adopted by the Treaty, offering more than one path to the nuclear-armed states.

“Victim assistance and environmental remediation” in Article 6 requires each State party with respect to individuals under its jurisdiction who are affected by the use or testing of nuclear weapons to adequately provide assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support. It also requires each State party to take necessary and appropriate measures towards the environmental remediation of areas so contaminated.

Article 7 on “International cooperation and assistance” stipulates in its item 6 that a State Party that has used or tested nuclear weapons or any other nuclear explosive devices shall have a responsibility to provide adequate assistance to affected States Parties, for the purpose of victim assistance and environmental remediation.

Reading the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, I have come to realize that the content and expressions used in the Treaty have many similarities with the demands upheld by the World Conference so far. In both initiatives, people working to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons come together from around the world and are involved in deep and serious discussion. It is therefore natural that they reach the same conclusion. In that sense also, this Treaty is not only the culmination of the discussion in the U.N. negotiation conference, but also the culmination of the longtime discussions our World Conference against A & H Bombs has accumulated.

The Treaty will be opened for signature to all nations from September 20, and will enter into force 90 days after the fiftieth country’s instrument of ratification has been deposited. I hope the Treaty will enter into force as soon as possible.

**Building with the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, let us develop public support and movement against nuclear weapons and for peace**

Recently, in different parts of the world—Asia-Pacific, Europe, Middle-East, Africa, and North and South America—we are witnessing a growing number of acts of terrorism, conflicts and military interventions. In East Asia, we are witnessing continued confrontation and tension among nations over the issues of North Korea’s nuclear development, disputes over territorial lands and seas, the “comfort women”,

recognition of history and others. Last year, North Korea conducted 19 missile tests and 2 nuclear tests, and since the beginning of this year, it has conducted 12 missile tests (as of July 29). The Abe government fails to make efforts to solve the issues through peaceful means and is blatantly trying to revise Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan which renounces war and war potential and denies the right of belligerency. Following the forced passage of the “War Laws” in September 2015, the Abe government railroaded the anti-conspiracy law in June this year.

Regarding nuclear disarmament, the Abe government continues to turn its back on the world and the majority of its people. In fact, Japan not only refused to attend the U.N. negotiation conference, but made it clear also that it would not sign the Treaty. Such a stance is tantamount to the neglect of its self-claimed role of serving as a bridge between nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear states. It reveals its shameful attitude of clinging to the “nuclear umbrella” security policy, now made illegal by the prohibition treaty. The anti-nuclear peace movement of Japan, having experienced the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, must press its government to change its reliance on nuclear deterrence and sign and ratify the Ban Treaty.

The result of the recent Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election meant a heavy loss for Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party, decreasing its seats from 57 to 23. This shows that the overwhelming majority of the people are opposing Abe’s pro-war and anti-Article 9 policy and his misappropriation of national governance. In recent years, networks of people’s cooperation are growing on many issues, including the opposition to the new military base construction in Okinawa and nuclear power generation.

The driving force of international politics is not a handful of powerful countries, but the majority of nations and the civil society. As the representatives of the U.N. and governments often emphasize the “role of civil society”, stronger mobilization of public opinion and movement in each country is more important than anything. Towards achieving the elimination of nuclear weapons, by building on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, let us spread the knowledge about damage and aftereffects of the A-bombing, pass on Hibakusha’s testimonies, and work harder on the International Hibakusha Appeal signature campaign.

May I conclude my speech on behalf of the organizer, hoping that this World Conference against A & H Bombs will be a forum for

creating a larger scale of people's cooperation and making concrete proposals to defeat the now illegal nuclear deterrence theory, achieve a total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons and end all damage from nuclear development.

## **Greetings on behalf of the Hibakusha:**

**Fujimori Toshiki**  
**Assistant Secretary General**  
**Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb**  
**Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)**

**Let us promote the nuclear ban treaty  
achieved in the 72nd year since the atomic  
bombing to go forward towards a world free  
of nuclear weapons**

On behalf of the Hibakusha, I would like to begin my speech by congratulating ourselves on the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons with more than 60 percent of U.N. member states voting in favor on July 7, four weeks ago.

On July 7, at 10:47 a.m. when the voting board showed that the treaty was adopted by the majority of votes, I first thought of those indiscriminately killed regardless of age, gender, nationality--combatant and non-combatant alike--by the nuclear weapons used for the first time in human history in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 72 years ago. And I remembered some 210,000 people who died by the end of that year; countless others who survived the hell on earth but later died, suffering from the after-effects of atomic bombing. And there are many people, within and outside Japan, who are no longer with us but who led efforts to make sure there were no more Hibakusha, who were unable to see the fruition of their tireless work.

Before coming here, I went to pay a visit to A-bomb memorials, the cenotaph in Hiroshima's Peace Park and the monument dedicated to female students including my elder sister whose bodies have never been found. I stood before them and said: "In the 72nd year since the bombing, the nuclear ban treaty was finally adopted thanks to collective efforts of non-nuclear countries, civil society organizations and Hibakusha. We will do much more to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. Please wait a little while in peace." I will do the same in Nagasaki on August 7.

Another thing that came to my mind was the result of the voting conducted in front of my eyes.

The nuclear ban treaty was approved by 122 countries, more than 60 percent of U.N. member states, with only one country opposing and another one abstaining from voting.

When we initiated the International Hibakusha Appeal signature campaign in April last year, we never imagined that one year later a treaty with similar content would be adopted by the U.N. with the support of as many as 122 countries.

In the past year, we received signatures from many places in Japan and 39 other countries, including nuclear weapon states such as the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, India, and Israel. This allows us to expect that if people in the 122 countries that voted for the treaty spread the signature campaign at the national and international level, it will give a strong push for the nuclear ban treaty to enter into force.

I wish to work together with you to make sure the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, achieved 72 years after the atomic bombing, achieves its goal.

Nuclear-weapon states and countries depending on the nuclear umbrella, except the Netherlands, did not attend the conference for negotiating the nuclear ban treaty.

After the adoption of the treaty, the nuclear weapon countries such as U.S., U.K. and France as well as Japan and other nations relying on nuclear umbrella have declared they will not join the treaty.

The government of Japan, the only A-bombed country, has always said that the country would act as a bridge between nuclear and non-nuclear nations in order to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. On the first day of the U.N. conference for negotiating the treaty, Ambassador Takamizawa Nobushige made a lengthy speech on behalf of the Japanese Government from the podium. At the end, he announced that Japan would not take part in the negotiations, stating that "It has become clear that the prohibition treaty concept has failed to obtain the understanding and involvement of the nuclear weapon states." "Regrettably," he continued, "given the present circumstances, we must admit that it would be difficult for Japan to participate in this Conference in a constructive and good faith manner." Japan has thus burned down the bridge it promised to build between nuclear and non-nuclear countries.

When US President Obama visited Hiroshima last year, Prime Minister Abe stated in his speech, "Any place in the world this tragedy must not be repeated again. It is the responsibility of us who

live in the present to firmly inherit these deep feelings.”

“We are determined to realize a world free of nuclear weapons. No matter how long and how difficult the road will be, it is the responsibility of us who live in the present to continue to make efforts.”

If Ambassador Takamizawa had said what Prime Minister Abe had promised to the world: “Any place in the world this tragedy must not be repeated again.” We are determined to realize a world free of nuclear weapons.” No matter how long and how difficult the road will be, it is the responsibility of us who live in the present to continue to make efforts,” and if he had participated in the negotiations, other governments would have given him a big hand encouraging him to join them in their common endeavor.

If the treaty cannot “obtain the understanding and involvement of the nuclear-weapon states,” Japan must “continue to make efforts” to obtain such understanding from them. This is how Japan could play a role of bridge between the nuclear and non-nuclear states.

It is very regrettable that the “bridge building” pledge has turned into lip service, but we should not give up and try to move forward.

As the only A-bombed country, Japan must stop relying on the U.S. nuclear umbrella. Instead, it should sign the nuclear ban treaty and ratify it with majority support of the lawmakers in the Diet. It must work to establish a nuclear-free zone in Northeast Asia and lead

international efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

It depends on the will of Japanese people to get the government to revise its nuclear policy.

Japan’s capital, Tokyo, held its municipal assembly election a month ago. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party, with the largest number of seats in the metropolitan assembly, faced voters’ criticisms and found its seats reduced from 57 down to 23, losing more than half of the seats it held before the election. It was said that a series of scandals that broke out at the national level had impacted on the local election in Tokyo.

The Diet is the body that should ratify the nuclear ban treaty. Ratification is possible only if a majority of Diet members support the treaty. The voters should therefore cast their votes for those candidates who support the treaty in order to have it ratified.

It is thus possible to have the ban treaty ratified through the will of Japanese citizens. Japanese people then can play a major role for a world without nuclear weapons.

The Hibakusha’s continuous call for “No More Hibakusha” is not only for Hibakusha themselves; It is meant to save all lives on earth.

Celebrating with you the adoption of the nuclear ban treaty, Hibakusha are resolved to tenaciously work to press the government of Japan as the only A-bombed nation, to sign and ratify the treaty so that the world can take a big leap forward towards a nuclear-free world.



## Messages from the Heads/Leaders of National Governments and International Organizations

**Alexander Van der Bellen**  
**Federal President**  
**Republic of Austria**

More than 70 years after the tragedy of the nuclear detonations over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which killed thousands of people and so gravely affected the lives of the survivors and their families, the deadly threat posed by nuclear weapons still looms large over humanity. In an international environment characterised by serious tensions in many regions, the States possessing these weapons seem to rely on them ever more, rather than less, judging by the large scale investments into nuclear weapon modernisation taking place, and by the renewed emphasis on nuclear weapons in the framework of national security strategies. If not halted, this dangerous trend may well lead to a new nuclear arms race. In a metaphorical expression of how close the world currently finds itself to nuclear apocalypse, the Doomsday Clock of the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists has been set at two and a half minutes to midnight this year.

Among the many worrying recent developments, the build-up of the military nuclear and ballistic missile capabilities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea stands out as particularly alarming. Austria has condemned the DPRK's provocative and irresponsible actions on numerous occasions. I call on the DPRK to respect in full all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, to return at an early date to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, and to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

While there is thus cause for serious concern about the state of affairs in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, some recent developments do inspire hope. This year, a majority of the world's States came together under the auspices of the United Nations to negotiate a legal instrument for the prohibition of nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. On July 7 in New York, 122 States voted in favour of the adoption of the new treaty.

It prohibits nuclear weapons in a similar fashion as this is already the case for the other

categories of weapons of mass destruction in the Biological and the Chemical Weapons Conventions. As with these Conventions, we believe that the establishment of a legal prohibition of nuclear weapons is a necessary first step for their subsequent elimination.

**Michel Temer**  
**President**  
**Federative Republic of Brazil**

It is an honour for me to convey this message to the World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs just a few days after the adoption of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Treaty is a historic milestone in our common endeavour to achieve a world without weapons of mass destruction, to achieve lasting peace.

This Conference honours the thousands of children, women and men who fell victim to the nuclear bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Their memory will forever remind us of the horrific humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. Their memory will forever remind us that the very existence of these weapons constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

Bearing this in mind, Brazil was one of the proponents of the UN General Assembly resolution that launched the negotiations of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Our goal was — and still is — their total elimination.

The Treaty filled an inadmissible gap in international humanitarian law: until its adoption, nuclear weapons remained the sole weapons of mass destruction not explicitly prohibited by a legally binding instrument. The Treaty is a collective undertaking aimed at putting human life and dignity at the center of the global order.

Brazil's commitment to a world free from nuclear weapons is more than a policy choice: it is an obligation that stems from our Constitution.

Nuclear disarmament is also a moral imperative. Brazil has long advocated effective progress in nuclear disarmament. In this effort, we count on the support of important civil society organizations, such as Gensuikyō.

**Elayne Whyte Gómez**  
**President of the United Nations**  
**Conference to negotiate a legally**  
**binding instrument to prohibit nuclear**  
**weapons, leading towards its total**  
**elimination/ Permanent Representative**  
**to the United Nations in Geneva**  
**Republic of Costa Rica**

This year 2017 is an extraordinary year in the long road towards nuclear disarmament, which began in August 1945. With great optimism, the United Nations adopted the *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* last July 7th at its headquarters in New York.

Although this historic milestone represents a magnificent achievement for the international community and for all workers for peace and disarmament –especially for civil society–, the adoption of the Treaty is not the end of the road.

This milestone should fill us with optimism and hope in the ability of the international community to reach agreements to respond to the most pressing dangers facing humanity. Today we have a prohibition norm for nuclear weapons that also provides ways in which nuclear disarmament experiences can be accomplished, complementing and reinforcing the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.

The work that follows is no less demanding than the long road traveled to achieve the Prohibition Treaty. This new phase demands from all of us renewed commitment so that the recently adopted treaty enters into force and starts generating its impact in delegitimizing nuclear weapons. I invite you to make every effort to advocate for the signing of the treaty on 20 September at United Nations Headquarters in New York and to promote its early ratification by states so that we can reach as soon as possible the 50 ratifications that are necessary for its entry into force.

Let us bear in mind that our work in providing the international community with an inclusive prohibition regime that provides pathways for the future of nuclear disarmament also faces a challenging context. New inter-state tensions remind us of the risk of nuclear weapons being used. Modernization programs of nuclear arsenals are consuming billions of dollars required to address many of humanity's challenges in development, peace, climate change, peaceful coexistence and the construction of a new paradigm of security for

all.

With the Ban Treaty, our action is strengthened but not finished. We must make every effort to bring the Treaty into force as soon as possible and focus our efforts on promoting its principles, norms and provisions.

I am greatly motivated by the strength of your convictions. The same that made you build extraordinary achievements in support of the negotiating process of the treaty. I am sure that we will continue to count on your leadership without dismay, so that soon we will see the conference of States Parties begin its tasks in support of the implementation of the treaty.

I encourage you to continue with renewed strategic activism towards building a world free of nuclear weapons. You will always count on my personal conviction and the univocal commitment of my country: Costa Rica. I thank you and wish you success in your endeavors.

**Michael D. Higgins**  
**President**  
**Republic of Ireland**

It is an honour and privilege to have the opportunity to convey a message of solidarity and add Ireland's support to the significant efforts of the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

Ireland shares and seeks to encourage the desire to achieve a world without nuclear weapons, which would ensure that the scenes of utter devastation in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 72 years ago are never replicated. Though sadly these terrible weapons remain in existence, it is heartening to note that meaningful progress has been achieved in nuclear disarmament that will, it is hoped, lead to their total elimination.

The work and message of this Conference have now been greatly reinforced by the recent conclusion of negotiations at the United Nations, where 122 states have now agreed to adopt a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

It represents an historic step forward and demonstrates the power of responsible multilateralism in action and our ability to change the world, albeit one step at a time, for the good of all. Building on Ireland's unwavering tradition of advocacy for nuclear disarmament, we view this new Treaty as strengthening and complementing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the shared, global vision of a world free from nuclear weapons.

We believe that raising awareness with regard to the very real risks and devastating humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons was imperative to bringing about the new Treaty and it must continue. We commend the Conference for its work in this area. Ireland also understands, so deeply from our own history the collective duty and responsibility to commemorate those who have suffered and those who lost their lives. It is poignant, and entirely appropriate then, that the new Treaty specifically references and recognizes the Hibakusha; honouring the memory of the victims of nuclear weapons and the key role played by survivors in providing the living testimony which calls on us to ensure that these weapons might never be used again.

The progress reached in nuclear disarmament represents fresh hope in a time when too many have lost their lives and livelihoods to violence and conflict, and a time when unbridled threats can all too freely flow.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons projects a strong signal that by working together towards a more secure and more peaceful world for the benefit of all, it is possible for states and civil society to realise the future outlined by Hibakusha Ms Setsuko Thurlow in New York earlier this year that *"no human being should have to experience the inhumanity and unspeakable suffering of nuclear weapons"*.

I wish this conference and its participants enduring success for the future.

**Bounnhang Vorachith**  
**President**  
**Lao People's Democratic Republic**

On behalf of the Government and people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I would like to convey my warm congratulations to the Organizing Committee and entire delegation joining the 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, which will be held on 03 - 09 August 2017 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki Prefecture of Japan.

Over 70 years of recalling the Atomic bombing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki has clearly raised more awareness to the world community on nuclear utilization, which seriously causes humanitarian impact and asset loss. I highly value the idea of holding this World Conference, which becomes a mechanism for gathering the peace-loving people and also plays a very significant role in cooperating and promoting awareness to the world of a tragic history. It

also gives valuable lessons learned from the past in order to step forward to a better future without any threat from weapons of mass destruction, which still affect on humankind nowadays.

Once again, I believe that the unwavering effects of the people of Japan and the peace-loving world community as well as the solidarity will help to continuously suppress the use of atomic and hydrogen bombs in order to build the world of peace and stability free from weapons of mass destruction in the future.

Lastly, on behalf of the Government and people of the Lao PDR, I wish the 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs great success. (Unofficial translation)

**Saulius Skvernelis**  
**Prime Minister**  
**Republic of Lithuania**

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, I would like to convey my sincere greetings to the Organizing Committee and all participants of this very important event – 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs.

On the eve of the seventy-second anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, once again we solemnly reflect upon the ghastly reality of the nuclear war.

As we humbly offer our condolences to the souls of the horrific number of victims, as we hear and honour the hibakusha, and perceive the unspeakable horror in the images of a mushroom cloud that rose into these skies, we take the everlasting lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to heart. With the grave risks posed by nuclear weapons, we are convinced more than ever of the urgent need for the nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states to jointly assume leadership and chart the course toward a world without nuclear weapons.

Lithuania remains committed to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) as the foundation of the global nuclear non-proliferation; the key substance in pursuit of nuclear disarmament and the basis for further development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Three communally reinforcing pillars of the Treaty are and should be continuously promoted to enhance the Treaty's credibility and integrity.

The goal of a world without nuclear weapons can only be achieved with concerted commitment to action by both nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states. Nuclear weapon states must commit themselves to progress in a steadfast manner towards the overall decrease of

the global stockpiles of nuclear weapons. A continuous focus on confidence-building, transparency, verification activities and reporting is commendable and should be pursued continuously.

Non-nuclear weapon states, in their own stance, must comply with their Treaty obligations and the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreements, and strive to reinforce the Treaty's non-proliferation regime.

Lithuania remains committed to the international partnership seeking an advance in nuclear disarmament. In this regard, we are delighted to fully share our views on a set of broad nuclear security goals with the Government of Japan, encompassing a range of deterrence, prevention, detection and response objectives.

We support an operable protocol to nuclear disarmament via continuous practical systematic approach, within the existent framework of complementary treaties, institutions and commitments in support of achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons. The entry into force and universalization of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) will be of a crucial importance to non-proliferation and constitute a fundamental step forward towards the disarmament.

Lithuania fully recognizes the right of countries to participate in the development of peaceful nuclear energy within a framework that reduces proliferation risk and adheres to the highest international safeguards standards. Nuclear security cannot be upheld in isolation from nuclear safety; and both must be dealt with in a coordinated and consistent manner.

The Nuclear Security Summit process has highlighted the need to secure nuclear materials and prevent acts of nuclear terrorism and proliferation. Lithuania intends to remain supportive of the NSS objectives and continuity in anticipation of a further, deeper, verifiable and irreversible cuts in all nuclear arsenals.

The goal of a world without nuclear weapons is not ephemeral, nor can it be achieved overnight. We need to adopt a determined and methodical approach to fulfil that goal. We owe a secure world to both the present and forthcoming generations.

It is only when this ambition is reflected in the choices made by all the nations and in the objectives set by all the leaders, the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be learnt.

## **Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma President, Republic of South Africa**

I have the honour to convey the message, on behalf of the people and the Government of the Republic of South Africa, on the commemoration of the horrible events in August 1945 where atomic bombs were dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki killing more than 200,000 citizens. We stand in solidarity with the international community to ensure that the world does not experience the repeat of the terrible loss that took place in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We also pay tribute to the Hibakusha and applaud their efforts to enlighten the international community about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of atomic weapons based on their own experience. The world is still disgustingly reminded of the effects of the deadly weapons of mass destruction, 72 years after they were first used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Regrettably, however, the existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use continues to pose a serious threat to humanity. In this regard, South Africa remains concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and effects of a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design, with the devastating impact on all humanity and its environment. We are likewise concerned about the lack of progress in nuclear disarmament and believe that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. We are convinced that nuclear weapons do not guarantee security, but rather detract from it.

Chairperson, South Africa welcomes all efforts aimed at the elimination of the threat posed by nuclear weapons. In this regard, we believe that the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and a key instrument in the efforts to halt the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons. The NPT represents a historical bargain between the nuclear-weapon States and the non-nuclear-weapon States, in terms of which the former has undertaken to eliminate their nuclear weapons based on the reciprocal undertaking by the latter not to pursue the nuclear weapons option.

It is important that the nuclear weapon States maintain their side of the bargain by living up to the unequivocal commitments they made to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament in

accordance with Article VI of the Treaty. Meeting their commitments is central to the integrity of the Treaty and ensuring that it remains the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. We therefore support the full implementation of the NPT and its universality in pursuit of our common goal of achieving a world entirely free from nuclear weapons.

Chairperson, we also welcome steps taken by the majority of United Nations Member States as reflected in the adoption of resolution 71/258 on "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations" in December 2016 and the consequent negotiations by the international community to finalise the nuclear weapons ban treaty. We believe that the ban treaty will complement the Non—Proliferation Treaty, will strengthen the area of nuclear disarmament and will pave the way towards a legally binding instrument on nuclear weapons and a nuclear weapon-free world.

South Africa further supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in parts of the world where they do not yet exist, including in the Middle East. We share the conviction that the establishment of such zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realising the objectives of nuclear disarmament. The strength, credibility and vitality of the NPT rest on a fundamental bargain across its three pillars, disarmament, nonproliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which must be recognised and upheld.

**Trần Đại Quang**  
**President**  
**Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

On the occasion of the 2017 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, on behalf of the State, peace movements and people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, I avail myself of this opportunity to extend my warmest greetings and best regards to peace activists, international and Japanese participants in the Conference.

Seventy two years after the massacre, people all over the world still cannot leave behind the severe consequences nuclear weapons caused to innocent people in Japan, particularly in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Vietnamese people share the agony, as we ourselves are still suffering from lingering consequences of Agent Orange on human beings and the environment. Over the past seventy two years, the people of

Japan, Vietnam and other countries across the world have joined hands to help victims of A and H bombs, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims to overcome the pains, both physically and mentally, and to struggle for a peaceful world without weapons of mass destruction.

However, here and there in the world, nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction are still being researched, developed, stored and traded in. Many countries are still using force to threaten and attack others. Such moves are big threats to world peace and even human existence. Hence, the struggle to total abolition of nuclear weapons, and for peace and stability should remain a priority for human beings, especially peace movements and organizations, as well as peace-loving people the world over.

On this occasion, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to peace movements and organizations in Japan and other countries, particularly the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (GENSUIKYO), for their warm sympathy with and support for the Vietnamese people during our past struggles for national independence as well as our present efforts in peace-time construction. I would like to express my special gratitude to peace forces in Japan and throughout the world for the support and assistance they have reserved for the millions of Vietnamese exposed to Agent Orange in times of war.

We welcome the efforts of GENSUIKYO to mobilize people's organizations of different countries to raise their voice against nuclear weapons at the United Nations Conference last March and June for a legally-binding instrument banning nuclear weapons.

I believe that the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs will offer yet another chance for peace movements and organizations to enhance solidarity and cooperation and initiate new activities against nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, and against all actions threatening peace, security and the people's peaceful life. I am also confident that the Conference will reaffirm its solidarity with and support for all victims of atomic weapons, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims, for a future free from threats of weapons of mass destruction, for a world of peace, security, stability and prosperity.

May I wish you all the best and the Conference a great success!

**The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)  
(Presented by Seiko Ishikawa,  
Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic  
of Venezuela)**

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor during this year's World Conference against A and H Bombs, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. At the outset, allow us to thank the distinguished Organizing Committee for its kind invitation to participate in this important World Conference, which is convened at a time when we mark the 72 Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

3. We would also like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the People of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki for their kind generosity and hospitality.

4. Despite the fact that the Member States of the Movement **do** not have a common position with regard to the Treaty **on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has remained at the forefront of nuclear disarmament, and has termed nuclear disarmament as its highest priority, while striving towards achieving the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

5. During the XVII Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held in September 2016, in the Island of Margarita, Venezuela, the Heads of State or Government reiterated their continued concern over the current difficult and complex situation in the field of disarmament and international security, while calling for renewed efforts to resolve the current impasse in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects.

6. At that time, the Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the Movement's principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, while stressing the importance of ensuring that efforts aimed at nuclear non-proliferation are parallel to simultaneous efforts aimed at nuclear disarmament. In addition, they expressed concern at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.

7. While reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reiterates its determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

8. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement congratulate the successful conclusion of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, while underscoring the importance of the convening of such session, as it would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the disarmament process, and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favor of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons.

9. Lastly, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), staying committed to the cause of prohibiting the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction, reiterates its adherence to the goals and principles set out in resolution 69/27 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, entitled "Prohibition of the Development and Manufacture of New Types of Weapons of Mass Destruction and New Systems of Such Weapons: Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

**Peter Maurer  
President, International Committee of  
the Red Cross (ICRC)**

Thank you for inviting me to address the 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

Last month, on the 7th of July 2017, we witnessed a historic moment. The UN Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapon, Leading Towards Their Total Elimination adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. This treaty was adopted by a wide margin, with 122 countries voting in favor of this important instrument.

The ICRC, and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement more broadly, warmly welcome this historic treaty. The Movement has long-called for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons and this treaty is an important step towards achieving these goals.

The ICRC's objectives heading into the negotiations were to ensure that the treaty recognized the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, was based on and is consistent with exiting principles and rules of international humanitarian law and contained a clear and unambiguous prohibition. The treaty has met these goals.

My meetings with Hibakusha in Hiroshima in

2015, then in Nagasaki, which I visited for the first time last year, left me again with the deep awareness of the massive destruction and long lasting suffering nuclear weapons can inflict, and of the humanitarian imperative to work towards their prohibition and elimination, based on the existing commitments and international obligations.

This goal—to put humanity first by banning nuclear weapons—has been publicly shared by the ICRC since 1945. More recently, leaders and experts from National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the ICRC, met in Nagasaki last April and issued the Nagasaki appeal calling for Nagasaki to be the last atomic bombing and committing to intensifying their own efforts to help ensure this.

Of course, the new treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons will not make them immediately disappear. But it will have important benefits. In addition to establishing a prohibition on nuclear weapons at the global level, the treaty will reinforce the stigma against their use, support commitments to nuclear risk reduction,

and is a clear disincentive for proliferation. For those States who have not taken part in negotiations, the ICRC continues to call on them to urgently take interim steps to reduce the immediate risks of intentional or accidental use of such weapons. The existence of nuclear weapons is a threat to us all. Given the catastrophic consequences, any risk of use is unacceptable.

The treaty is also a concrete step towards fulfilling existing commitments and international obligations for nuclear disarmament, notably those of Article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty; the NPT remains a crucially important pillar of global disarmament efforts.

At this turning point of history, the ICRC is glad to work alongside with the Hibakusha and organizations such as Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo), and I would like to congratulate their efforts towards the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.

I wish a great success to 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.



## Plenary Session I:

### ***Damage and Suffering from A-Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Inhuman Nature of Nuclear Weapons; Struggle of the Hibakusha (August 3)***

#### **Introductory Reports:**

**Fujiwara Seigo**

**Chair of the National Legal Counsel for  
the No More Hibakusha Lawsuits**

**Continuing Agonies of Hibakusha and the  
“No More Hibakusha Lawsuits”**

**- Making Radiation Sufferers Worldwide  
Heard to Achieve Abolition of Nuclear  
Weapons**

I want to speak on behalf of the national defense counsel in the “No More Hibakusha Lawsuits” about the significance of the court struggle led by the Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons was made possible by Hibakusha testimonies on the damage and aftereffects of the bombings as well as their hellish experiences. In 1963, the Tokyo District Court, while turning down the claim for compensation of the damage by a Hibakusha plaintiff, ruled that the atomic bombings had been a violation of international humanitarian law. The ruling precluded an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in 1996 which said that “a threat or use of force by means of nuclear weapons that is contrary to Article 2, paragraph 4, of the United Nations Charter and that fails to meet all the requirements of Article 51, is unlawful”; it was also a precursor to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons recently adopted by the UN Conference.

The plaintiff Hibakusha of the “No More Hibakusha Lawsuits” are taking an active part in the global movement with you to get rid of nuclear weapons from our planet by devoting themselves to the cause.

Then, what is the reason for the plaintiff Hibakusha to continue with their lawsuits, despite their advanced age, 80 on average, 72 years after the atomic bombings? In 1945, the two atomic bombs claimed the lives of about 140,000 people in Hiroshima and 70,000 in Nagasaki by the end

of the year. The cenotaph of each city contains a list of about 300,000 people in Hiroshima and 170,000 in Nagasaki as of 2016.

*Can we forget that flash?  
suddenly 30,000 in the streets disappeared  
in the crushed depths of darkness the shrieks of  
50,000 died out  
when the swirling yellow smoke thinned  
buildings split, bridges collapsed, packed trains  
rested singed, and a shoreless accumulation of  
rubble and embers – Hiroshima  
before long, a line of naked bodies walking in  
groups, crying with skin hanging down like rags  
hands on chests, stamping on crumbled brain  
matter  
burnt clothing covering hips  
corpses lie on the parade ground like stone  
images of Jizō, dispersed in all  
directions on the banks of the river, lying one on  
top of another,  
a group that had crawled to a tethered raft  
also gradually transformed into corpses beneath  
the sun’s scorching rays  
and in the light of the flames that pierced the  
evening sky  
the place where mother and younger brother  
were pinned under alive  
also was engulfed in flames  
and when the morning sun shone on a group of  
high-school girls  
who had fled and were lying  
on the floor of the armory  
in excrement their bellies swollen  
one eye crushed  
half their bodies raw flesh with skin ripped off  
hairless, impossible to tell who was who  
all had stopped moving in a stagnant, offensive  
smell  
the only sound the wings of flies buzzing around  
metal basins  
city of 300,000 can we forget that silence?*

*Excerpt from “August 6” by Toge Sankichi  
(Translated by Karen Thornber)*

The suffering from the bomb is not a memory of the distant past. Nor is it something that ended

in an instant in the wake of the explosion of the bomb. It means a life forced to live as “Hibakusha” for 72 years from August 6, or 9, 1945 through this day. And it has still not ended.

They have spent days to live with memories of the miserable deaths of their parents, brothers or sisters, and with fear that they would be next to contract the diseases from radiation exposure, followed by years or decades when they had the fear of being discriminated against on such occasions as job seeking or marriage, and then of the effects of radiation that might appear in their offspring.

The US military banned the press from reporting on or publishing photos about the damage of the atomic bombings as military secrets. They even prohibited people from discussing it. Silence thus continued for some 10 years. In March 1954, a US hydrogen bomb test conducted on the Marshall Islands affected large numbers of islanders and fishing boat crew members, including those who later died. Many citizens, including Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, took that occasion to stand up in action and soon held the first World Conference against A and H Bombs on August 6, 1955 in Hiroshima.

In April 1957, twelve years after the bombing, an act for A-bomb sufferers' medical care was enacted. Then, Hibakusha's continuous struggles led to the enactment of the present “Hibakusha Aid Law” in December 1994. However, the number of people whose diseases were recognized as caused by the A-bomb was limited to only some 2,200, or 0.6% of the total of 370,000 people certified as Hibakusha (the figure is of the peak time), indicating that winning recognition was extremely difficult.

Accommodating itself to the US government's refusal of recognition of the inhuman nature of nuclear weapons, the Japanese government deliberately worked to underestimate the effects of exposure to A-bomb radiation to the minimum level. It set out narrow criteria by which to determine whether or not the diseases were caused by A-bomb radiation exposure, and thus limiting as much as possible the State's responsibility. The Hibakusha and Nihon Hidankyo, the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bombs Sufferers Organizations, were unable to live with such a policy and practice. They stood up in action. Starting in April 2003, a total of 306 Hibakusha filed suits at 17 district courts nationwide, demanding the reversal of the government's refusal to recognize plaintiff Hibakusha's diseases as caused by A-bomb radiation exposure. These lawsuits were called the “Collective Lawsuits for the Recognition of A-bomb Diseases”.

Beginning with the ruling at the Osaka district court in May 2006, the collective lawsuits have won a total of 40 rulings ordering the State to recognize the applied diseases as A-bomb diseases.

In court, the Hibakusha gave witness to the damage from the bomb and testified with their first-hand experiences. Not only judges but also many other people present listened to them. Through polemics with the State, many facts were established:

(1) Effects of exposure to radiation persist throughout the Hibakusha's lifetime and even beyond. (It is confirmed that the internal organ of a Hibakusha preserved by one institute in Nagasaki even now emits alpha rays more than 70 years after the A-bombing.)

(2) It is confirmed by the rulings that the diseases caused by the exposure to radiation include many kinds of cancer (stomach, colorectal, lung, liver, kidney, esophagus, prostate, breast, skin, etc.), plus many non-cancer diseases such as myocardial infarction, thyroid hypofunction, cataracts, cerebral infarction among others.

(3) The effects of the exposure to radiation are estimated from epidemiological studies of Hibakusha groups in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but these studies are still underway. Dr. Okubo Toshiteru, the former executive director of the Radiation Effects Research Foundation, admits that what is now clear as effects of radiation is no more than 5%.

(4) The amount of radiation is not necessarily proportionate to the distance from the center of the explosion. This is demonstrated by the fact that the dispersal of the radioactivity from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant did not form a concentric circle but that it created hotspots of high level radiation in specific areas. It is also important to note that the group of people who were not exposed to radiation in Hiroshima and Nagasaki later entered the ruined city in search of their families and relatives and were thus exposed to residual radioactivity. Further, there is also a problem of internal irradiation, resulting from ingestion of food and water contaminated with radioactivity. In this case irradiation continues from within the body.

(5) Narrowly-limited scope of applicable cases: Of the damage caused by the A-bombs, the present Hibakusha-Aid-Law makes the health damage from radiation alone a subject for compensation, excluding the damage by heat rays or by blast pressure. This is because the government wants to prevent the State compensation from spreading to cover the wider scope of war victims.

Having lost cases in succession, then Prime

Minister Aso Taro met Hidankyo leaders on August 6, 2009, to sign the "Agreement on Ending the Collective Lawsuits on A-bomb Disease Recognition". By signing this agreement, the government offered an apology for the errors made in the A-bomb disease recognition administration and promised that it would rectify the administration so that the Hibakusha would no longer need to go to court.

This agreement, however, has not been adequately honored, in terms of many further applications of Hibakusha it handled. On December 16, 2013, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) released a "New Examination Policy and Criteria". It set out a criterion that the A-bomb disease would be recognized for those non-cancer patients who had lived within the radius of 2km from the epicenter or those who entered within 1km of the ruined city from outside. In screening the applications the government thus began to apply these new criteria very mechanically and again turned down the A-bomb disease applications one after another. MHLW thus actually forced Hibakusha to accept the unacceptable unless they had the courage to bring in lawsuits.

Although the "Collective Lawsuits" ended with the agreement, a total of 118 Hibakusha who could not accept the unreasonable rejection of their application filed new suits again at 7 district courts around the country, in spite of difficulties from diseases and old age. Of them, 77 plaintiffs won. At present, 17 Hibakusha at 4 high courts and 43 Hibakusha at 3 district courts are continuing their lawsuits, which we call the "No More Hibakusha Lawsuits."

How does MHLW respond to Hibakusha now?

(1) MHLW turns down a Hibakusha's application unless it strictly falls under MHLW's criteria. Of all applications recently made by the Hibakusha for their diseases except for cancer, but only 43.54% of those were recognized. Applications of 849 Hibakusha were turned down.

(2) In the court, the counsel representing the State says that the State does not give the recognition of A-bomb disease unless the applicant declares where and how much Gy of radiation he or she was exposed to at that time. It is outrageous, however, to require such a declaration of the amount of the radiation received from people who suffered from the bombing at age zero or five, 72 years after they suffered.

(3) Some 80% of the decisions of the government to reject the applications, however, have been ruled as invalid by the courts. This fact demonstrates that the present "new criteria" used

by MHLW are erroneous.

(4) Having lost so many cases at district courts, however, MHLW still wants to continue with litigation by appealing to a higher court. This is because MHLW wants to deny the effects of dispersed radioactivity. The cause of the thyroid cancers and thyroid gland hypofunctions found among children in Fukushima is now at issue. The government wants to use the cases of the Hibakusha to underestimate the damage caused by the nuclear power plant. It is very politically motivated. This is therefore a problem that concerns people who have suffered from radiation not only in Fukushima but also on the Marshall Islands and elsewhere, as well as residents living near nuclear power plants and people working in them. It also concerns the criteria by which waste of nuclear fuel is disposed. All these are connected.

Now, I will move on to the direction of our effort and the prospects for a solution.

(1) The desire of the Hibakusha is to appeal to the world so that there should not be another Hiroshima, or Nagasaki, or Hibakusha anywhere, by telling stories of their own lives as evidence. The treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons means a great step forward for them. Yet there are still many more things to do to ensure that it will become a truly effective legal norm. So that the treaty will have many members and become a global standard as internationally established humanitarian law even if nuclear powers fail to sign, the appeal of the Hibakusha should be heard everywhere and the movement of citizens be built on.

(2) No apology has yet been made by the State to the Hibakusha, and no compensation paid to them. This is more or less the same for the people on the Marshall Islands or other nuclear test victims. There are so many people who suffered from nuclear testing, nuclear power plant accidents, exposure to radiation in operating nuclear plants, and environmental contamination by nuclear waste. All victims of radiation should unite.

We demand that there should not be any more victims from radiation. We demand that the Government should fulfill its responsibility by providing State compensation to the Hibakusha. The No More Hibakusha Lawsuits are a means by which to help achieve these goals. We continue to reveal the truth of the damage at the court and make it known to the world. We continue to pursue the responsibility of the government.

The Hibakusha will continue to stand in the forefront to achieve the desire of the whole of humanity, the abolition of nuclear weapons.

**Park Jung-Soon**  
**Steering Committee Member, Busan**  
**Chapter**  
**Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association**  
**Republic of Korea**

I am from Korea, and my name is Park Jung-Soon. It is my privilege to be here today to take part in the World Conference against A and H Bombs.

I was born in Nagoya in 1934. My family had 7 members, and we moved to Uchikoshi-cho in Hiroshima City in 1945, because my father was going to work at a weapons factory in Hiroshima.

On the morning of August 6, a flash like lightning struck us suddenly. In the next moment, the house collapsed over us with an explosive roar, and all of my family was caught underneath. It was completely dark for a while. Finally, we crawled out, and escaped toward a bamboo bush in Oshiba with neighbors. When we got there, many people were starting to gather. Some of them had terrible burns on their back. It was a scene of hell full of agony. In the totally destroyed city, it was hard to find those who were still alive. But survivors looked for their families and relatives for many days and nights.

People died tragically one after another. Their cruel deaths still remain fresh in my memory and deep in my heart with pain and remorse as if it happened yesterday. In today's world, these fearful nuclear weapons are still in existence. I feel scared to imagine that their devastating power may someday bring despair and annihilation to the human race. My A-bomb experience remains a trauma for me.

After spending several days in the bamboo bush with many people, my family wandered around different places together with other families that my father knew. When we came to a rural area, we were offered help by a friend of my father's friend. Finally, we could stay at his house. But we felt sorry to give his family trouble, so we started camping outside.

Then, we learned that many Korean people were preparing to return to Korea. My father also went through the procedure for the return. It took a long time to process, but finally, we got on a ship in January, 1946. After several days of traveling by ship and train, we arrived at my parents' hometown. We stayed at my parent's brother's house, but life there was the toughest of all for us sisters. For us, Korea was a foreign country, and we could not speak and write the Korean language.

Our family lost everything, which made the life of 7 family members increasingly difficult.

My father asked his brothers to take care of his children. The 5 sisters were separated one by one and had to live at their houses. My elder sisters and I started working at a factory. After two years, we made enough money to live together again as a family. But because we didn't own any fields or a house in that rural area, our life was severe. We had to go to the mountains to gather kindle woods, and to fields for wild grasses to feed ourselves. Despite such difficulties, my mother taught us the Korean language and sent us to an elementary school. But soon the Korean War started on June 25, 1950. Around that time, my parents were weak physically, but they had to go through new challenges. Eventually, my father died without being able to see a doctor. As my elder sister got married, I had to support the family as its head and take care of my sick mother (without knowing what she was suffering from).

Out of 5 sisters, one of my elder sisters died. Fortunately, the remaining 4 of us could get the Hibakusha health book and receive support. But my mother suffered from illnesses all through her life, being unable to go to a hospital because we were so poor. Though she delivered a baby, he died soon. She used to blame the atomic bombing for his death, saying the "A-bomb killed him." However, there was nothing we could do. She died after going through a lot of hardships. I cannot help but feeling so sorry for her.

I wanted at least comfort for her sake, so I applied for a consolation payment for her, but I was disappointed to receive a notice from the Japanese government dated October 20 last year, which said, "the eligibility (to receive consolation payment) expires after 20 years of the death of Hibakusha". I cannot accept such a unilateral and sudden decision. Together with another issue of compensation for A-bomb survivors as limited by Japanese government Notification No. 402\* [see below], I truly hope that our problems can be settled as soon as possible, so that my late mother can get an equivalent and maximum amount of compensation and her soul be comforted. I sincerely hope these two issues will be settled. I'd like to ask for your support.

In closing, I wish you all good health and happiness.

-----  
**\*Issue on Japanese Government Notification No. 402:**

The Notification No. 402 is a code which stipulates that "the right of receiving payment for health care based on former A-Bomb Special Measures Law is lost when relocating to overseas".

Due to this, there had been a situation that

even if Hibakusha living abroad came to Japan to apply for this measure, the payment was stopped when he/she left Japan. In 2003, this notification was abolished by the Japanese government, after the ruling of the Osaka High Court in 2002 recognized the eligibility of Korean Hibakusha to receive the payment. Thereafter, Hibakusha living overseas became able to receive the payment even after leaving Japan.

Regarding Korean A-bomb survivors, the Supreme Court of Japan (in 2007) issued a ruling in favor of Korean Hibakusha who were drafted as Mitsubishi Factory workers. The court supported the right of Korean Hibakusha to medical compensation and decided that state compensation should be given to the Hibakusha living in Korea.

Based on this ruling, the Hibakusha living in South Korea started filing lawsuits against the Japanese Government in 2008 demanding payment for pain and suffering for the loss caused by notification No. 402; they now can receive payment for pain and suffering, if a case is settled.

Since March 2010, lawsuits for deceased Hibakusha started to be filed. If a case is settled, the bereaved family can receive payment. However, the annual average of settlement is limited to only 10 cases for the last 7 years, and many families are still waiting for the settlement of their cases.

### **Abacca Anjain-Maddison Former Senator/ Iju in Ean Club, Women of Rongelap Atoll Marshall Islands**

Mina San, Konnichiwa!! I bring greetings from the Marshall Islands especially the elders and women of Rongelap atoll. It is good to be back in Hiroshima to be with friends and fellow activists for human rights and world peace.

Let me introduce a friend and partner Mr. Mores Abraham from Enewetak Atoll, a grandson from a high chief clan and a founder of Elmondrik one of the newest non-government organization in the Marshall Islands focusing on human rights, nuclear issues and climate change.

Like Bikini, Enewetak was a ground zero for US nuclear test programs and home of the Runit Dome, a concrete structure where the contaminated debris are kept underneath. Mores courageously made a lot of effort to be here. He traveled on a yacht for 5 days from his Enewetak.

The last two three years have been like a roller coaster we have made achievements and unsuccessful actions as well in our efforts to save the planet, to protect our human rights. The

International court of Justice case was unsuccessful and last week the lawsuit in the US federal court in San Francisco was also dismissed. However, we succeeded with the Paris Agreement and most recently the adoption of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Treaty last month.

I witnessed in the United Nations a historic victory where the Nuclear Ban Treaty was adopted. All people in the room were filled with emotions. I myself couldn't stop tearing up. In fact, I felt as if a boulder lifted from my shoulders. The international community worked very hard for this achievement but we should also recognize the world leaders for their supports.

Along this line, I wish to congratulate my government for taking the leadership role so courageously in pushing for articles 'User's obligations' and 'victim's assistance' as revised. But most importantly we should recognize the Japanese hibakusha and survivors of nuclear weapons from Rongelap and around the world for their steadfast and continued efforts in educating the world of the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. Setsuko Thurlow is a great example of that. Her speech at the UN moved all people in the room. She never gives up!

Immediately after I returned to the Marshalls, I had an opportunity to accompany Lemeyo Abon in visiting Rongelap Atoll sponsored by Asahi TV. I announced to her of the adoption of the treaty. Tears of joy were filled in her eyes. She said, "Wow, they finally heard our voice, all the hard work were not in vain" and further said, "Now I can live in peace, I am confident that the future of my children and grandchildren will be brighter and safer".

In the meantime, Lemeyo is still concerned about the current situation of the people of Rongelap. She saw many empty new houses built on Rongelap. She is worried if people return without US completing the cleanup people will be affected by radiation.

Rongelapese continue to live in exile on Mejjatto. Many have relocated to Majuro and Ebeye and to the United States. The health situation continues to be a problem, many people have died or suffered from cancer, the 177 medical care doesn't cover cancer treatment overseas. The Resettlement money is depleting, meaning compensation is not made available as much. The compact of free association is ending in 2023 and the future is not so clear at the moment, Marshall Island Government is starting to work on the issues for negotiation of a new compact.

The adoption of the nuclear ban treaty is just the beginning, we need to work even harder to

secure the ratification of the treaty in every country. In the Marshalls so far the feeling is positive but we can't take things for granted. RMI must sign on this coming September in the UN and ratify by our parliament.

I urge all of us to do the same, surely it will be difficult in many countries under the umbrella of the nuclear states but we must not give up. We came this far and we shall overcome.

No more Hiroshima, No More Nagasaki, No More Bikini, No more nuclear weapons.

### **Mores Abraham Founding Member of Elimondik - NGO of Enewetak Atoll, Marshall Islands**

Iakwe aolep (Greetings to everyone). Thank you, to all members of Gensuikyo, for the opportunity to be here and share my story.

My name is Mores Abraham. I am the only son of Rose Abraham and Irojlaplap Moses Abraham. I am of Enjebi, Enewetak, and Ujelang heritage. Enewetak Atoll is divided between Enjebi and Enewetak chiefly domains. Because of US nuclear bomb tests, I am unable to live and raise my family on my Enjebi islands. Instead, I am now raising my children as a new generation of nuclear refugees.

Children should not grow up knowing the devastation of the nuclear cycle but my children are growing up with an unseen danger on their beautiful islands. As I raise my daughter and two sons to be stewards of their ocean and islands, they must also be stewards of a US nuclear waste storage site located on one of their islands—Runit.

I am very grateful that Gensuikyo was able to visit Enewetak earlier this year. Some of the readings found that our homes—constructed from local sand as part of the US resettlement package—are emitting radiation. I turned 37 years old last month. I was born in, and have spent most of my life, in my house on Enewetak. I have spent my life eating contaminated food, drinking contaminated water, swimming and fishing in a contaminated lagoon, bathing in contaminated water. While I did not grow up understanding about the contamination, I did grow up loving and respecting my islands. It is out of love and respect for my islands and family that I am able to speak here today.

On Enewetak, and in the Marshall Islands, we do not have advanced medical care and equipment. We are not able to have annual cancer screenings and full medical check-ups. When we become very sick we must find our own funds to travel to Hawaii, or else remain on Enewetak with our

illness.

Both of my parents have passed away from the effects of the nuclear tests, as far too many family members have done so. Most of my relations, including all six of my sisters and their children, have left for the Big Island of Hawaii. There they face many hardships including discrimination.

Thank you for letting me share a part of the Enewetak story. I think that many of you share a similar history and all of us want to make sure that our future generations can have a life free from A & H bombs.

I want to recognize the work of Abacca and the women of Iju in Eañ (Rongelap) for never giving up in telling our Marshallese story, and for encouraging us in Enewetak to tell our stories.

Thank you for supporting Yayoi and the team that visited Enewetak, for giving us access to new information.

Thank you to the peace organizations, advocates, and allies for working toward a peaceful future for our children and grandchildren.

We are here to continue the work of our elders. I know that our relations who have passed on are here with us today to guide us and support this important conference. Kom kanuj in emol (Thank you all very much).

### **Sue Coleman-Haseldine Aboriginal Nuclear Test Survivor Australia**

My name is Sue Coleman Haseldine. I am an Aboriginal Kokatha woman from Australia.

I, like many other mothers and grandmothers, am responsible for passing on knowledge, beliefs and a safe place for my children and families of the future. Our culture is linked to the land, the sea, and each other and that is why my son Simon is accompanying me on this trip.

We are still fighting to keep our culture strong and keep our families together. This hasn't been easy—for many reasons. One of these reasons is the presence of the nuclear industry. Nuclear testing interrupted our way of life in a big way. And now the promise of big money for uranium mining or waste dumps has divided our families.

Back at home my Aunty who has been so strong with me while we fight for our culture is dying of cancer. Just 2 weeks ago, a strong and proud man who lost his eyesight from radiation fallout and who was instrumental in getting our stories of the bomb heard lost his battle and died. More families are suffering. So I tell my story in respect and in honour of these people.

My life began around the same time the

nuclear industry encroached on our land. I was born in February 1951 on the Koonibba Mission on the far west coast of South Australia. Atomic bomb tests began in the desert areas north of my birthplace in 1953. First at Emu Fields and then Maralinga. I remember older people talking about Nullabor dust storms. It was the fallout from the bomb tests. We weren't on ground zero, but the dust didn't stay in one place. The winds brought the poison to us. For over a decade the area north of my home was used to test nine full-scale atomic bombs ranging from 1 to 27 kilotonnes. These were big atomic tests that the British and Australian governments were proud of. But then the British did approximately 700 more tests in secret with plutonium and other nuclear material—leaving the land highly radioactive.

Although the area was vast, the British and Australian governments only sent one man to clear people away before testing took place. Of course the area wasn't cleared properly and many people died and became sick immediately after testing. Clouds of radiation also caused havoc over larger areas. The first atomic bomb called "Totem 1" spread far and wide and there are lots of stories about the "black mist" it created which killed, blinded, and made people very sick. The bomb tests continued for many years right until 1967. These tests contaminated a huge area and everything in it but people 100kms away were also impacted. This includes my family and the broader community where I live. We noticed more and more people dying of cancer, something that was new to us.

Our people were still on the land, living their culture. A culture, which was not understood or accepted by the governments, therefore they were ignored. Up until 1967 we were looked upon as Flora and Fauna and therefore of little consequence and expendable.

Aboriginal people, indeed all people at that time knew nothing about the effects of radiation and their future poisonous outcomes. No one knew the silent invisible killer was falling amongst us. 63 years on, my small town of Ceduna is being called the Cancer Capital of Australia. There are so many deaths in our region of various cancers. Myself and my granddaughter have no thyroid. And there are many others in our area with thyroid problems. Fertility issues appear common. But there has been no long term assessment of the health impacts in the region, and even those involved in the test sites botched clean ups have no recourse because they cannot prove their illness is linked with exposure to nuclear weapon radiation. The impact of the Maralinga and Emu Fields bomb testing has had far reaching

consequence, and is still being felt today. Ask a young person "what do you think you will die from?" The answer is "cancer, everyone else is". I worry for the people - young and old, the animals, and plants. The animals and plants can't speak for themselves, thus they are ignored and left to die. I ask what kind of world are we leaving our children, with no animals and no beautiful bushlands? Today the Australian government is again talking nuclear waste dumps for South Australia. We have already been poisoned once and now the government thinks it is okay to put us in danger again, living under the threat of nuclear waste dumps, which to me is another form of nuclear weapon. Any accidents at these sites would be disastrous.

The language and rationale used today is very similar to what they used in the 1950s. The land is 'desolate' and 'unused' and it's in the 'national interest' to sacrifice the area for a toxic industry. We are saying the sacrifice is not worth it. Not for us and not for the broader population. Aboriginal people have known and cared for these lands continuously. We are the oldest living culture on the planet and despite attempts to annihilate, assimilate or suppress our culture we remain committed to looking after our families, community, heritage, and knowledge. We won't accept the risk or being told everything will be OK when our firsthand experience shows otherwise. We now know, that even though we are in remote Australia we must speak to the world, and also listen. To hear how nuclear weapons and the broader industry has impacted other people and other lands. I was devastated to learn that the uranium taken from our country, without our permission, has caused so much damage and heartache in other countries including Japan. So much suffering and it needs to stop. Together we need to make the connections between the past, the present, and the future. We must keep the past alive to protect the future for generations to come.

I have never received compensation from the Australian or British government despite trying. Nor has any other victims that I know of. Some Aboriginal people and some veterans have now got a gold health care card to help with medical costs. Many see this as too little, too late. The bombs have destroyed a large part of Australia and despite several attempts it will never be safe or clean. There are many Aboriginal people who cannot go back to their ancestral lands and their children and their children's children and so on will never know the special religious places it contains. Not knowing the true impact of the nuclear tests causes a lot of anguish in itself. We

would like to have answers and hopefully find some solutions. We don't want others to suffer as we have.

The recent Nuclear Ban Treaty is an opportunity to help stop the suffering and assist countries to make amends to nuclear weapons victims by acknowledging the permanent damage done to land, health and culture—particularly for Aboriginal people in Australia and around the world. Unfortunately the Australian government didn't even participate in the treaty negotiations. Making sure we understand the links between nuclear weapons and the rest of the nuclear fuel industry is also important.

We are still not being properly recognised by our own government but we will keep talking about our experiences and concerns. Not all the impacts are, or will ever be known scientifically but sharing our stories means we keep track of ongoing impacts and a determination to stop this happening again. I am speaking to you today in the hope that by working together life in my country and across all of Earth can continue into a safe, nuclear-free future.

Thank you for listening to me; thank you to the organizers for giving me this opportunity and thank you to my support team at home and my son Simon for coming with me on this long journey.

**Saito Osamu**  
**M.D., Watari Hospital, Fukushima**  
**Representative Director, Japan Council**  
**against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo)**

**Current Situation of Evacuees from**  
**Fukushima and Restart of Nuclear Power**  
**Plants in Japan**

(1) I will talk about the successive restart of nuclear power plants in Japan and the actual state of the evacuees of the severe nuclear accident at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

(2) After the accident at Fukushima Daiichi, all nuclear power plants existing in the country were stopped, although temporarily. However, the government is persistently seeking to prompt the restart of nuclear plants. The keys determining the restart are the newly established "Nuclear Regulation Commission" and the so-called "New Regulatory Standards" that the Commission presented and that are said to be stronger versions of the natural disaster mitigation standards.

(3) The Commission has decided that 12 reactors meet the new regulation requirements. Of

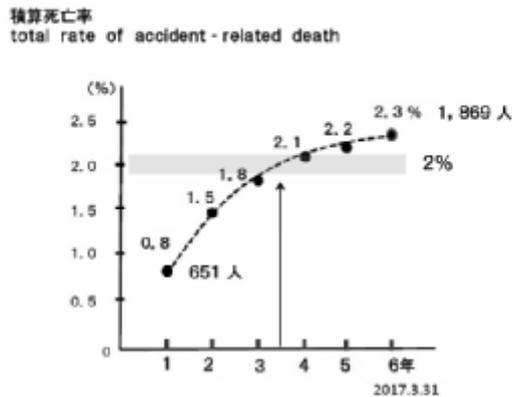
them, five are now back online. The reactors shown in blue are those that have cleared the new standards. Those shown in yellow are the ones back in operation. It is important to note that all these five operating reactors were brought back online after the residents' demands for injunction against their restart was turned down by high courts (courts of the second instance). This judicial precedent sets a tremendous barrier for stopping nuclear reactors, creating a very tense situation for us.

(4) What is common in the judgments made by the justices at both the district and high court levels is that they do not question the rationality of both the new standards and the safety measures taken by the power companies. The crux of their judgment is that it is not the role of the courts to try to point out who is responsible for the extensive damage from severe nuclear accident. But this is the major weakness of the court rulings that are meant to approve the restart from the beginning.

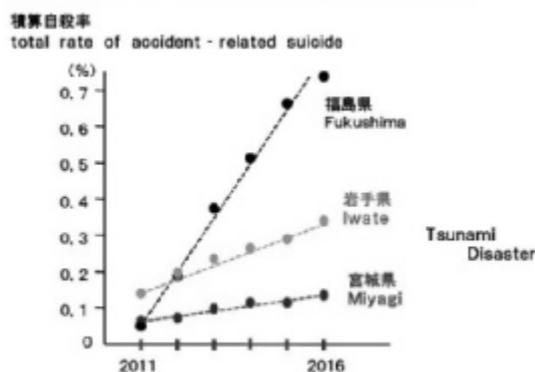
(5) More than six years have passed since the Fukushima Daiichi accident. In particular, during the last four years, several nuclear plants have been brought back in operation as a result of a decision that failed to see the forest for the trees. Another result of this decision is that the massive number of people who had left their hometowns due to the nuclear disaster have to lead difficult lives. In fact, about 50,000 people evacuees still live out of their homes.

(6) We must consider what the evacuation actually means for the sufferers of nuclear accident. The sufferers are tormented mainly by three factors: first, each of them is experiencing separation of family members, destruction of livelihood and loss of hometowns. Second, they are suffering inside their minds from lingering anger, elusive feeling of despair, depression and reticence, meaning dialogue only with oneself; and third, nuclear accident-related deaths and suicides of their relatives and acquaintances.

(7) This is the cumulative curve of nuclear accident-related deaths among 80,000 people who lived in the evacuation order areas. Three or four years after the evacuation began, nuclear accident-related deaths accounted for 2 percent of all deaths. This suggests that even if people could evacuate from the highly contaminated areas, some of them would die a premature death. This should be regarded not only as knowledge that concerns Fukushima Daiichi but that is universal, applicable to any severe nuclear power plant accident. It is an important fact that the court rulings that approved the restart have disregarded.



(8) The evolution of suicides attributable to the nuclear accident is also shown. After the accident, the Cabinet Office issued a report classifying the cases of earthquake-linked suicide by cause and other characteristics such as heavy destruction of houses, difficult living conditions at temporary housing units, and the clear intent for suicide. In Fukushima Prefecture, disaster-related suicides are a synonym for nuclear accident-related suicides. The figure shows that suicide rates are much higher in Fukushima prefecture than in other prefectures like Iwate and Miyagi, which were also affected by tsunami. This shows that effects of nuclear accidents are different from the consequences of natural disasters.



(9) What are the factors for this difference between natural and nuclear disasters? First, contamination by radiation of wide areas. Second, multifold destruction of conditions of coexistence with their families and community, as well as with the past and future. Third, the quick decision taken by the Japanese government to bail out Tokyo Electric Power Company, which is responsible for the heavy damage caused by the nuclear accident. It is the worst case of moral

debacle. Fourth, judicial rulings that have failed to fully grasp the realities of damage from the nuclear disaster or the “judicial silence.”

(10) I often recall the 60 years of court struggles fought by hibakusha to obtain the recovery of human rights and the abolition of nuclear weapons. We can learn from this the importance of the judicial struggle backed by science and ethics and supported by an overwhelming majority of the people. This slide indicates in yellow the locations of Takahama, Ikata and Sendai nuclear plants. The local cities shown in blue are where evacuees have filed class actions seeking to hold TEPCO accountable for negligence as part of their struggle to recover their livelihoods. The slide also underscores that ever since the accident, opinions opposed to restarting nuclear plants is much greater than opinion in favor of the restart. Looking at this chart, I am convinced that the surest way to break the wall of silence built by the judicial system is to achieve change in local politics and national politics based on the united effort of people in court struggles.

**Nguyen The Luc**  
**Vice-President /General Secretary**  
**Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA)**

First of all, I would like to thank the organizing committee for allowing me to attend and speak at this session.

My name is Nguyen The Luc, Vice-President and General Secretary of the Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA). On behalf of more than 3 million victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam, I sincerely express our solidarity greetings to the conference and wish all of you good health.

As we all know, 72 years ago, under the order of U.S President, Harry S Truman, the U.S military dropped two atomic bombs into Hiroshima and Nagasaki, turning the two beautiful cities into dead lands. Tens of thousands people died immediately, tens of thousands others were injured or continue to be affected by radioactive contamination and died afterwards. Survivors have been suffering from many illnesses, tormented by mental illness, and have been dying. The risk of further given birth defects, deformities, and a lot of other social problems. Although these two cities have been resurrected by the Japanese people, the consequences always terrifies not only the people of Japan but the people all over the world as well.

I myself would like to share our hard

experiences that in the Vietnam War, the US military used the amount of bombs and ammunition as 4 times in comparison with the amount used during World War II, equivalent to the explosion of nearly 200 atomic bombs dropped onto Hiroshima and Nagasaki. 42 years after the end of the war, unexploded bombs and ammunition continue to cause casualties to the Vietnamese people, especially farmers, children and those in mountainous areas on a daily basis.

Along with the use of conventional weapons, in the 10-year period from 1961 to 1971, the US military sprayed 80 million liters of toxic chemicals into South Vietnam, of which 61% were Agent Orange, containing 366 kg of dioxin, the most powerful poison known to human being. What I want to emphasize here is that the disaster of Agent Orange/ dioxin used by the United States in the Vietnam War has many similarities to the disaster of the US atomic bombs dropped onto Japan.

Compared to other chemical warfare in the world, the one in Vietnam had the largest scale and the longest time in human history and has the greatest impact on the environment of ecosystem and people's health; more than 3 million hectares of forests were destroyed, ecosystems were upside down, the environment was severely contaminated; 4.8 million people were exposed to toxic chemicals, of which more than 3 million became victims with serious illness, hundreds of thousands have died, survivors have been struggling with the pain of disease, thousands of people are deprived of having rights to be mothers or fathers.

Not only the Vietnamese people but veterans of the United States, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, etc, whoever participated in the Vietnam War, their offspring and descendants have been also suffering from many diseases caused by Agent Orange. Many countries that produced, tested, stocked or destroyed US toxic chemicals after use in the Vietnam War have been suffering serious consequences.

It has been 56 years since the first spraying of August 10<sup>th</sup> 1961, but the consequences of toxic chemicals still have a lasting impact; there are still large areas with the high level of dioxin residue, especially the former US military toxicity storages, which are always the risk of poisoning neighboring residents. For those, whose serious diseases caused by dioxin for many years, have no hope of curing their illness. Particularly, the toxic chemicals that have left sequelae through many generations, descendants, tens of thousands of children who were born dead, diseased, deformed

or completely and partially paralyzed.

The families of Agent Orange victims, especially the families with many generations of victims, seriously ill, are the poorest families. Although the Vietnamese government and people, with the support of many foreign organizations and individuals, have made great efforts of solving this issue, the consequences are still heavy. It is still not known when this problem will be redressed.

Ladies and gentlemen, recognizing the dangerous consequences of atomic bombs and toxic chemicals, once again, we urgently urge governments and the people of countries, organizations, and individuals in the world to work together against weapons of mass destruction under any form, for a world of peace, without victims of atomic bombs, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims. We express our joyfulness that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted in the United Nations on July 7th, 2017.

We call for support of the struggle for justice of the atomic and Agent Orange victims. We should show the world people that the United States of America or any other country can't shirk its responsibility for the war disasters they have caused. At the same time, we stand together and help victims in all possible forms, both spiritually and materially.

We express our concern about the increased tension of sovereignty disputes in the sea and on the land between nations threatening peace, security and stability in the region; the conflicts should be resolved by peaceful means based on the United Nations Charter and international law.



## Plenary Session II:

### *From Prohibition Treaty to Abolition of Nuclear Weapons - Role of Peace Movement and Civil Society (August 3)*

#### **Introductory Reports:**

**Jacqueline Cabasso**  
**Coordinating Committee member,**  
**Abolition 2000/ Executive Director,**  
**Western States Legal Foundation**  
**U.S.A.**

#### **From Banning Threat of Use to Delegitimizing and Stigmatizing Nuclear Deterrence**

On December 22, 2016, US President-elect Donald Trump tweeted: “The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes”.

On July 7, I was at the United Nations to witness the adoption, by the majority of the world’s countries, of a historic treaty to prohibit the possession, development, testing, use and *threat of use* of nuclear weapons. The vote, by 122 to 1, unambiguously demonstrates that most of the world has indeed come to its senses regarding nuclear weapons. But the Doomsday Clock is ticking... When will the United States and the other nuclear-armed states come to their senses?

We stand at a nuclear crossroads, with a sharply divided world. While the Ban Treaty represents the total repudiation of nuclear weapons by most of the states that don’t possess them, the US and the eight other nuclear-armed states boycotted the negotiations, along with Japan, Australia, South Korea and all but one of the 28 NATO member states (The Netherlands)—all countries under the US nuclear umbrella. In a joint statement following the vote, the US, France and the United Kingdom declared: “We do not intend to sign, ratify or ever become party to [the Treaty].” Meanwhile, nuclear tensions have risen to levels not seen for decades.

In January, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists moved the hands of its “Doomsday Clock” to 2-1/2 minutes to midnight—the closest it’s been since 1953, citing the failure of the

international community “to come effectively to grips with humanity’s most pressing existential threats, nuclear weapons and climate change.” Derek Johnson, executive director of Global Zero, has assessed today’s nuclear threat as “an unprecedented moment in human history. The world has never faced so many nuclear flashpoints simultaneously. From NATO-Russia tensions, to the Korean Peninsula, to South Asia and the South China Sea and Taiwan—all of the nuclear-armed states are tangled up in conflicts and crises that could catastrophically escalate at any moment.”

Earlier this year, former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev warned: “[I]t all looks as if the world is preparing for war... More troops, tanks and armored personnel carriers are being brought to Europe. NATO and Russian forces and weapons that used to be deployed at a distance are now placed closer to each other, as if to shoot point-blank.”

While the Ban Treaty negotiations were taking place in the United Nations, two floors up in the same building, in an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council, the United States was threatening military action against North Korea, in response to its July 4 missile test.

We must keep both realities—the promise of the Ban Treaty *and* growing dangers of nuclear war—fully in mind as we develop strategies and tactics to accomplish the urgent goal of a world without nuclear weapons.

Donald Trump entered office with the US poised to spend at least one trillion dollars over the next 30 years to maintain and modernize its nuclear bombs, warheads and delivery systems, and the infrastructure to sustain the nuclear enterprise indefinitely. Russia, China, France, the United Kingdom, India, Israel and Pakistan are all engaged in nuclear weapons modernization programs.

While the personality at the top of the US government changes from time to time, US national security policy has been remarkably consistent in the post-World War II and post-Cold War eras — despite dramatically changed geopolitical conditions and very different

presidential styles. “Deterrence,” the threatened use of nuclear weapons, has been reaffirmed as the “cornerstone” of US national security by every President, Republican or Democrat, since 1945, when Harry Truman, a Democrat, oversaw the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Last October, President Obama’s UN Ambassador, Robert Wood, condemned the Ban Treaty in the General Assembly: “Advocates of a ban treaty say it is open to all, but how can a state that relies on nuclear weapons for its security possibly join a negotiation meant to stigmatize and eliminate them?”

Immediately following the July 7 UN vote, the US, France and the UK jointly declared: “Accession to the ban treaty is incompatible with the policy of nuclear deterrence, which has been essential to keeping the peace in Europe and North Asia for over 70 years. A purported ban on nuclear weapons that does not address the security concerns that continue to make nuclear deterrence necessary cannot result in the elimination of a single nuclear weapon and will not enhance any country’s security, nor international peace and security.”

What exactly does deterrence mean? During the Cold War, deterrence was typically understood to mean maintaining the capacity to inflict a devastating retaliatory second strike, or “mutually assured destruction,” if either the United States or the Soviet Union attacked the other with nuclear weapons. But what did it really mean? And what does it mean now? Deterrence is an ideology which has outlived its Cold War origins and is used today by nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states as an all-purpose justification for the perpetual possession and *threatened use* of nuclear weapons. Regrettably, more than half the world’s population lives in countries whose national security postures explicitly depend on the doctrine of nuclear deterrence.

A 2008 US Department of Defense Report defines nuclear deterrence this way: “Though our consistent goal has been to avoid *actual* weapons use, the nuclear deterrent is ‘used’ every day by assuring friends and allies, dissuading opponents from seeking peer capabilities to the United States, deterring attacks on the United States and its allies from potential adversaries, and providing the potential to defeat adversaries if deterrence fails.”

In other words, the US uses the threat of nuclear attack the same way a bank robber uses a gun held to head of a bank teller.

“Unfortunately,” as former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted in 2008: “[T]he doctrine of nuclear deterrence has proven to be

contagious. This has made non-proliferation more difficult, which in turn raises new risks that nuclear weapons will be used.”

With no acknowledgement of their own responsibility, in their July 7 joint statement, the US, France and the UK charged the Ban Treaty with “creating even more divisions at a time when the world needs to remain united in the face of growing threats, including those from the DPRK’s ongoing proliferation efforts. This treaty offers no solution to the grave threat posed by North Korea’s nuclear program, nor does it address other security challenges that make nuclear deterrence necessary.”

On July 28, North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile, claiming it demonstrated the capability to reach the “whole U.S. mainland.” The test was condemned by the United States, China, Japan and South Korea. The US responded by flying two supersonic B-1B bombers over the Korean peninsula in a show of force, and testing its own Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in the Pacific.

This was the latest round of escalating threats and counter-threats, with North Korea’s nuclear weapons and missile tests alternating with massive joint US-South Korea military exercises, and deployments of US naval and air forces close to North Korea’s shores. Little known by the public and little reported, the US regularly conducts flight tests of its Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California to Kwajalein atoll in the Marshall Islands.

The US maintains 448 Minuteman III missiles, fully capable of devastating North Korea, on high-alert. The most recent test launch was August 2. Prior to a similar test in 2016, Deputy Defense Secretary Robert Work told reporters: “We and the Russians and the Chinese routinely do test shots to prove that the operational missiles that we have are reliable. And that is a signal... that we are prepared to use nuclear weapons in defense of our country if necessary.” Each of these test launches is a threat of use.

Responsible US diplomacy is urgently needed to de-escalate the potentially catastrophic nuclear flashpoint on the Korean peninsula.

The Ban Treaty’s unambiguous prohibition of *threat of use* is an essential point for the peace movement and civil society in the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states to highlight in our public education and advocacy. The ideology of nuclear deterrence *must* be delegitimized and stigmatized to make progress on abolishing nuclear weapons, and *our* task is to change the discourse—from the bottom up. This, I believe is

the most important thing we can do. Changing the discourse will require the courage not only to “speak truth to power,” but also to speak truth to each other.

In a statement welcoming adoption of the Ban Treaty, the Japanese Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (JALANA) recognized that we must change the attitude of the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states, and advised: “The first thing to do for that aim is to share broadly the value and logics behind the Treaty.”

These values and logic are grounded in concerns about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from nuclear weapons use, and recognition that the complete elimination of such weapons is the only way to guarantee that they are never used again. The Treaty affirms that any use of nuclear weapons would be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict, the principles of humanity, and the dictates of public conscience. As JALANA rightly acknowledged: “These ideas come from mindfulness of suffering of and harm caused to the victims of nuclear weapons use (hibakusha) and those affected by the nuclear testing.”

In this time of multiple global crises, our work for the elimination of nuclear weapons must take place in a much broader framework, taking into account the interface between nuclear and conventional weapons and militarism in general, the humanitarian and long-term environmental consequences of nuclear war, and the fundamental incompatibility of nuclear weapons with democracy, the rule of law, and human wellbeing.

To build the necessary political will in the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states, we will need to move public opinion from the irrational fear-based ideology of deterrence to the rational fear of an eventual nuclear weapon use, whether by accident or design, by some nuclear-armed state that places its own survival above the survival of its people. We will also need to stimulate a rational hope that security can be redefined in humanitarian and ecologically sustainable terms that will lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons and dramatic demilitarization, freeing up tremendous resources desperately needed to address universal human needs and protect the environment.



## **Hannah Tweddell Vice-Chair, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament United Kingdom**

Thank you for inviting me to this conference and for the opportunity to speak. I am honoured to be in attendance and representing the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. I will talk about nuclear weapons in the UK, the current political context and what we can learn from this to abolish nuclear weapons.

Trident is the UK’s nuclear weapons system. It consists of four nuclear submarines. Each submarine carries up to eight missiles on board, each missile carries up to five nuclear bombs or warheads. Each of these bombs is around eight times as destructive as the bomb used in Hiroshima. One Trident submarine patrols the seas at all times.

A vote on replacing the Trident system was called in the UK Parliament at very short notice in 2016. Despite the majority of the British public being opposed to nuclear weapons, a majority of MPs voted in favour of going ahead with building four submarines for a new nuclear weapons system. Parliament had an ill-informed debate about the issue, where the Prime Minister even refused to confirm what a new system would cost.

The last few years in UK politics has been tempestuous. In June 2016 the UK voted to leave the European Union 51.9% to 48.1%. Yet the majority of young people voted to remain and it has been suggested that if 16 and 17-year-olds had been allowed the vote we would not be leaving the European Union. The referendum vote truly split the country.

It has also been a turbulent time within the Labour Party with the surprise election of Jeremy Corbyn in September 2015 who has been very active in our campaign and is now Vice President of CND. Corbyn, as opposed to his recent successors, has been a staunch peace activist his entire life.

Many Labour MPs were not happy about his election and many of the party’s MPs have challenged him every step of the way. There was a mass shadow cabinet resignation followed by a vote of no confidence. In June 2016 a leadership challenge was launched and there was an attempt to make sure he was not on the ballot. This failed and he was re-elected in September with 61% of the vote.

Finally Labour had a leader that offered a genuine opposition to the Conservative Party. Someone who has campaigned for a more

peaceful and just global society. Many of the British people have become excited by this genuine alternative, in particular young people. Many joined the party after his election and since the June 2017 election over 15 thousand new members have joined making it the biggest socialist party in Europe.

We have just witnessed a snap general election called by the Conservative government who were feeling very confident about the potential result, expecting an increased majority. Indeed all the early opinion polls suggested that this would happen. Theresa May, the UK Prime Minister must be regretting her decision on calling the election as instead of increasing her majority it actually decreased by 13 seats and Labour increased its seats by 32. This has not been enough to defeat the Conservatives but the last few months have seen Theresa May clinging to power and being described as 'weak and wobbly'.

So how did Corbyn manage to gain seats?

As I've mentioned, he has campaigned on social issues for many years, opposing the hugely unpopular war in Iraq led by previous Labour leader, Tony Blair. In fact he actually apologised for Labour's role in the war. He has offered a real alternative. A different political message.

Many young people grew up with Blair as Prime Minister, the Liberal Democrat – Conservative coalition and then the Conservative's David Cameron and Theresa May. They have learnt that Corbyn offers a very different vision. In 2015, 18 to 24-year-old turnout was estimated at 43%. In the recent election it is estimated to have increased to 58%.

Along with offering something different, Corbyn also offered an alternative on important issues to young people. He promised to scrap tuition fees for university and to reinstate financial support for those in further education. The UK is seeing a housing crisis at the moment with young people unable to afford a house of their own. Corbyn promised to build more affordable housing. The Conservatives have cut our National Health Service funding heavily and Corbyn promised to save it. The manifesto was entitled 'For the Many Not the Few' reinforcing the concept of a social movement.

Mainstream media have been very hostile towards Corbyn. A London School of Economics study found much evidence of hostility towards the leader, much more so than any other party leader. The BBC has been found to have produced inaccurate reports about him. Corbyn and his team have had to find another way of sharing their message.

They have circumnavigated the mainstream

media by utilising social media. Adverts on social media by Labour gave positive messages about building a social movement whereas Conservative adverts portrayed May as 'strong and stable' and Corbyn as 'weak'. Labour's adverts also contained practical advice about how to register to vote designed to increase youth turnout. Labour's adverts were shared much more widely than Conservative ones.

As well as the paid adverts, videos were created by supporters including celebrities with the aim of spreading the message via social media. One powerful video called 'Daddy, why do you hate me?' was a mock political broadcast telling people to vote for Theresa May "because your children deserve worse". This has been viewed more than 7.6 million times across social media platforms.

WhatsApp, a communication platform used mainly by 18 to 29-year-olds in the UK, was used to encourage young people to come out and knock on people's doors to convince them to vote Labour. Around 400 thousand people were reached with this method. This meant that young people with no experience of canvassing could team up with experienced canvassers and learn. This gave them the confidence to participate and talk to young people face to face. Peer to peer engagement is a powerful tool. If one young person tells another that the election is important it is more convincing.

A number of web platforms were established by different groups to mobilise turn out for canvassing. 'Where is my nearest marginal?' allowed people to find out where their campaigning would be most useful. Another aimed at students enabled them to find out if it was better to vote in their university town or hometown and what party was most likely to defeat the Conservatives.

Over the past few years the actual number of protests and the number of people attending protests have grown in the face of devastating cuts to public services. These have attracted many young people introducing them to politics. Corbyn and his team recognised this and organised huge rallies up and down the country attended by thousands of young people. This enabled Corbyn to share his message directly, bypassing the bias of the mass media.

He also received endorsements from popular culture figures, particularly musicians from a genre of music known as 'Grime', very popular with young disenfranchised people. Popular music magazines ran front cover photos and interviews with Corbyn—unprecedented in the UK. This reached young people that may not

have been watching the news and made them take an interest in politics.

The rise of left wing politics and the engagement of young people is not unique to the UK. Other examples include Melenchon in France or Sanders in the US. As a peace movement we need to learn from these tactics. Our campaigning has been most successful when we have worked with other relevant organisations to mobilise in larger numbers. When the UK parliament announced the vote on Trident we worked with anti-war and anti austerity campaigns to mobilise and this increased our numbers significantly.

We at CND are incredibly excited and hopeful about the Nuclear Ban Treaty. The treaty is a significant step towards changing international attitudes to nuclear weapons. Previous treaties prohibiting chemical and biological weapons helped to stigmatise them in the minds of the public. This is our opportunity to do the same for nuclear weapons.

It gives us the opportunity to share an alternative message of hope for a more peaceful world. In my home city of Bristol during the negotiations we travelled around the city announcing the news of the talks and it was great to be sharing a positive message about nuclear weapon abolition. People were interested in hearing about the talks precisely because it was a positive story.

In mid-July we visited 10 Downing Street to deliver 7000 letters to Theresa May calling on her to sign up to the ban treaty, we continue to lobby May and our MPs. Campaigners also continue to challenge Trident through the courts. The Attorney General's office is investigating whether Theresa May should face charges in court after statements made suggesting they would launch a nuclear first strike.

Sadly the UK government, along with other nuclear arms states did not participate in the talks. So we still have a long way to go. It is important we learn from the tactics that have been used to mobilise the youth vote in the UK. We must use every possible tactic to reach the goal of a global ban. We need to engage young people in our campaign. We need to utilise social media to share our message. We need to use our courts to challenge the legality of nuclear weapons. We need to continue our street stalls and rallies. We need to join forces with allies. We are strongest when we stand together. The majority of the world want rid of nuclear weapons. To borrow a phrase from Jeremy Corbyn: 'We are many. They are few.'

**Roland Nivet**

**National Secretary, French Peace Movement (Le Mouvement de la Paix) France**

### **United for the elimination of nuclear weapons**

First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge the role played by Hibakushas and Japanese peace movements, whose continued mobilisation has contributed greatly to the successful adoption of a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

#### **A victory for citizen mobilisation**

The United Nation's adoption of a treaty banning nuclear weapons is a victory for millions of individuals and NGOs worldwide. For decades, they have laboured for the full elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, working together with a number of states and with national and international institutions such as the UN, the International Red Cross, the International Labour Organisation, the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation), etc.

#### **Global challenges**

Nuclear weapons are obviously a mortal danger for all of humanity. They need to be eliminated. The struggle for their elimination is also linked to other global challenges. These include conflict and peace, sustainable development, and climate change, and more broadly the search for justice, fraternity, solidarity and equality (especially between men and women), and general human rights issues. Nowadays, humanity has the means to confront these problems and to create conditions so that all people may live in peace and security.

Nevertheless, the capitalist and neoliberal globalization of the world's economy constitutes a major obstacle to a world of peace, free of nuclear weapons. Indeed, the pursuit of immediate and large profit feeds the arms trade and creates arms races, including in the development of nuclear weapons. This will to power, domination, and monopolisation is aided by the reinterpretation of the UN Charter which benefits NATO and other supranational bodies such as the G8 and G20.

This logic encouraged the development of the military-industrial complex, the main opponent in our struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Indeed, the military-industrial complex, the main cause for increased military expenses, dominates and at the same time controls the media to such a point that, in France, the adoption of the treaty banning nuclear weapons has been met with total silence. Finally, wars led by the USA in

Afghanistan and the Middle East, but also by France in Libya, have set this region on fire and aided in the rise of the Islamic State. This type of terrorism serves as a misguided reasoning for expanding armament expenses, perpetuating a vicious cycle for the end of which we must work.

### **Power relationships**

We should not underestimate the success of the nuclear ban treaty, but we also should not over- or underestimate the determination of our opponents to delay the elimination of nuclear arms.

While the balance of power has shifted in favour of elimination, in 2010 the number of states which had adopted the draft convention banning nuclear weapons was 157, while the number which voted for the treaty in 2017 is only 122. This decrease is a direct result of the undermining role that some EDAN countries have played, together with the military-industrial complex, particularly since the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in 2014. However, we must stress China's positive declaration in favour of the elimination of nuclear arms.

### **Aspirations for Peace and the Available Tools**

Even though the people's aspiration for peace is immense, the military-industrial complex is so strong that it still manages to justify or impose increases in armament spending.

Thus, there is an ideological battle that we have to lead to demonstrate that the desire to live in safety and peace cannot be realized through the augmentation of armament expenses or via increased weapon sophistication. It can, **contrarily**, be reached with alternative solutions for peace that are based on the goals of respecting human rights, sustainable development, trust, conflict prevention via multilateral dialogue, and disarmament.

So we need to act together for these objectives and for a pacifist transition and elimination of nuclear weapons, with an immediate freeze in any new development of nuclear arms.

We have 5 main tools at our disposal:

- The preamble and principles of the Charter of the United Nations
- The 1999 UN Resolution concerning a program for a culture of peace
- The 17 sustainable development objectives adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2015
- The UN resolutions in favour of nuclear disarmament. Since international law has established the principle of the illegality of nuclear arms, the only thing to be discussed is how to eliminate them. This is a substantial

argument in the ideological fight against the military, political, and industrial lobby mentioned above.

- Finally, the main and irreplaceable tool is civil society, which plays a critical role, and this includes all of the favourable political parties.

### **France and Europe**

In France, the majority of the National Assembly members and the current (Macron) administration are in favour of nuclear deterrence, the militarisation of international relations, military interventions abroad, and alignment with NATO policies.

This policy is marked by two serious aims:

1. A doubling of the budget dedicated to atomic weapons (from 3.5 to 7 billion Euros per year) in order to renew the entire fleet of nuclear submarines.
2. To increase France's military budget to 2% of GDP as required by NATO by 2022 or 2025, which means an eventual increase of 10 billion Euros per year.

Faced with these policies, the Mouvement de la Paix has initiated a collective of organisations on the basis of the call for action "*on the march for peace, stop war, stop violence.*" Today, this collective is already made up of 115 different organisations, including several labour unions, the most important of which is the CGT with its 850,000 members. The collective has introduced two main actions: a petition disputing the two aforementioned aims of the new administration; and different peace marches throughout France on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, around with the International Day of Peace. The Mouvement de la Paix is also calling for a gathering at nuclear development sites on October 9th of this year.

The European Parliament has voted for two resolutions in favour of nuclear disarmament, but we also need to work towards a peaceful Europe. This should include all European countries, even Russia, yielding a common security that is in line with the Helsinki Principles.

Proposals to debate:

- The next step is to ratify the treaty by the maximum number of countries, and in particular by those that have nuclear weapons. This must be the most inclusive and united action possible, including all movements, people, parties, NGOs, labour unions, networks, citizens, and authorities, as well as national and international institutions that fight for the elimination of nuclear arms.
- We must reinforce the importance of unity of action of peace movements around the world, as this is, in my opinion, one of our best

options to fight for elimination of nuclear weapons.

P.S.: Generally, when we think ahead from the banning to the elimination of nuclear weapons, the question of the elimination of nuclear arms can be considered on its own. But, I believe that it is impossible to handle this issue without taking into account the impact of the existence of these weapons has on peace, particularly when it comes to geostrategic issues. For example, the subject of North Korean nuclear weapons cannot be treated solely within the context of nuclear arms and disarmament, but in fact its geographical setting and other contexts related to international relations in general must also be considered.

Thus in order to develop confidence between those who usually consider themselves to be opponents, the questions of nuclear weapons in North Korea or of the relations between Russia and the EU and the U.S. must first fall under bilateral or multilateral relations, taking into account geopolitical contexts. The two issues, the elimination of nuclear weapons and political solutions for current conflicts, are mutually reinforcing, and the best chances of success are when there are confidence building measures and dialogue.

**Lee Jun Kyu**  
**Adjunct Research Fellow**  
**Center for Peace Research and**  
**Education of KYOREH HANA**  
**Republic of Korea**

**To Resolve DPRK's Nuclear Issue and**  
**Establish Peace in East Asia,**  
**Korean Peninsula Peace System Should be**  
**Placed on Agenda**

I'm Lee Jun Kyu from the Republic of Korea. This year's World Conference provides a space for anti-nuke peace movements around the world to join forces to take one more step forward toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and a nuclear-free world, building upon the historic result of the negotiations on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.

However, the UN negotiations were boycotted by the United States, Russia and other nuclear weapons states as well as countries like ROK and Japan that depend on and remain under the US nuclear umbrella through military alliances. The *de facto* "nuclear-armed states" such as the Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Israel

stayed out of it. Their absence has left us with a challenge ahead.

The DPRK voted in favor of the UN resolution to launch negotiations on a legally-binding instrument to ban nuclear weapons but the country decided not to take part in the actual negotiations, casting doubts that the negotiations will produce results because of the absence of the US and other nuclear weapons states. Given that the US, ROK and Japan cited the DPRK's nuclear policy as the excuse to boycott the negotiations, what they engage in is a typical pattern of the two opposing camps involved in nuclear armament and an arms race using the other's position as alibi. This is a matter of the greatest concern in East Asia where we live.

*"Hegel remarks somewhere that all great world-historic facts and personages appear, so to speak, twice. He forgot to add: the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce."*

*-- Karl Marx, The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte*

Looking back on what happened in the winter of last year and in the spring this year, the Korean Peninsula came through a cataclysm. Citizens participating in candlelight protests ousted the government that had lost democratic legitimacy and realized a regime change. You all know that the world praised the "candle revolution" as an example of people power and democracy. Also during this period people became keenly aware of a risk that once there is a drastic political change on the Korean Peninsula, the fate of the Peninsula and its people would be at the mercy of neighboring great powers.

Last April, US and Japanese media circulated rumors that the United States may preemptively attack the DPRK. They also said that the US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Carl Vinson would be sent to the waters near the Korean Peninsula. The prime minister of a neighboring county fomented so-called "military options" by the US. There was a talk about the possibility of the DPRK forcing the 6th nuclear test counteracting the US pressure. Late at night on April 26, amid the presidential election campaign, the US installed the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in the ROK. Everyone knew that the US wanted to complete the THAAD deployment as accomplished fact before the presidential election. Finally, the ROK got incorporated in the US-led missile defense networks in line with a decision taken in July 2016 by the previous government that was impeached and ousted to force the deployment of the system.

The reports about possible a US "preemptive

strike” against DPRK were based on unfounded speculations. The rumors of an “April crisis” swirling on the Korean Peninsula emanated from Japan turned out to be “fake news” circulated by Japanese mass media and some conservative media in the ROK using a comment posted on some blog. But Korean citizens used the energy of “candlelight” to weather a storm and chose to replace the government.

That said, I believe that through experiencing the recent farce, many Koreans recalled the tragic history of the nation falling prey to surging modern imperialism and contending powers, eventually becoming the colony of Japanese imperialism. The division of the Korean Peninsula, the Korean War, and the underlying structure of continuing conflict in East Asia are an extension of that history. In other words, Korean people were reminded that peace building on the Korean Peninsula was a vital task for the survival of the people living on it, and an unavoidable challenge needed to achieve peace in East Asia.

The “citizens’ candlelight revolution” and the power shift resulted in the inauguration of the government led by President Moon Jae-in. The Moon administration is facing challenges for resolving the “DPRK nuclear issue”, to improve inter-Korean relations on the Korean Peninsula severed and worsened for almost a decade, and to build peace. The Moon government enjoys support from nearly 80% of the public, and is in favor of a policy of engaging DPRK, like his predecessors Kim Dae-jung and Roh Moo-hyun. But at the same time, he has to deal with anti-DPRK opinion nurtured among the public by ugly events that took place in the process of the power succession in the DPRK, the five nuclear tests it conducted on October 9, 2006, May 9, 2009, February 12, 2013, January 6 and September 9, 2016, military confrontation between the two, and fomented by the ROK’s previous conservative government and mainstream media.

Given the international political environment and domestic situation, it may be understandable that President Moon Jae-In used the ROK-US summit talks as well as in the G20 meeting to emphasize the cooperation between the ROK, the US and Japan, and talked about the strengthening of sanctions against DPRK, while signaling the resumption of dialogue and exchanges with DPRK along with a proposal of vision for peace on the Korean Peninsula. However, I cannot help but doubt such dual approach would work amid the standoff between the US under the Trump administration that speaks about “maximum pressure and engagement” against DPRK but actually focuses on “maximum pressure,” and the

DPRK putting enormous energy in the development of means of nuclear weapons delivery. Moreover, in the Five-Year Plan for Administration of State Affairs announced on July 19, the Moon government underscores “strong security posture,” “massive deterrence,” and “defense based on a robust ROK-US alliance.”

The Obama administration employed a policy of rejecting dialogue with and imposing sanctions on the DPRK in the name of “strategic patience.” The ROK’s previous conservative government clung to the scenario of “collapse of DPRK” and maintained policy of confrontation. All these have resulted in the improvement of the DPRK’s nuclear capabilities. It is a shared view among researchers and experts with common sense that the DPRK economy recovered in the early 2000s, and the Kim Jong-un regime is stable. The DPRK’s parallel pursuit of nuclear weapons development and economic growth can be seen as the reflection of that reality. Recently it flaunted technical progress toward ICBMs following the two nuclear tests it conducted last year.

We must not repeat the same mistake. Then, what should be done?

*“There is no way to peace. Peace is the way.”  
--Shin Young-bok, Former prisoner of  
conscience and thinker*

First, we need to activate axis of peace. For nearly 20 years, talks and negotiations on “the DPRK’s nuclear issue” have focuses on three axes: the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, peace, and Northeast Asia multilateral security cooperation.” However, the latter two, peace and Northeast Asia multilateral security cooperation, have never been set to work. Above all, the “September 19 Joint Statement” in 2005 and the subsequent agreements, as well as the proposal for a “peace talks for establishing peace system on the Korean Peninsula,” which was stated in the “October 4 Joint Declaration” issued in the ROK-DPRK Summit Talks in 2007, have not been implemented.

Realistically speaking, in order to force the DPRK to give up nuclear weapons while it recognizes nuclear armament as “deterrent” for security and maintenance of the regime, we should provide it with security “assurance.” For that, it is essential to conclude a legally binding Peace Treaty, with commitments to non-aggression, peace, and disarmament included in it.

Secondly, I want to draw your attention to a “step-by-step approach” that was recently proposed by researchers and policy experts in the ROK, the US, and China. The idea is to seek clues for opening negotiations and resolving the “DPRK nuclear crisis” by employing, for example,

a process that would go through stages of suspension of nuclear tests and missile launches, freezing of nuclear weapons and their destruction. I believe the “step-by-step approach” reflects the reality of the DPRK possessing nuclear weapons and the complicated history of the “DPRK nuclear issue” which remains unresolved for more than 20 years.

Regardless of whether one supports the idea or not, we should take a long-span approach in a broader perspective. More concretely, the resolution of the “DPRK nuclear issue” and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula should be dealt with in parallel or in the process of a “Korean Peninsula peace process” of peace talks, peace treaty and the formation of a peace system.

Thirdly, all that has been said calls for an international environment which will help to support the Korean Peninsula’s peace process and denuclearization. In view of its historical origin as well as a way to resolve it, the “DPRK nuclear issue” is inseparable from international politics in East Asia. This is why, not only for resolving the “DPRK nuclear issue” but also for establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula and a new order in East Asia, we need to demand a framework of multilateral cooperation for the settlement of issues of peace, disarmament and security in East Asia.

Also, I want to emphasize that the resolution of the “DPRK nuclear problem” above all requires support from the global wave calling for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.

Fourthly, it is important to restart dialogues. The Moon Jae-in government seems to seek improvement of ROK-DPRK relations by addressing humanitarian issues, taking measures to prevent military confrontation around the armistice line, and by restarting private-sector exchange.

However, as I said earlier, I doubt that his policy will work out well in the current situation. Bolder proposals are necessary, I would say, such as demanding the halt of the ROK-US joint military exercises as well as the withdrawal of forward deployment of US strategic assets, particularly nuclear forces, in exchange for the halt of DPRK’s nuclear testing and missile launch. Unless the US goes ahead to change its attitude in some way, it would be difficult to make a breakthrough.

These proposals echo what China proposes: simultaneously promoting denuclearization of DPRK and the start of negotiations on a peace system on the Korean Peninsula, and demanding the halt of DPRK’s missile testing and ROK-US large scale joint military exercises. DPRK foreign

minister Ri Su-Yong last year referred to the halt of ROK-US joint military exercises as a condition for resuming dialogues. This year, the DPRK ambassador to India said in a TV interview that if the ROK and the US stop conducting their joint military exercises, the DPRK would be ready to be at the table of dialogue with ROK. I believe it quite understandable that, from a realistic point of view, it is necessary to make a breakthrough by finding interface between the demands and intentions of DPRK on the one hand, and ROK’s strategic judgment and the way it wants to proceed on the other.

It is often said that the Korean Peninsula remains a remote and isolated island of the Cold War. I think this is wrong. During the Cold War era, East Asia was the theater of a hot war, not a cold war. It can be said that a cold war began in East Asia with the end of the Cold War era. In addition, the Cold War structure of confrontation exists on the foundation of international relations as well as national politics and society in East Asian countries. The “DPRK nuclear issue” is the product of this war structure. This is why it is directly linked with overcoming of the war structure and peace on the Korean Peninsula and East Asia.

Just like the historic achievement of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, it is the citizens’ power that has created a new history with the vision of realizing a nuclear-free world and peace. I am confident that real power to solve the “DPRK nuclear crisis” and achieve peace on the Korean Peninsula and peace in East Asia, in which there are three nuclear weapon possessing countries, is solidarity of citizens and people.

**Yasui Masakazui**  
**Secretary General**  
**Japan Council against A and H Bombs**  
**(Gensuikyo)**

Allow me first to welcome all international and Japanese delegates to the 2017 World Conference.

This year’s World Conference is taking place at a historic turning point where human beings are taking a big step forward towards a nuclear weapon-free world. Banning nuclear weapons is now becoming a reality. It has been a demand we have called for together with the Hibakusha over more than 60 years since the first World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955. I am very pleased with this achievement.

The Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons was adopted on July 7 at the UN Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons. In its preamble the treaty denounces the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. It makes clear that the elimination of nuclear weapons is the only guarantee to prevent disasters caused by such weapons. Article 1 of the Treaty prohibits the States that are party to the treaty from “developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, stockpiling” nuclear weapons. It also prohibits the “use and threat of use” and “transfer” of nuclear weapons, as well as allowing their “stationing and deployment” under their jurisdiction.

Referring to the unbearable sufferings of the Hibakusha, the Treaty recognizes the role they have played and stipulates measures to provide support and assistance to them.

With the adoption of the Treaty, the most inhumane and atrocious weapons were stigmatized and made illegal for the first time in history. It is crucially significant for humankind.

The nuclear weapon states still possess some 15,000 nuclear warheads and the have placed many of them in operational status, continuing to pose grave threats to humanity. But they will have to be politically and morally bound by this new treaty. The treaty, which mandates the dismantlement of nuclear arsenals, will help resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis.

Following the adoption of the Treaty, Ms. Setsuko Thurlow, a Hibakusha living in Canada, stated with joy, “I have been waiting for this day to come for over 70 years”. Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, the U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs praised the contribution of the Hibakusha, saying, “The heroic and tireless efforts by Hibakusha guide the international community to move towards a world without nuclear weapons.” I would like to express my deepest respect to the Hibakusha for their undaunted struggle over the years.

The Declaration of the first World Conference against A and H Bombs called for the development of the movement to realize world peace until the “prohibition of atomic and hydrogen bombs and destruction of their stocks are realized and real peace is attained for the whole of the human race”.

In order to progress from the entry into force of the prohibition treaty to the elimination of

nuclear weapons, a successful struggle in each country to press governments and parliaments to sign and ratify the treaty is essential, especially in the nuclear weapon states and their allies, which remain opposed to the Treaty.

It is important to build on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The treaty is already creating changes. In Japan, the National Peace March, now approaching Hiroshima and Nagasaki, is receiving support and cheers from a wider range of people than ever on the road. Local municipality officials welcome the prohibition treaty and criticize the Japanese government’s opposition to the treaty.

One town mayor expressed support to the treaty by saying to the peace marchers, “I want to commend you all for calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons for many years. Your efforts have finally borne fruit.” Another mayor said, “Both the government of Japan, the only country to have suffered the A-bombing, and that of the United States, the only country to have used a nuclear weapon, opposed the treaty. It is truly regrettable that those two governments opposed the treaty even though they know better than any other country the destructive power of the atomic bomb.”

Anyone who aspires for the abolition of nuclear weapons should support the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, regardless of their political positions.

Secondly, we must work to help build public opinion that is powerful enough to force the nuclear-armed states to accept to the Treaty.

The International Hibakusha Appeal signature campaign made a significant contribution to bringing the U.N. conference to a successful conclusion. Representatives from Nihon Hidankyo (Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) delivered 2.96 million signatures to Ambassador Elayne White Gómez, president of the conference. She was impressed by the large number of signatures collected and with watery eyes expressed her determination to achieve the adoption of the treaty. Many representatives of national governments in their speeches appreciated the contribution made by civil society and the Hibakusha.

The U.N. conference, thanks to the power of democracy at the U.N. and civil society, successfully adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Our next step should be to

encourage the entire 7 billion people of the world to join the process of eliminating nuclear weapons. It is crucial to make the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons known to as many people as possible as part of the effort to spread the Hibakusha Appeal signature campaign. Let us create many more opportunities for people to listen to the testimonies of the Hibakusha. Let us hold A-bomb photo exhibitions throughout Japan and in all corners of the world.

Finally, I want to propose making every effort to urge the Japanese government to sign the treaty and have our Diet ratify it. It is one of the responsibilities that the movement of the A-bombed country must fulfill.

The root cause of Japan's opposition to the treaty and refusal to even participate in the conference is the government policy to depend on the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" to secure Japan's national security. Bound by the Abe-Trump agreement of February this year, which reconfirmed the strengthening of the "nuclear umbrella" policy, the Japanese government decided not to participate in the conference, fearing that it would be criticized by the Trump administration as a betrayal. But the danger of Japan's decision has been clearly demonstrated in its military-first response to North Korea's moves: Japan sent a destroyer to the Sea of Japan to protect a U.S. aircraft carrier and conducted U.S.-Japan joint military exercise involving B-1 strategic bombers on the Korean Peninsula. But there is no other choice but to solve North Korea's problem by peaceful means.

Now, an overwhelming majority of the Japanese people is enraged by, and expresses opposition to the LDP-Komei government led by Prime Minister Abe. The government remains opposed to the prohibition treaty, pushing ahead with policies in line with the recently enacted War Laws and is destroying the constitution while hijacking national politics for its own ends. Recently, the support rate of the Abe government has dropped sharply to the 20% level. In the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election in June, the LDP suffered a historical crushing defeat, securing only 23 seats, down from the 57 it held before the election.

The treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons was achieved by the joint efforts of many governments and civil society throughout the world. In Japan, if we succeed in further developing cooperation among citizens and opposition parties, I am

confident that we can change the stance of the government of Japan, which is now turning its back on the Treaty and heavily dependent on the nuclear umbrella.

Before closing, I want to express my determination to create a nuclear-free and peaceful Japan that will take the lead in totally eliminating nuclear weapons, by greatly increasing the joint efforts among political parties, local governments and the broad range of people's organizations and individuals in support of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

## **Statements:**

### **Ogata Yasuo Committee of Chairpersons, Organizing Committee of World Conference/ Vice Chair, Director of International Commission, Japanese Communist Party**

This year's world conference is taking place under the new situation that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the U.N. conference in July. Over many years, the world conference has worked together with Hibakusha (A-bomb survivors) to raise awareness of the inhumanity of atomic bombs and has promoted signature campaigns calling for a "treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons", including the International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha. We are very glad to have made an important contribution with Hibakusha toward this historic achievement of the adoption of the treaty.

What is important now is our future activities based on this achievement - how to make progress from the ban to total abolition of nuclear weapons. I want to stress the following three points:

First is to increase awareness of the epoch-making and progressive importance of the nuclear weapons ban treaty and strengthen world opinion for this pact.

The preamble of the convention condemns the inhumane nature of nuclear arms, making clear the unlawfulness of the weapons in light of established legal principles of the global community, including international humanitarian law.

Article 1 of the treaty bans each state party from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, and stockpiling nuclear weapons, as well as disallows stationing, installation or deployment of the arms

in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control. It also prohibits use or threatening to use the weapons. This provision is of great significance as denying the nuclear deterrence argument. Thus, nuclear weapons have been outlawed for the first time in history, branded as evil.

The accord refers to “Hibakusha” twice and stimulates “assistance for the victims of the use or testing of nuclear weapons”, in response to our long-term demand for assistance for A-bomb survivors.

The delegation of the Japanese Communist Party joined in the discussions of the U.N. conference as a member of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND). We could see bright prospects for the future of the world by closely observing Hibakusha and civil society’s intellectual and practical contribution to the debate and the process of governments recognizing it and deepening mutual trust. This treaty has become an advanced global convention which reflects the process in which national governments and civil society made united efforts to create it, carrying through the principles of democracy in international politics. It also stresses the importance of gender equality for the future.

Second is to develop the campaign to progress from the ban to total elimination of nuclear weapons as the signature and ratification procedures will start soon.

Article 12 of the pact states that “Each State Party shall encourage States not party to this Treaty to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty.” This provision expands the area where state parties and civil society can collaborate to advance new international efforts.

The governments of Lebanon and Cyprus, which I visited last month, both voted for the treaty. When I met with a senior official of Cyprus’ Foreign Ministry, we shared our joy at the treaty adoption and agreed to enhance mutual cooperation. I also agreed with pacifist organizations in the two countries to work together to increase signatories to the convention.

Third is, with the norms of the treaty, to put increasing pressure on nuclear states and their allies to become a party to the treaty, which opens the door to all U.N. members.

The three nuclear powers – the U.S., Britain, and France – have issued a joint statement criticizing the adopted pact. The statement rationalizes their possession of nuclear arms on the pretext of North Korea’s nuclear development program, reiterating that the shared goal of nuclear disarmament should be attained by a

“step-by-step approach” while promoting strategic stability. This is an argument for perpetuating the possession of nuclear weapons. It is well known that China and Russia share this view as well. We need to wage a massive campaign to force the nuclear powers to change their position.

When I recently talked with the representatives of the French Peace Movement and Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in Britain, each of them stated that they will work to make their governments change the stance and ratify the treaty. I pledged solidarity with them, saying that we will work hard as well to urge the Japanese government, which boycotted the U.N. conference and continues turning its back on the convention despite the government of the world’s only A-bombed nation, to depart from the U.S. nuclear umbrella and sign the treaty. This historic convention has given us new weapons to push nuclear states to abandon their nuclear arsenals. Our massive campaign has just started.

In closing my speech, I would like to state proudly that we cannot emphasize enough the role played by the world conference and Hibakusha in opening a new stage for our struggles. The collaboration between national governments and NGOs, which is the form and policy pursued by the world conference, has made a significant contribution to creating the global trend for a nuclear-weapon-free world. In order to carry out our challenging task, let’s move forward together gearing up.

### **Kasai Kimiyo President, New Japan Women’s Association (Shinfujin)**

#### **From Prohibition Treaty to Abolition of Nuclear Weapons: Women and Citizens Have a Greater Role than Ever to Play**

“We finally made a difference in history!” The New Japan Women’s Association (Shinfujin) welcomed with great pleasure the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. With the prohibition treaty in our hands, we are accelerating our effort to achieve a “world without nuclear weapons,” and to replace the current government under Prime Minister Abe Shinzo with a new one that takes non-nuclear policies. We hastily produced 1,500 copies of a new tapestry with the message on it urging the Japanese government to become party to the treaty, and our members are taking to streets for signature drives holding new tapestries on these

scorching hot days of August of historical significance.

In the effort to move forward from the prohibition treaty to the elimination of nuclear weapons, the role of civil society is more crucial than ever before. Shinfujin gives importance to three things in this regard.

First is to learn the groundbreaking content of the prohibition treaty, and share it with as many people as possible to make the best use of it in our effort. We have produced 200,000 copies of an extra edition of our weekly paper, *Shinfujin Shimbun*, to inform broadly that Shinfujin had a privilege to deliver a statement in the United Nations Conference to negotiate a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and those who were present in the conference room responded with applause to the statement, especially to the reference to the fact that an overwhelming majority of Japanese women and people supports the treaty and that Shinfujin strongly urges the Japanese government to become party to the treaty. The extra also carries the pictures of the Women's March to Ban the Bomb in New York and "Orizuru (paper crane) March" our members organized throughout Japan in support of the UN Conference, along with the content of the treaty as well as Shinfujin's statement on its adoption. Shinfujin members are using this extra to promote dialogues with those around them and with the general public.

The prohibition treaty also opens a door to a new world for the women's movement in Japan. It marks a significant step forward toward the abolition of nuclear weapons, the shared wish and long-held goal of Japanese women, including the International Women's Year Liaison Group, a broad network of 32 women's groups. It is also important to note that in addition to the reference of the role of the Hibakusha and civil society, new paragraphs were included in the treaty about investing resources in human needs instead of in nuclear development, about the importance of education on disarmament and peace, as well as about equal participation of women and men and women's role in achieving the elimination of nuclear weapons. We see this as a reflection of our years of campaigning for ending poverty and economic inequality, moving the money from military spending to people's livelihood, and promoting gender equality. The treaty presents a vision and hope for a nuclear-free and just society.

Second is to press the Japanese government by mobilizing massive public opinion through the International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign. 55 years ago, the New Japan Women's Association was born upholding

defending lives from a nuclear war as the top priority of organization's objectives, and has since been working for the elimination of nuclear weapons at the grassroots level together with the Hibakusha and Gensuikyo. Placing importance to learning and inheriting the damage and facts about the atomic bombings, we have organized gatherings where our young members including those with children can listen to the stories of Hibakusha, and held A-bomb photo exhibitions as well as signature drives on the 6th and the 9th every month. Of more than 130 million signatures presented to the UN by the Japanese civil society movement since the Special Session of UN General Assembly on Disarmament in 1978, about 15.5 million were collected by Shinfujin members, and in the current International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign, we have gathered more than 570,000 to this day.

Third is to change the government. Now is the time for civil society to play its role. For us, it is to drive the Abe government into resignation by the power of joint struggle of women, citizens and opposition parties, and establish a non-nuclear government which supports the prohibition treaty. Because of its high-handed way of violating the Constitution and taking over national politics for its own purposes, the approval rate of Abe Cabinet has dropped sharply to the 20%-level. The fall is particularly striking among women, and even a major newspaper reports with a headline: "Women stepping away from Abe." Shinfujin will make its utmost to increase members and to bring women's power together to force the Abe Cabinet to resign. Let us do our best.

### **Jammu Narayana Rao Director of India, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space**

#### **The Great Betrayal**

Ever since two nuclear bombs have been dropped on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 resulting in the death of more than 70,000 people and devastation of the entire city and Nagasaki on 9 August 1945 which killed more than 35,000 people and destruction of 60% of the city by USA. This cruel act has been condemned worldwide and there is universal clamor for abolition of nuclear weapons.

Mahatma Gandhi condemned science being used for mass killing of human beings. He says

“I regard the employment of the atom bomb for the wholesale destruction of men, women and children as the most diabolic use of science. What is the antidote? Has it antiquated non-violence? No. On the contrary, non-violence is the only thing that is now left in the field. It is the only thing that the atom bomb cannot destroy. I didn’t move a muscle when I first heard that the atom bomb has wiped out Hiroshima. On the contrary, I said to myself, unless now the world adopts non-violence, it will spell certain suicide for mankind.”

The Stockholm appeal initiated by Frederick Joliot in 1950 to ban the bomb attracted 273,470,560 (more than two hundred seventy three million) people to sign. Massive demonstrations were held in different cities of the world. In Moscow more than 800,000 people demonstrated in June 1982. In New York more than 500,000 people demonstrated in June 1983.

Many international and national organisations have sprung up and plunged into action against the deadly nuclear weapons. The World Peace Council, the International Peace Bureau, International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom, Mayors for Peace, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain, All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation, Peace and Planet International Network and several organisations in the US and in different countries, are leading nuclear disarmament movements.

Above all Gensuikyo of Japan is doing yeoman service for nuclear disarmament. Since 1955 by organizing World Conferences against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, they are providing a global platform for peace activists to reinforce their resolve to struggle to end the mad nuclear arms race.

Several attempts were made in the direction of nuclear disarmament. The Baruch Plan of US in 1946, proposed to extend between all countries the exchange of basic scientific information for peaceful ends; implement control of nuclear power to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes; eliminate from national armaments, atomic weapons and all other major means, weapons adaptable to mass destruction; and establish effective safeguards by way of inspection and others to protect complying States against the hazards of violations and evasions.

Rajiv Gandhi Indian Prime Minister in his Action Plan address in the UN General Assembly

in 1988 states “It is a dangerous delusion to believe that nuclear weapons have brought us peace. It is true that in the past four decades, parts of the world have experienced an absence of war. But mere absence of war is not a durable peace. The balance of nuclear terror rests on the retention and augmentation of nuclear armories. There can be no ironclad guarantee against the use of weapons of mass destruction. They have been used in the past. They could be used in the future. And, in this nuclear age, the insane logic of mutually assured destruction will ensure that nothing survives, that none lives to tell the tale, that there is no one left to understand what went wrong and why.”

President Obama in his speech at Prague committed that the US, which used the nuclear weapon has got a moral responsibility to initiate nuclear disarmament.

The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice in July 1996 states that, “There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.” International Conference on the Humanitarian effect of Nuclear Weapons, UN Secretary General’s five-point plan for nuclear disarmament in 2008, Report of the Canberra Commission in 1997, which inter alia states that “nuclear weapons are immensely destructive and any use would be a catastrophe.”

These are some of the steps for the abolition of nuclear weapons. The major step in this direction is the UN adopted Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1968 and the subsequent Review Conferences once in five years since 1970. Article VI of NPT states “Each of the parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.” And also the Disarmament Commission of the UNODA, which also ceased of this issue since a long time. All these forums are being utilized by the nuclear nations to delay a decision being taken.

When all these steps have failed to achieve nuclear disarmament for the last more than 70 years ever since the nuclear weapons were used, and 48 years since the NPT was adopted and in spite of incessant anti-nuclear upsurge and when the nuclear nations are not coming forward to take steps for nuclear disarmament, on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016 the First Committee of the UN adopted a resolution to convene a Nuclear Ban Conference. It is deplorable that while 123 nations voted in

favor, 38 nations voted against and 16 nations abstained. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 the UN General Assembly endorsed to convene negotiations on a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards total elimination.

It is highly regrettable and condemnable that Japan, the only country that suffered nuclear devastation, instead of supporting the resolution has sided with those nuclear nations who voted against. The stand of India, which takes the names of Buddha and Gandhi the apostles of peace, to abstain, instead of voting in favour of the resolution is also condemnable. It states that it is not convinced that the proposed conference could address the longstanding expectations of the international community for a comprehensive instrument of nuclear disarmament and the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva is the only appropriate forum. An absurd logic.

The nuclear nations are betraying the hopes of billions of people world over. It is an appropriate time for putting an end to the nuclear nightmare. While supporting the idea of nuclear disarmament for decades, when the time arrived to clinch the issue the nuclear nations stabbed us in the back, and it is a great betrayal. However it is heartening that the United Nations have adopted a treaty on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017 on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by an overwhelming majority of 122-1 vote to provide a legal basis for the elimination of the world's worst weapons of mass destruction.

There is a need to ignite global upsurge. The peace movements should adopt a proactive approach world over. What is needed now is an international collective action. In this connection I would like to endorse what Joseph Gerson states that "Working in collaboration with our international partners, non-nuclear governments and abolitionist movements, we need to revitalize our organizing advocacy in ways that take us beyond the single-issue movements silos which cannot compete with the world's most advanced military industrial legislative complexes. Creating the revolution of values that can overcome requires making common cause with climate change and environmental movements; with peace and antiwar forces—especially those working to roll back NATO's expansion to create the foundations for common security negotiations between the US and Russia."

**Youssef El Kaidi**  
**Teacher/ Oleander Initiative, University**  
**of the Middle East Project**  
**Morocco**

It's an honor and pleasure to be here today. I am Youssef Al Kaidi, and I come from Morocco.

I am speaking today on behalf of my fellow Oleander Initiative Program participants. We are teachers coming from different parts of the world, North Africa, Middle East, America and Japan. We are here to learn from the lessons Hiroshima can provide.

We listen today the testimonies and stories of the Hibakusha and all those who spoke about the sufferings and destruction that nuclear weapons and nuclear attack in Hiroshima caused.

We listened with our ears but also with our hearts. And we felt how much they suffered and how much they have gone through. Therefore, I express my deepest empathy with them and I express my respect to them.

What happened in fact in Hiroshima can happen in any other parts of the world, so we are all concerned and we all should take action. We are here today for one common cause -- "World Peace". As the teachers and educators, we have a great role to play in spreading the culture of peace.

Hiroshima is a symbolic place for us and that's why we are holding our training here. From the past and the present of Hiroshima we've learned a lot of lessons to teach to our students back home. Lessons of peace, resilience, pacifism, hope and many more.

Hiroshima also teaches us how a primitive "Little Boy" atomic bomb can be destructive, let alone our sophisticated weapons that we have today in the world.

We teachers bear the responsibility of spreading the culture of peace and instill it in the minds of our impressionable students.

We hope our efforts and your efforts and the efforts of all activists in the world will pay off and spare our world another atomic attack.

We work and we shall continue to work for peace, and may peace prevail.



**Ray Matsumiya**  
**Executive Director**  
**University of the Middle East Project**  
**U.S.A.**

First, I would like to thank the organizers at Gensuikyo for gathering all of us at this important event.

I am the Executive Director of the University of the Middle East Project, an American NGO. The University of the Middle East Project works with teachers from the Middle East, the US and around the world to promote innovative educational methodologies and cross cultural relations.

I am here to talk about the importance of teachers in spreading the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to make sure that what happened 72 years ago will never happen again.

72 years ago my grandfather was a volunteer firefighter in Hiro. Hiro is in Kure City, close to Hiroshima city.

When the bomb fell on Hiroshima, he immediately went to the city and when he arrived he saw the terrible effects of a weapon that harnessed the same power of the sun on the tiny, frail, flesh and blood creatures of Hiroshima.

He saw terribly burned bodies, victims missing eyes and limbs and he never forgot a mother and child fused together by the heat of the atomic bomb.

For the survivors, whether they were soldiers or civilians, men or women, elderly or children—everyone he met—only wanted two things before they died.

The first was water, and the second was their mothers. With his own eyes, he witnessed firsthand the inhumanity of nuclear weapons.

Shortly after he left Hiroshima, he felt a pain in his eye and one month later, he lost it. But for the rest of his life, he never forgot what that eye had seen.

Never again. In every conversation until he passed, my grandfather said that what happened in Hiroshima can never happen again.

Never again. That was my grandfather's lesson of Hiroshima and he spread it to anyone who would listen.

I think that the topic of this session, "the role of peace movements and civil society" is at the heart of achieving my grandfather's lesson. I believe that once anyone is exposed to what happened here, and if they gain an understanding of the humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons that they will understand why they can never be used again. The role of peace movements is

especially important because those who can best describe the horror of nuclear weapons, the hibakusha grow fewer with each passing year. As the hibakusha pass, it is our duty to continue spreading their message.

I believe that education, especially among the young, is crucial in spreading message of the Hibakusha. That is why my organization is here with 16 teachers from throughout the US and the Middle East.

This week, these teachers immerse themselves in why the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are so important.

This week:

- They will see the genbaku dome and Urakami church

- They will listen to the stories of Hibakusha

- They will smell the incense memorializing the dead

- Most important, they will feel in their hearts how deeply the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki want peace.

When they go back to their countries:

- They will tell their students what happened here

- They will tell their students about Sadako's courage and will to live before she died of radiation sickness

- They will tell their students why another Hiroshima can never happen again

Like my grandfather and the hibakusha, these teachers will also spread the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

I hope that with their help, the next generation will take my grandfather's lesson to heart and ensure that the inhumanity that occurred in Hiroshima and Nagasaki 72 years ago will never happen again.

**Gopal Prasad Pokharel**  
**Secretary General, Afro-Asian Peoples'**  
**Solidarity Organization of Nepal**

**An Urgency for Nuclear Arms Free World**

**Introduction**

Today we are assembled here in Hiroshima city to participate on the 72<sup>nd</sup> Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration Day. I feel greatly honored to be able to attend this conference once again.

We are representing here as members of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal (AAPSO Nepal). AAPSO or AAPSO Nepal has been raising voices in the national and international forums ever since its establishment in 1958, in favor of sovereignty, social-economic

justice and peace, democracy, human rights, development, and against colonialism, imperialism, racial discrimination, and apartheid.

Nuclear weapons have become the most powerful weapons of mass destruction in today's world. Perhaps, this is the reason why Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) proposed by the UN in 1995 was signed by over 189 countries. Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was also signed by over 178 countries, but the powerful signatory nations still possess such weapons which may destroy world peace at any moment. Therefore, a mass movement is required for making a nuclear weapons-free world for our future generations so that they can live with peace and security on the earth.

#### **South Asia/Nepal**

The South Asian region is also in the race of stockpiling weapons of mass destruction, which is a cause of concern to all peace-loving people. Many countries of South Asia are now in an arms race, threatening nuclear holocaust. Nepal is completely surrounded on all sides by nuclear weapons states. Nepal, as a neighboring country, is in the immediate zone of risk of nuclear weapons as countries like India, Pakistan and China possess nuclear weapons. These countries should take immediate action for the abolition of nuclear weapons and prevention of an arms race.

Nepal, being the land of Gautama Buddha's birth, is always against the use and misuse of nuclear weapons in any part of the world. We strongly want the Indian subcontinent and the whole of South Asia and the entire world to be free from nuclear arsenal.

#### **Increasing the number of nuclear power countries**

The scenario of the present world politics is very bleak. Still the threat of nuclear war is looming large. The number of powerful countries has been increasing alarmingly over the years. There is a fear among the people across the world that nuclear weapons could be misused intentionally or unintentionally, leading to total annihilation of humanity. Still, the world is not free from conventional war too. If a super power like the United States and other members of the United Nations Security Council feel that nuclear weapons are required for the defense of their countries, it is not a justification for other countries not to have these weapons. We have to intensify our efforts to raise the voices of the people of the world louder and louder. There should be an apex body of all the international peace organizations to intensify simultaneous global actions for the abolition of nuclear weapons and prevention of an arms race in outer

space.

#### **Atom Bomb Dropped in Japan / Massacre of humanity**

Hiroshima and Nagasaki have become the symbolic cities that have remained witness of human-made holocaust. The nuclear bombs, for the first time, were dropped on the heavily populated cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 1945 in Japan. Those were the blackest days in the history of humanity and human civilization too and these biggest black spots remind us of the urgency of stopping any such massacre of humanity in the future.

#### **Conclusion**

A number of writers, scholars, and philosophers have expressed their concerns against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons. Whether big or small countries, they should abandon the path of such nuclear arms. We cannot even imagine the question of nuclear war after having seen the impact of it on Hiroshima and Nagasaki almost 72 years ago.

Finally, I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Gensuikyo for hosting such an important event every year for a nuclear weapons-free, peaceful and just world. We need to know, it is not the work of Gensuikyo alone. It is a collective responsibility to raise our voice for a nuclear weapons-free world and save humanity from another human-made tragedy.



## Plenary Session III:

### *Action and Cooperation for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World - Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Radiation Damage; Safe and Secure Life and Environment (August 4)*



#### **Introductory Reports:**

**Joseph Gerson**  
**Executive Director**  
**Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and**  
**Common Security**  
**U.S.A.**

It is a privilege to again join the World Conference. This year we celebrate our Ban Treaty, won with the Hibakusha's courage and testimonies that refocused attention back to the human consequences of nuclear weapons. Also central to our victory were the vision and commitments of the Japanese and international peace and disarmament movements and diplomats like Alexander Kmentt who took inspiration from the World Conference.

To consolidate our victory, governments must now sign and ratify the treaty. The Treaty provides openings for movements in Japan, NATO and other umbrella states to demand that they reject alliance commitments binding them to preparations for nuclear war. But winning nuclear weapons abolition still requires building mass movements within the nuclear weapons and umbrella states. The Ban Treaty is a valuable resource for this movement building.

We face serious challenges. Each of the other nuclear weapons states boycotted the Ban Treaty negotiations, and continued their nuclear weapons "modernization" programs, with the price for the U.S. upgrading nuclear weapons now at \$1.2 trillion. The U.S., Britain and France denounced the treaty falsely claiming that nuclear deterrence kept the peace for 70 years. During the NBT negotiations, North Korea "tested" nuclear-

capable missiles. Trump responded by threatening “severe” actions, launched ICBM “tests”, and conducted aggressive joint military exercises with South Korea and Japan. New sanctions were slapped on Teheran and along with a call for regime change in Iran.

Friends, the U.S. is becoming a nuclear armed banana republic. Actually, we face a dangerous political and constitutional crisis. Every day there is a new revelation of the President’s ignorance, his and his family’s conflicts of interest, their disregard for the constitution and rule of law, news of more secret meetings with figures tied to Russia, attacks on the media, outrageous lies, and intrigues among warring White House factions.

Trump’s assaults on truth, science and the rule of law are in the fascist tradition, designed to undermine of constitutional democracy and increase the power and privileges of the super-rich, corporations and the military. Trump has so alienated Western European leaders that they are increasingly open about their criticism. The crisis isn’t limited to Trump. It is systemic, arising from the rise of an extreme right wing plutocratic class who have funded extreme right-wing forces and bought local and national elections.

All of this has nuclear implications. A year ago Trump didn’t know what the nuclear triad was, suggested that Japan and South Korea become nuclear powers, and asked why we can’t use nuclear weapons. He had to ask his advisors what the New Start Treaty was. Since then, he has pledged to “greatly strengthen and expand” the U.S. nuclear arsenal, called for a nuclear arms race, and launched a Nuclear Policy Review targeted against Russia, China, North Korea and Iran.

Fears about Trump’s finger being on the nuclear button led half a million people to sign a petition supporting legislation to prevent Trump from launching nuclear war on his own authority.

Let me raise some disconcerting issues. Our news is filled with reports of China’s aggressive territorial claims and provocative U.S. and Chinese military “exercises” in South China Sea. The Chinese and Japanese militaries operate in dangerous proximity near the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands. Challenging the U.S. and Japan, China is conducting long range drills in and around Okinawan waters and air space.

Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Graham Allison and others are raising alarms about the Thucydides Trap, the inevitable tensions that often result in war between rising and declining powers. Allison writes that the closest analogy to the current situation with China standoff is Germany’s challenge to Britain’s

global empire before World War I. He points to the similarity of “China’s ‘aggressive’ behavior and unwillingness to accept the ‘international rules-based order’ established by the U.S. with pre-war Germany. He reminds us that “China feels it has been cheated out of its rightful place by nations that were strong when it was weak. Like Germany,” and that, “China has the will and the means to change the status quo.” And, like imperial Britain, the U.S. is anxiously been defending “its primacy on the world stage” and both the U.S. and China believe their actions as just and reasonable.”

Allison warns that “The return to prominence of a 5000-year-old civilization with 1.4 billion people is not a problem to be fixed. It is a condition.” The hold that nearly two centuries of U.S. “manifest destiny” ideology and the vested interests of U.S. corporations and the military-industrial-Congressional complex have on the U.S. world view are powerful obstacles to Americans making necessary adjustments to the shifts in the world order’s tectonic plates.

Add Japan to the mix. Howard French warns that “It was one thing for China to be humiliated by the West...But the defeats administered by ... Japan were a different matter.” From China’s perspective, he argues, Japan must “bow to Beijing’s authority”, to be followed by ousting U.S. power from the Western Pacific if the “semblance of the region’s old order” is to be restored. Okinawa, formerly a tributary kingdom and which serves as a barrier to China’s naval access to the Western Pacific, now finds itself at the vortex of this great power competition, while the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands serve as the symbolic locus of conflict.

War and disproportionate Chinese influence over Japan are not inevitable. China’s doctrine has long sought domination by demonstrating overwhelming comprehensive power, leaving its rivals no choice but accommodation. This is beginning to happen economically and militarily. There is also the possibility of finding solutions in Common Security diplomacy and in the more opaque traditions that preceded the introduction of the nation state system to Asia. Eduardo Tadem in the Philippines put it well when he urged that “Countries...should meet China halfway...Civil society should bring countries closer together.”

The U.S.-North Korean confrontation has been described as a “Cuban missile crisis in slow motion”, with North Korea’s “relentless” drive to build its nuclear arsenal, and Trump’s vows that it will not happen. Trump declared North Korea his top foreign policy priority and said that he will take severe actions against North Korea, that all

options are on the table, and recently added “regime change” to the list.

Bruce Cummings explains that the Kim regime is ruthless but not reckless. It is not suicidal. Rather, its nuclear arsenal is designed to preserve the Kim Dynasty and North Korean sovereignty. He advises that to overcome the crisis we need to address its roots: lingering wounds of Japan’s brutal colonization of Korea, U.S. devastation of North Korea during the Korean War, and the history of U.S. prepared and threatened nuclear attacks against the DPRK. Having taken lessons from U.S. regime change wars in Iraq and Libya, Kim Jun-Un will not lightly surrender his nuclear arsenal.

Despite Trump, a rational consensus about how to prevent war with North Korea is developing. William Perry, Richard Haas, and others reject accepting the DPRK as a nuclear power and relying on nuclear deterrence to contain it. They know that this could spur nuclear weapons proliferation, and that deterrence provides no guarantees. With Seoul within range of North Korean artillery positions, they also understand that U.S. preemptive or preventive attacks could be catastrophic. Instead they advocate direct U.S. negotiations with Pyongyang.

Consistent with North Korean, Chinese and Russian proposals, they advocate seeking a near-term freeze of North Korea’s nuclear and missile arsenals in exchange for scaling back U.S.-South Korean military exercises and finally ending the Korean War with a Peace Agreement. Negotiations for denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula could then follow on the basis of the improved relations. With Moon Jae-in’s election, his commitment to negotiations, and his plan for negotiating the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula by 2020, Trump – if he lasts in office – may have no alternative to diplomacy.

The struggle for hegemony and influence in the oil-rich Middle East remains central to competition for regional and global power. In the aftermath of the catastrophic Bush invasion of Iraq, U.S. regional hegemony is being challenged by an increasingly dangerous set of regional and great power rivalries with potentially nuclear consequences. Russia, the U.S., Iran and other countries have intervened in Syria’s civil war. With U.S. and Russian warplanes and missiles operating in close proximity, there is the danger that miscalculation or an accident could escalate in uncontrollable ways. Iran’s support for Assad provides it with an opening to an Iranian dominated zone of influence extending through Lebanon to Israel’s border. And, China’s world order changing trillion-dollar One Belt One Road

initiative - the New Silk Road -introduces a new actor to the complicated mix. Meanwhile, U.S. opposition to a Middle East Nuclear and Weapons of Mass Destruction-Free Zone reinforces Israel’s nuclear arsenal and undermines the NPT.

During the presidential campaign, Trump vowed to “tear up” the nuclear deal with Iran. To restore U.S. hegemony, his policies now include deepening the embrace of the brutal Saudi monarchy, support for its war in Yemen, new sanctions against Iran, the call for “regime change”, and a campaign to trash the P5+1 nuclear deal to make way for a military confrontation without the U.S. bearing full responsibility.

How then to build from the Ban? From lobbying to petition campaigns and demonstrations, our first priority must be getting the states that negotiated the Ban treaty and umbrella states to sign and ratify the Treaty. Those of us in the rogue nuclear weapons states can use the Treaty to help build the movements needed to win our governments’ commitments to nuclear disarmament. September 20, when the Treaty opens for signing, as well as the International Days for Peace and Disarmament and the U.N. High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament provide us occasions to rally our forces and to press our governments.

We can draw on Hibakusha testimonies and exhibits to continue building understanding of and opposition to the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. And, we have international Move the Money campaigns like IPB’s Global Campaign on Military Spending to PAX’s Don’t Bank on the Bomb, as well as Peace and Planet’s opposition to spending for nuclear weapons and to build more issue unified movements.

Winning nuclear weapons abolition requires defending, preserving and expanding what remains of constitutional democracy, human and civil rights, and demilitarizing our societies. Without freedom and the rule of law, autocrats and dictators won’t be held accountable.

We also need to create the conditions that prevent war and make great power nuclear disarmament possible, much we did in the 1980s with the nuclear weapons freeze and Euromissile movements, and Olof Palme’s Common Security initiative. Advocating win-win common security alternatives can bring the nuclear powers back from the brink. As Eduardo Tandem and others urge, finding compromises that serve each nation’s vital interests can replace dangerous contests for empire and hegemony. Here in Japan this includes supporting Okinawan resistance and building on former Governor Ota’s vision of

Okinawa as a bastion of and model for international peace.

Preventing war and nuclear war means pressing Trump and company to abandon their North Korean regime change ambitions and negotiate a comprehensive agreement with North Korea and Iran. It also means supporting South Korean opponents of THAAD.

Perhaps most important is nurturing the next generation of nuclear weapons abolitionists, because our struggle will take longer than any of us want. Equally important is weaning Americans and Chinese from their manifest destiny cultures and Japan from enduring militarist myths.

So, let's celebrate the Ban and get back to work!

No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis!  
No More Hibakusha! And No More War!

**Lisa Clark**  
**Co-President**  
**International Peace Bureau**

I would like to begin by thanking the organizers for having invited me. My name is Lisa Clark and I am currently the Co-President of the International Peace Bureau, an old organization, founded in the early 1890s, to establish a permanent network among the peace movements from different countries. In the late 19th century they were mostly European and North American, but today the IPB has over 300 member organizations in all continents, including Nihon Hidankyo, among the organizers of this World Conference.

**IPB is dedicated to the vision of a world without war.**

This year we are here, all of us, full of excitement thanks to the vote at the United Nations last 7 July. 122 States approved the text of a Treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons, an achievement that all of us—and many others throughout the world—have worked towards for years! This success has given us new energies.

The Treaty has opened the door to a new age of possible disarmament policies. Reading the Preamble to the Treaty, I get the impression that the intention is even broader: to go back to the origins of the United Nations, the multilateral institution guaranteeing peace through diplomacy and rule of law. The entire process that led to the successful approval of the Ban Treaty is modelled on nonviolent methods of citizen's diplomacy, conducted with the creativity that characterizes nonviolent struggles.

To change the perspective of the debate is a prime tool of nonviolent conflict resolution. And what was done in the Humanitarian Initiative was modelled on this and on the decades-long campaign of the Hibakushas. Rejecting the geopolitical narrative of the powers that wage wars and their stories of how such dreadful weapons can contribute to security, we looked at nuclear weapons from the point of view of their unacceptable consequences. And, as we joined the Hibakushas in saying "No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis!" today we are able to say that nuclear weapons are not merely immoral, but finally also illegal.

**Once again, we can begin by saying "We, the Peoples..."**

The Treaty's Preamble firmly binds this agreement to the original spirit of the United Nations charter and to the major disarmament achievements of the past seventy years.

Nuclear disarmament in itself is one of the founding objectives of the United Nations, as shown by its very first resolution, recalled in the Preamble. So now, I feel we can clearly say that nuclear weapons and the spirit of the United Nations are incompatible.

Not one of humanity's problems—climate change, extreme poverty, water shortage, epidemics, violent extremism and terrorism—can be solved by nuclear weapons. The funds spent on nuclear weapons are stolen from social and environmental programmes.

Although the new Treaty does not abolish nuclear weapons, it creates a new climate conducive to elimination. It strengthens the alliance of civil society, peace movements, and governments that achieved this result.

It is our task to ensure that governments understand that they can no longer consider themselves superior because they possess nuclear weapons. Those are now weapons prohibited by international law, although the States that possess them are not (yet) obliged to get rid of them.

The world's peace movements must now engage in a whole range of activities to make the Ban Treaty reality, once it opens for signatures on 20 September, organizing campaigns to promote treaty ratification, bearing in mind that many smaller (and poorer) countries may be harassed by the world's nuclear-armed States. We must also campaign to convince reluctant governments within NATO countries and nuclear-umbrella States, for the loud and clear voice of the people on this issue will in the end make it impossible for governments to ignore civil society's demands. And we also need to increase pressure on nuclear-armed States: our campaigns should be based on

the same principles that enabled us—the majority of the world’s population—to achieve the Ban Treaty. The survival of humanity and of the planet is not compatible with the continued existence of nuclear weapons.

I live in Italy, not just a NATO country, but one of those that hosts US nuclear weapons on its territory. Over the years we have led many campaigns to get those weapons removed, but have never succeeded. We came to realize that the reason was that successive Italian governments, of all political colours, did not want to give up the superiority that they felt those weapons gave to our country. Since the Humanitarian Initiative began we have been trying to convince the Italian government to participate in the process: we have based our campaign on the notion that Italy, culturally, has always been a promoter of progress in disarmament. We have said: We are very proud of Italy when she respects her Constitution (a Constitution that rejects war as a means of settling international disputes – our Article 11 is similar to your Article 9), when she leads the worldwide campaign to abolish the death penalty or the campaign to ban landmines and cluster munitions.

We have a history of peace activism in our cities and local communities in Italy. The Mayor of my city, Florence, in the 1950s and 60s, was Giorgio La Pira. After having supported anti-Fascism during World War II he devoted his energies to working for peace internationally. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki made him come to the conclusion that no State must ever again be allowed to destroy a city. He believed that cities are the model for coexistence and conflict resolution that States should follow. For cities do not have armies: they learn how to solve their problems without using weapons.

**Cities do not have armies or possess weapons of mass destruction**

In Italy, almost 500 cities are members of Mayors for Peace, and many of those Mayors and city administrators are part of the campaign demanding that the Italian government join the new Treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons. Our Italian campaign is going to have a 2-week action drive next month, from 20 September to 4 October. In May this year we welcomed the Peace Boat in Sardinia and would be very happy to welcome more visits from Japanese nuclear disarmament activists.

At an international level, the International Peace Bureau is asking all its members to promote actions to convince States to sign and ratify. We could introduce a recommendation on the need to sign and ratify the Treaty in all international

statements: this was a practice used to convince States to ratify the International Criminal Court, and to endorse specific human rights and disarmament conventions.

The International Peace Bureau played an important role in the 1990s, when the International Court of Justice was asked to give its opinion on the legality of nuclear weapons. Now, we could conduct other such campaigns: for example, an appeal to amend the Statute of the International Criminal Court to make the use of nuclear weapons a war crime.

Let’s think together how we can develop a worldwide campaign. Ideas and creativity are needed. We need to plan actions of all different kinds, so that each one of our movements can feel that they are actively promoting the banning of nuclear weapons, implementing actions and slogans compatible with the customs and culture of their own people.

Let’s seize the momentum created by the approval of the Ban Treaty. The IPB with its over 300 member organizations will actively support and accompany this process. Each one of our groups and movements must build on the enthusiasm of this moment. You, in Japan, will redouble your efforts at sharing the legacy of the Hibakusha, at opposing the militarism of foreign bases. We, in Italy, shall build on the history we are proud of (the first modern state to abolish the death penalty, the peaceful Constitution we share with Japan). And the IPB will enable us all to make the most of our active networks, for a culture of peace.

**Dong Huy Cuong  
Secretary General  
Vietnam Peace Committee**

First of all, please allow me to thank the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo) for giving me the chance to be here again with thousands of peace activists from across the world to raise our voice for the abolition of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, as well as to strengthen our solidarity for a peaceful world.

Allow me also to convey to all of you the warmest greetings and best wishes from the Vietnam Peace Committee and millions of Vietnamese working for peace and friendship.

Dear friends,

We are now gathering in a historical city, which suffered the first atomic bomb dropped by the US 72 years ago. Hundreds of thousands of

innocent people, including women, children and the elderly, were killed; hundreds of thousands of others were injured, and until today, after 72 years, many are still living in agony.

We feel and share the pain of hibakushas and other Japanese. Millions of Vietnamese have been killed and injured by Agent Orange sprayed by the US. Many children have been born with severe defects just because their parents or grandparents had been exposed to Agent Orange.

In such a context, peace movements from across the globe have been working tirelessly against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, for their ultimate abolition, and for a peaceful world. I would like to warmly appreciate the efforts of Gensuikyo and other Japanese organizations in holding the present Conference, in addition to other activities. I am also happy to hand over to this meaningful event the message of greeting from the President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in which it is emphasized that the struggle against nuclear weapons for peace and stability should be a priority of human beings.

I would like to congratulate Gensuikyo, the Japanese people, and all friends of peace around the world over the adoption on 7 July 2017 of a legally-binding treaty that would ban nuclear weapons with a view to their total elimination. This marks another milestone after the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was opened for signature in 1968 and came into force in 1970.

However, there remains a huge gap between rhetoric and action. Many countries are still researching, developing, manufacturing, trading in, and threatening to use nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. The billions-US dollar weapons industry is still experiencing significant development. Many countries are still using force or threatening to use force against others, in spite of international laws and agreements. Thousands of people are still being killed by weapons of mass destruction every day. Peace, stability and national sovereignty still remain a remote dream.

So, it is our task to raise our voice to remind all States of the need to respect and seriously implement the adopted treaty by not developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, transferring or trading in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Those countries who used nuclear weapons, Agent Orange and other chemical weapons against others must be responsible for the assistance to the victims and the remediation of the environment. It is also a must to remind States that they put people's lives

ahead of profit, abide by international law, not use force or threaten to use force against other countries, and respect other countries' sovereignty.

But how can we do it? I think that we can't do that alone. We need to work more closely with each other; we need to strengthen our peace network to create synergies for our struggles.

I believe that I will be able to learn from the experience of Gensuikyo, other Japanese organizations, as well as of world's peace movements in mobilizing people and creating synergies for our struggle. I also hope that, on the sidelines of this meaningful conference, I will be able to make new friends to widen our network and discuss our future activities to make the world a nice place to live.

Once more, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for the solidarity and support you have reserved for victims of A & H bombs, victims of Agent Orange, and other war victims around the world. Thank you Gensuikyo and other Japanese organizations for the impetus you bring to our struggle for a peaceful world without nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

May I wish for an enormously fruitful conference, for a beautiful world free from nuclear weapons, and for the good health and happiness of all of you.

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki!  
Justice for Hibakushas! Justice for all war victims!

**Toguchi Osamu**  
**Member of Okinawa Prefectural**  
**Assembly/ Japanese Communist Party**

I am Toguchi Osamu, chairperson of the Japanese Communist Party Group in Okinawa Prefectural Assembly. I would like to sincerely thank all of you for your continuous support for Okinawans' struggles. I am grateful for this opportunity to speak at the International Meeting of the World Conference against A and H Bombs, held immediately after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

I would like to express my respects to Hibakusha, Gensuikyo, and all other people who by their tenacious efforts, contributed to this great achievement in human history, the adoption of the nuclear ban treaty.

Such a great achievement gives hope and courage for a victory to Okinawan people, who are working hard to realize a base-free Okinawa.

Seventy-two years ago, Okinawan people were involved in a fierce ground battle in which one in four of them lost their lives.

The U.S. troops that placed Okinawa under the US occupation drove the local residents into concentration camps and confiscated their lands to build military bases. They have continued to force the landowners, with bayonets and bulldozers, to leave their lands for extending the bases. For 27 long years after the war, Okinawa remained colonized by the U.S. forces. Hosting nuclear weapons, it was made to serve as a stronghold for U.S. aggressions around the world, to the detriment of their lives and property as well as their human rights.

When Okinawa was returned to Japan in 1972, people hoped to make the islands peaceful and affluent without nuclear weapons and without military bases. However, 45 years after its restoration to Japan, Okinawa, which accounts for only 0.6 percent of Japan's total land area, still hosts 70.4% of all U.S. military facilities in Japan. U.S. military planes conduct flying drills over hospitals, schools, and houses during days and nights with a tremendous roar. Since the 1972 reversion, crimes involving U.S. military personnel amount to 5,919 in Okinawa alone.

Because of the presence of U.S. bases, local people are still suffering under such crimes and accidents.

Although nuclear weapons were withdrawn from Okinawa at the time of its return to Japan, a secret agreement between Japan and the U.S. allows the U.S. to bring them back to Okinawa in the event of emergency.

For many years, Okinawans have been split into pro and con because of the U.S. bases that were brought into their islands against their own will. Those who benefit the most from this situation are the Japanese and U.S. governments that force them to accept U.S. bases.

The Japanese government is trying to reclaim land from the sea area off Henoko in Nago City, northern Okinawa, in order to build a new base to offer to the U.S. military.

In January 2014, all 41 municipal mayors and local assembly chairpersons in Okinawa along with a majority of Okinawa prefectural assembly members signed a petition and submitted it to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, calling for removal of Ospreys, closure of the Futenma base, and cancellation of the new base construction in Henoko.

In November of that year, Okinawans elected as their governor Onaga Takeshi who publicly pledged to never allow the construction of a Henoko base. In the following House of

Representatives election, candidates against the base construction plan were elected in all single-seat constituencies in Okinawa.

However, the Abe Cabinet totally disregarded the will of Okinawan people and forcibly removed the sit-in of residents in front of a construction site in order to start building a new military base.

The government intends to build at Henoko a state-of-the-art military base with two runways, a working area to load ammunition onto aircraft and a pier where amphibious assault ships can land.

The former Okinawa governor had given permission to the national government to crush rock reefs for the landfill work in Henoko, but it expired on March 31 this year. The Defense Bureau then reversed totally its view and argued that renewal of the permission by the governor is no longer necessary. The work is now being conducted without prefectural permission.

Governor Onaga filed a lawsuit on July 24 seeking the suspension of the landfill work, arguing that it is illegal for the national government to continue the work without the authorization from the prefecture.

Nowhere else in the world can we find a national government that so blatantly denies the people's will, democracy and local autonomy, and oppresses its own citizens in order to build a base and offer it to foreign military. We must remove such an authoritarian administration by people's power. Let us expand the "all-Okinawa" struggle into a nationwide movement and realize a new national government that protects Article 9 of the Constitution, removes U.S. bases from Japan and leads efforts to promote the nuclear ban treaty for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Governor Onaga stated at a prefectural assembly meeting: "From Okinawa, which experienced the disastrous land battle, I will send a message of peace, in particular a message for the abolition of nuclear weapons."

Our slogan is, "The way to win is to never give up."

No matter how big our opponent is, we will win for sure.

Because reason and justice rest with us, because we will never give up until we achieve a victory, because we have behind us thoughtful people throughout Japan, because we receive support and solidarity from thoughtful people in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

We continue to fight, firmly united with the people around the world who have made the major achievement of the adoption of the nuclear ban treaty.

Stop the new base in Henoko! Let us build a peaceful and affluent Okinawa with no nuclear weapons and no military bases! Let us realize a peaceful and just world without nuclear weapons.

No more Hiroshimas! No more Nagasakis! No more Okinawas!

## **Statements:**

### **Nagao Yuri Vice President National Confederation of Trade Unions (Zenroren)**

I am Yuri NAGAO, Vice President of Zenroren, the National Confederation of Trade Unions. Since its establishment, Zenroren has actively engaged in the movement to abolish nuclear weapons. One of our main tasks upheld in its platform is “to stop nuclear war and to get nuclear weapons abolished”. As a union confederation of the only atomic bombed country, Zenroren warmly welcomes the adoption of the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.

Industrial and prefectural unions of Zenroren have persistently carried out signature collection and street campaigns to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. They are now collecting petitions in support of the Appeal of Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Ten union colleagues participated in the Gensuikyo delegation and observed the second session of the UN Negotiation Conference on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons last June. I was one of them, and it was a great privilege for me to witness the historic moment. It was an opportunity for me to see with my own eyes the world moving not by the logic or power of a handful of nuclear powers, but by the voices and movements of the people based on rule of democracy. I realized the power of each petition.

On the other hand, I felt sad most to see the government of Japan being absent from the Conference, turning its back on a world pursuit of peace. I keenly felt that we have to work harder to change the attitude of the Japanese government.

Abe government has tried to launch the revision of Article 9 of the Constitution as a final mop-up to make Japan a war-fighting nation.

The politics of putting priority to military makes people unhappy. The Japan’s annual defense budget has exceeded 5 trillion yen. While increasing its budget to purchase MV-22 Osprey and Stealth Fighter Jets to help US military operations, Abe government has significantly cut

back social security budgets, making the people’s poverty serious year by year. The demand of “Cutting military budgets and allocating them to people’s living, welfare and education” has become pressing. To protect our livelihood, we have to defeat the maneuvers to transform Japan into a war-fighting country.

Only with troops, a war-fighting nation cannot be realized. The sectors of transportation, medical care, telecommunications and media are all mobilized. It was already decided that in an emergency, they were required to work with troops. Many Japanese people have strong concern that the war laws may expand Japan’s cooperation and joint operations with the US military. Our union colleagues in the transportation sector are campaigning against transporting anything for war. Medical workers are also campaigning under the slogan, “Never ensanguine our white coats in combat”. Teachers unions are standing up with a famous slogan, “Never send our children to battlefields,” while local government employees unions are campaigning with the slogan, “Let’s continue to be defenders of the living of residents”. They all want to not repeat the history of being forced to cooperate with war.

With the word of “political neutrality,” a feeling of oppression to seal off critical opinions is spreading in society; there is an atmosphere that workers cannot speak about the Constitution and politics at workplaces. And every day, mainstream media is fueling fear of the people about threat by North Korea. What should we do to raise awareness of the people about the value of Article 9 of the Constitution that ensures our peaceful future? I think that the adoption of the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons gave us one answer. It showed us that the world is heading for illegalizing war and if we continue persistent effort, we can change the world. I am confident that learning the treaty and spreading the significance of it will promote the struggle to defend the Constitution.

Zenroren is determined to do our utmost to defend and maximize the value of the Constitution, while promoting the campaigns on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. Let me conclude by assuring you of our strong commitment as a confederation of trade unions in the only A-bombed country to change our government and achieve the earnest desire of the Hibakusha for a world without nuclear weapons in their lifetime.

**Guerrero A.G. Saño**  
**Teach Peace Build Peace/ Art for Peace**  
**Missions/ International Youth Relay**  
**Marcher**  
**The Philippines**

Hello Everyone! Greetings of Peace!

I am A.G. Saño, an artist and peace advocate from the Philippines. This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> time I am attending the World Conference against A and H Bombs and I am proud to report that I have finished my 3<sup>rd</sup> Peace March this year, having a combined total distance of more than 1000 kilometers or about 1.3 million steps for peace over the 3 summers of walking with the peace advocates of Japan. In 2015, I walked through Fukuoka, Saga, and Nagasaki. Last year, I walked from Miyagi to the lonely and deserted streets of Fukushima and through Osaka. I rejoined this year to walk through Gifu, Shiga, Kyoto, Nara and again in Osaka.

I returned to Japan with hope in my heart that the walk will echo the sacrifices of the Hibakushas and let that echo resonate clearly that the world has no place for nuclear weapons and is in no need to pursue nuclear energy—two things that have been proven here in Japan at the expense of innocent people who were victimized by the WW2 bombings and the more recent Fukushima disaster.

I brought with the voices of my fellow Filipinos and other international advocates from the US and Guam who crave for peace and desire for a just world. In solidarity with the Hibakushas and their families, I offered my walk for the memory of those who perished 72 years ago and for their quest to end the proliferation of nuclear weapons and development of nuclear energy.

Today, I invite you, the participants from all over the world to send your youth delegate to the 2018 international youth relay and be part of the birth of this tradition of walking in solidarity with our Japanese sisters and brothers. You can get in touch with me or Atty Corazon Fabros to find out how to go about this process.

Finally, we published a photo book to show the memorable images and short insights of the Peace March from the perspective of the international youth marchers who joined the march from 2013 to 2017. It also serves as a primer for further publication about the compiled speeches and personal stories of the foreign marchers through the years. We are distributing the books starting on August 6, Sunday. You may order now at the table outside this hall and view the sample copy. 100 percent of the sales shall be

used to fund the international marchers for 2018 and beyond. We dedicate this book to every person fighting for peace and marching for a nuclear free world. Thank you Gensuikyo for your efforts for peace!

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more Hibakushas! No more War! No more Fukushima! Only Peace!

**Kayla Worlrey**  
**Tufts Peace Action/ International Youth**  
**Relay Marcher**  
**U.S.A.**

*(Speech at the Exchange Meeting of Overseas Delegates and Citizens on August 5, Hiroshima)*

Hello everyone. My name is Kayla Worley, and I'm going into my 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Tufts University in the United States. I marched during the International Youth Relay this May through Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Shizuoka prefectures. I expected to see many more people my age than I did, but I'm glad to see more youth representation here! So, this was really my first involvement with the peace movement, and I came here with very little knowledge or opinion on the matter. I figured that the best way to learn about the effects of nuclear weapons was to hear firsthand from the country and people that have been affected by them.

I come from a more isolated rural area in the US, where there is little cultural or ethnic diversity. Additionally, people rarely move outside of this closed community. They are not exposed to many other types of people, cultures, beliefs, or ideas, except through the lens of a biased media and a limiting, underfunded, broken education system. This is not all of America, but there are a concerning amount of communities like this. When I moved to a more diverse city for college, suddenly my perspective was opened to see just how many different types of people there are.

Before I came to Japan in May, I didn't know anything about the Bikini Atoll incident; I didn't know just how many US military bases remained in Japan; and I didn't know that the Japanese government is trying to repeal Article 9 and regain its military. But I was not alone in my ignorance. Even though my generation is going to be managing this world full of nuclear tensions, so many of my fellow young Americans know painfully little about how our country has affected others and are so uninformed about international issues. I am trying practice what I am preaching

and educate myself, so I still have a lot to learn. But one thing I know for certain is that my generation, no matter the nationality, needs better worldly education as we begin navigating this global age.

And the more I have been exposed to the world, the more responsible I feel as a member of the global community to become involved in issues that affect us all as humans. I think that if we are to achieve any sort of global cooperation, we must at the very least try to understand where other people are coming from. There are too many people in the world that spend all of their lives unconcerned with the rest of the world, and I think this is truly one of our biggest obstacles in coming to any agreements about something like nuclear abolishment, which requires every country in the world's compliance. When we understand each other's motivations and fears, we stop using force to combat actions we don't understand and begin to actually discuss the root of the problem. What I have concluded after this experience is that we must improve cultural education, we must travel, and we must push ourselves outside of comfort zones to understand one another. Especially us younger people, because we are going to inherit this world and all its problems!

In the face of both victories and losses with the recent establishment of the Nuclear Ban Treaty and ICBM firing from North Korea, there are many mixed emotions about the state of Asian and global security. I don't think anyone is really sure of the best way to deal with North Korea's belligerence, but it is obvious that many countries are not cooperating to solve this world threat. The US is frustrated that China and Russia won't increase economic sanctions on North Korea, South Korea is worried about its own security and is looking to increase its military strength, and China is condemning South Korea for bolstering its defense. There is a tangled web conflicting of motivations, fears, and actions intersecting in this delicate dance of international relations, but I think that moving forward we must, as I stressed before, really consider the perspectives of each other. More than anything, remembering that we are all human and at our core all want security, is essential. We just have to convince everyone that peace, not war, is the most mutually agreeable form of security.

I'm still learning about all of these issues, so I may not be able to propose such a nuanced solution to achieving peace as some of the other speakers, but I hope that sharing my reflections at least inspires some young people to educate themselves more. I'm here speaking to you all, but I've come primarily to learn and listen myself.

Sometimes in our zealous attempts to solve problems we forget to also be open to other opinions, but especially as young people it is important to listen more than we talk. I look forward to discussing with you all and learning your perspectives this week.

**Samuel Joseph  
Tufts Peace Action/ International Youth  
Relay Marcher  
U.S.A.**

Hi, my name is Samuel Joseph and I am a current student at Tufts University located along the eastern coast of the United States.

I come before you today not as some advanced nuclear specialist, hardcore peace activist, nor expert in military affairs, but rather as an ordinary American citizen simply trying to better understand his country and genuinely comprehend the effect its actions have had on other nations.

In the western media, I feel we discuss nuclear warfare and technology so casually without fully understanding the weight of that phrase. While we can create all the digital simulations and read all the literature we want, to be able to truly comprehend the profound effects of nuclear warfare while remaining behind the safety of a screen or a book is something that is simply not possible. Thus, as the only country in existence to offensively deploy nuclear weapons onto another country, I feel it is my duty as an American citizen and college student to fully understand the impact of this event and the influence it has had on Japanese people and landscape as directly as possible.

With that said, it is for this very reason that I stand before you today. I have heard the perspective of the United States in regards to the bombing virtually all my life but never before have I met nor heard the stories of those who have been directly affected by nuclear catastrophe.

The second reason why I stand before you today is indirectly related to my academic pursuits. At my university, I study American Politics and Sociology. Unlike many, I believe politics and sociology to have a complementary relationship with one another. Politics can be essentially defined as finding the most efficient system to govern a particular society. However, in order to do that, I believe we must first understand the people within those respective societies and take into account their fundamental values and norms before they can be effectively governed. Hence my concentration in sociology; the study of social

interactions. As an individual seeking a position in American politics, it is thus imperative that I go out of my way to understand both the legislative as well as anecdotal perspectives of this issue so I can try to prevent such pain from happening again in the future. While I could have taken the time to learn about all this in a class back home, by coming to Japan and participating in this march, I have gained perspective I simply never could have had through staying in America.

This world we live in is plagued by so much hate, hostility, and conflict. However, I personally believe that through diversity and compassion, human beings can come to understand one another and achieve greater peace and everlasting prosperity. So that is why I am here today. To learn and to listen to your stories so I too can feel your pain and do my part in trying and bridge the divide amongst humanity.

### **Rashmi Shakya and Rajesh Bajracharya Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal**

#### Nuclear Disarmament for a Secure World

On behalf of the AAPSO Nepal, I have the honour to express my warm greetings to all the distinguished participants who have assembled here to participate at the seventy-second commemoration of the nuclear bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki cities of Japan. The nuclear bomb attack destroyed the cities and killed hundreds of thousands of people instantly. The attack has brought an irreversible and never forgettable pain to the survivors in the region. Words are insufficient to express the devastation and human loss caused by the tragic event seventy-two years ago.

The organizing committee of the World Conference against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo) has been holding this commemorative event every year, and it reminds us of the tragic consequences of the dropping of weapons of mass destruction on the lives of human beings particularly and the world environment in general.

The relentless campaign by the World Conference against A and H Bombs is very important and an urgent step to build up world opinion against A and H bombs to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. AAPSO Nepal has a privilege to be associated with this commemorative event and it has always played an active role in the campaign against A and H bombs.

AAPSO Nepal believes that the UN is still a very reliable world body to help achieve a nuclear arms-free world. Strengthening peace and security by abolishing nuclear arsenals should be the major objective of the UN. Article 26 of the UN Charter calls for the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources. The UN Charter also provides for necessary commitments towards disarmaments and arms control.

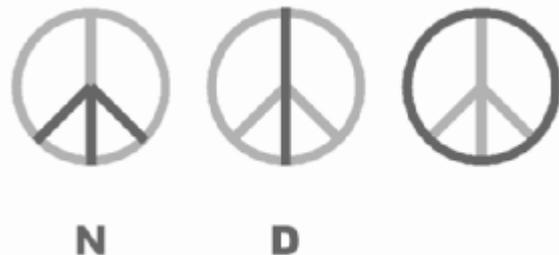
Though the UN was founded on the belief that peace and security for all peoples would only be possible through disarmament, the progress on denuclearization process is not encouraging.

The major obstacles to denuclearization arise from the countries having nuclear weapons. As there are no fixed ratios among weapons, the questions of standards of allocation of different types and quantities of armaments to be allotted to various nations remain unresolved.

The existence of mutual distrust among states also frustrates nuclear disarmament efforts. National interest and security, political rivalry, and disputes among the nations also fuel arms race thus breaking down the commitments of nuclear disarmament.

Besides, the establishment of the Military Industrial Complex (MIC) also prevents the nuclear disarmament process. The MIC is a lucrative industry in the US, France, UK, Russia, and China. As the arms production and sale of weapons is the most profitable business, disarmament measures will not achieve its goal unless the MIC is not restrained.

We have seen how the states of the world suffer from the fear of danger of nuclear war in the light of international and regional instability that cause unregulated arms race. However, the efforts towards achieving a nuclear-free world through nuclear disarmament and arms control must not be slowed down. By organizing Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemoration Day in Nepal every year, we have become a part of the campaign against A and H bombs.



**Sheshrao Mate**  
**Executive member, District Bar**  
**Association, Nagpur**  
**India**

Role of UNO for Maintaining Peace and Security  
in the World

*“THERE CAN BE NO PEACE IN THE WORLD  
WITHOUT JUSTICE TO THE PEOPLE”*  
– LORD BUDDHA

The League of Nations, which was established after the First World War failed to establish international peace and also could not prevent the outbreak of the Second World War.

The Second World War compelled even during the war, the great powers of the world i.e. the chief powers viz. Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the United States and China to make frantic efforts to create an international organization. Consequently, the United Nations organization was established on 24<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1945.

The U.N. charter also came into force in 1945 after the ratification and signed by the members. “The preamble of the U.N. determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of human person in the equal rights of men and women and nations at large and small and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained and to promote social progress and better standard of life in larger freedom and for these ends to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security and to ensure..... that armed force shall not be used, save in common interest and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims.”

Article I of the charter says that the purpose of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principal of equal rights and self-determination of people to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanization character and to be a

centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

The prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons is what Japan recognises as its historical responsibility and mission as the only country in the world to have experienced a nuclear attack during wartime on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. No country in the world suffered like Japan. It is a need of the hour to ban completely the nuclear weapons to save and protect the environment. Therefore, the Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) took place in New York (U.S.) in 1968, wherein 190 countries were parties, except India, Pakistan and Israel. It came into force from the year 1970. It is an international treaty. The main objective of this treaty is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology. The goal of this treaty is to achieve nuclear disarmament and complete disarmament.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), bans all nuclear explosions everywhere by everyone. This treaty was adopted by United Nations General Assembly on 10<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1996. The conference on disarmament regarding this treaty negotiated at Geneva. But it has not entered into force as eight specific states have not ratified the treaty. But it is a legally binding global ban on nuclear explosive testing. Even to those states who were not parties to this treaty, the norms of the treaty are applicable. Those countries who violate the norms of the CTBT will have to face consequences. The U.N. charter authorizes the U.N. Security Council to take action against a threat to international peace and security when the state or states creating the threat have violated a treaty. The objective of the UNO is to maintain global peace and prohibit all kinds of nuclear tests or explosions which endanger world peace.

**Manisha Thapa**  
**Secretary, Afro-Asian Peoples’ Solidarity**  
**Organization of Nepal**

Let us save human civilization

It is my privilege to be a participant in this World Conference held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to commemorate the 72nd Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day. I am from a country known for the highest peaks in the world, and also for the birth of the apostle of peace, the Gautama Buddha. I must thank in the very beginning for extending the invitation to me and my colleagues to represent the AAPSO Nepal.

When I was a student at high school, I had heard a lot about the massacre of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but at that time, I had not understood the gravity of the dropping of nuclear bombs on these two cities which were devastated by the nuclear attack. Over the years, I studied more about Japan and the two cities. Now I can understand the pain and trauma of the people living in the two cities then and now. I would like to pay my homage to the innocent lives that perished in the attack. I have my sincere regards to the survivors of the nuclear holocaust. We are with them now and we should show our solidarity with them in order to prevent another human-made catastrophe again in this world.

Humanity is in danger, and we all should learn a lesson from the tragic history to create a new world free of nuclear weapons. It is a collective responsibility of us all, and this is why we have come from across the world to raise our voice in favour of world peace and against the proliferation of nuclear arms.

We human beings are called the most reasonable beings in this planet. However, it is an irony that our activities and actions so far do not prove that we are really responsible and reasonable. This planet is in threat, of total annihilation not because of other beings, but because of us, considered wise, conscious and civilized too.

Already, we have had a history of failure of human civilization as exemplified by the First and Second World Wars in which millions of people were killed. Again this event of dropping nuclear bombs on the two cities of Japan further blackened our human civilization. Now we all are at the crossroad of history, and a slight irresponsibility and negligence can wipe out the entire human race.

I have come here to share my pain, agony, fear, and anxiety with you all. It is the right time to raise our collective voice from all corners of the world. I would like to make a special appeal to nuclear power countries to realize the gravity of the dire situation created by the nuclear weapons in different parts of world. If they do not become serious, it will be too late tomorrow. Likewise, the world body, the UN, should play an active role in galvanizing the world against A and H bombs. We have still high hopes in the strength of the UN. Similarly, regional organizations in different parts of the world should take initiative in favour of nuclear disarmament. Finally, salute the people of Japan for their patience, perseverance despite having gone through the traumatic experience. Equally, I congratulate Gensuikyo for organizing such event and conference to remind the world

that we all are living under the shadow of nuclear war anytime.

If these arms are not destroyed and a total ban is not imposed on making new nuclear weapons, we cannot live in peace and security. I will go back to my country with a message of world peace for the collective survival of the entire human kind.

I am overwhelmed with the speeches and remarks given by distinguished guests in this conference. I feel I am an enlightened person because I will devote my entire life in arousing awareness in favour of human dignity and fraternity, and against the divisive factors like nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction.

### **Rabindra Adhikari and Suman Shrestha Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council**

It is my great pleasure on behalf of my organization Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council to participate continuously in this event for 8 years. I would like to warmly extend greetings and congratulations to the organizing committee and like to express my appreciation and solidarity with the delegation and the peace movements from all over the world along with Japan who have gathered at this conference of the world to empower the strength for peace against wars.

We are here because we love our world, peace, people and humanity. We remember the first ever use of atomic bomb shocking humanity with the indiscriminate devastations of civilian population. That experience alone demonstrated to humanity the need of elimination of all the nuclear weapons on country. The nuclear weapons are stocked in such huge quantities that can destroy our world many times. More than 16,000 warheads are still in stock and more than 3,000 warheads are on alert position. We believe that the people of the world have the right to live peacefully, without any threats of war. All the people of the world agree to the elimination of nuclear weapons theoretically, but practically it has not been successful. Because of threats of nuclear weapons, the world has upheld the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is the only way and instrument and strives to prevent to proliferation of nuclear weapons and also contain legal commitment for their elimination. Some countries that possess nuclear weapons have adopted double-standard roles on elimination of nuclear weapons. Actually, the NPT has some terms and conditions which permit the stocking of

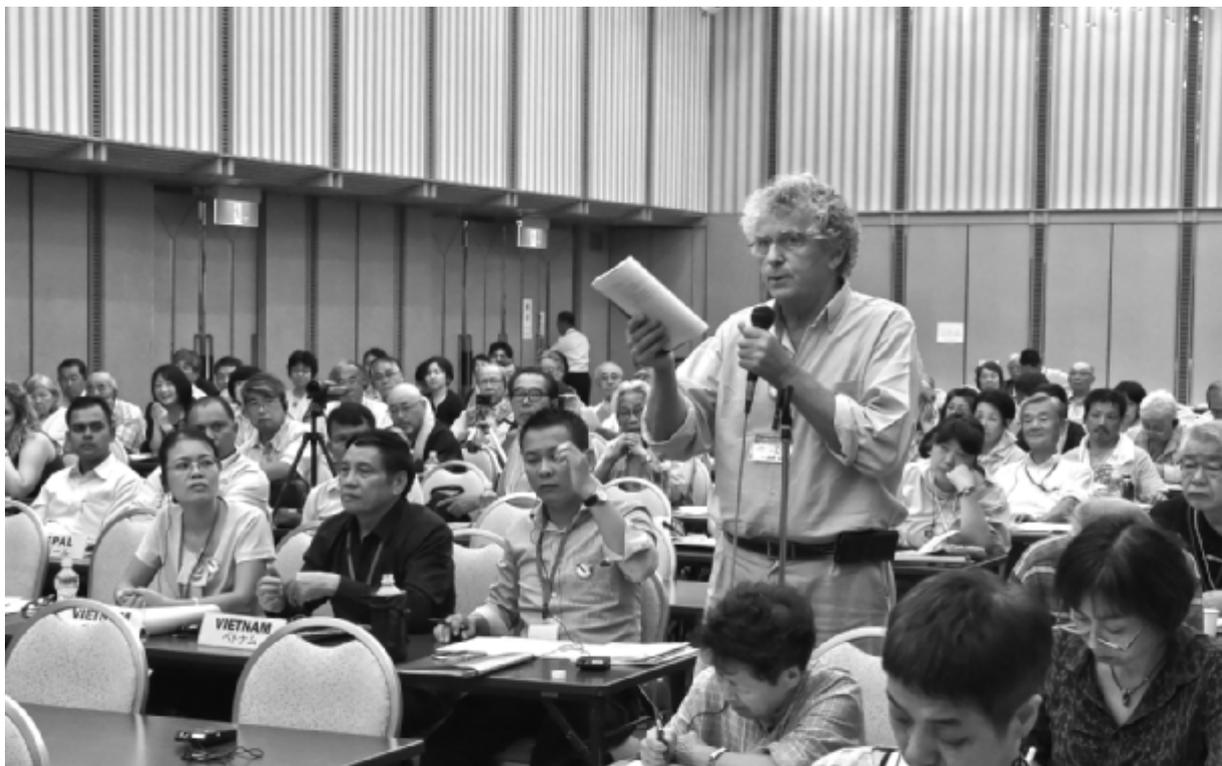
nuclear weapons, and does not control the development of nuclear weapons. The NPT is being used to monopolize nuclear weapons by nuclear club countries rather than the elimination of nuclear weapons. Some countries (India, Pakistan) have refused to sign the NPT but they are getting support to develop nuclear weapons by some big countries. So such double-standard roles of big countries are not helping to achieve the world's goal.

South Asia, the world's most densely populated area, is in the developing zone of nuclear threats. India and Pakistan are under a nuclear weapons race. They are developing nuclear weapons much faster than other countries. In roughly assumption, they have more than 250 nuclear bombs stocked. Both countries are in race of nuclear power plant in the name of energy. Some plants are very near to the border of Nepal. If any accident occurs, it is sure to harm Nepal. We all the people and government should strongly oppose such activities which makes the world unsafe. Nepal, a non-aligned country, has always been calling for nuclear disarmament and against nuclear weapons which are a great threat to humanity. Peace-loving Nepal has signed the NPT and the CTBT. In spite of a large number of signatory countries of the NPT and the CTBT, no concrete outcome has resulted. Anyway, the world activity is slowly moving forward towards elimination of such weapons. Just now, the UN has passed a treaty to ban nuclear weapons. More

than 129 countries are in favour of the treaty. It is a historic success and it will be a historic moment and it is the first multilateral nuclear disarmament treaty to be concluded in more than 20 years, but some nuclear armed countries are against it. We know the world can't achieve the goal to eliminate nuclear weapons and make a nuclear weapon free world, unless all countries of the world, mostly nuclear armed countries, are loyal to the goal, otherwise it will be limited to dreams.

Even most of the people of the world are against such activities but it has been hard to eliminate such weapons. The main cause is rooted in the political system. Imperialist system always wants to control the world market and raw materials. So to get such market and raw materials they should be powerful. Such circumstance makes the world unsafe. No country and no citizen of a country should any longer be allowed to feel pride in being militarily strong. The really strong countries are those who manage to create security by non-militarily means.

At last I would like to thank the organizing committee for allowing me to speak here and express my solidarity to all peace movements against war. It is in the conference that the sacred goal of a nuclear weapons free-world should allow us to work together and to strengthen us as partners from all over the world to make a nuclear weapons free, peaceful and just world for the betterment of future generations.



## Closing Session (August 5)

### Reports of Workshops:

<b>Workshop I: Damage and Suffering from A-Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Inhuman Nature of Nuclear Weapons; Struggle of the Hibakusha</b>
--

**Abeline Salacata**  
**Education Coordinator**  
**Stop the War Coalition, The Philippines**

Co-Chairpersons:

1. Ms. Yamamoto Yoshiko, Japan Federation of Democratic Medical Institutions (MIN-IREN)
2. Ms. Yamada Hiroko, Women's Democratic Club
3. Ms. Abeline Salacata, Stop the War Coalition, the Philippines
4. Mr. Sheshrao Mate, District Bar Association, Nagpur, India

There were around 40-45 participants who sat in the workshop. A total of 10 speakers took to the podium to share their stories and experiences as Hibakushas, as well as sharing from a 2nd generation Hibakusha. Different organizations also shared their activities in support of and for the Hibakushas. Dr. Shoji Sawada also shared his study on the effects and impact of nuclear radiation while Ms. Abacca Maddison Anjain shared the experiences of the Marshallese people. For the Hibakushas, 72 years after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, sharing and talking about their stories and experiences remain painful and traumatic until this day. But they have to endure the pain and the trauma because they have the responsibility to tell their stories not only to the Japanese people but to the whole world. By sharing their stories, they hope that people will learn and must not repeat the mistakes and atrocities committed 72 years ago.

The health issues and problems being experienced by the 2nd and 3rd generation Hibakusha is an ongoing concern that the Japanese government should seriously address and look into. Health and medical check-ups should be provided and done regularly by the government. The real cause of their health problems should not be kept from them. They should not be deprived of knowing their true health and medical condition. As Dr. Sawada mentioned in his speech, his study and research on

the fallout exposure of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs is to reveal the true impact of nuclear radiation.

In support for the Hibakusha, aside from the signature campaign, different groups have become creative with their activities to reach out to a wider group of people; young mothers with their toddlers are invited to picnics where they would share stories while some would go door to door to share stories of the Hibakusha's account. Others would take relatives and acquaintances to peace memorials and encouraged them to work for peace. Others would mount exhibits in schools, local offices and public areas while some would come up with comic illustration pamphlets or magazine to share the stories of the Hibakusha. The workshop reminded us and made us realized clearly that:

1. The Japanese and American governments refused to take responsibility in the war crimes they committed against the people of Japan and Asia.
2. The Abe Administration is going on the old path of committing the same mistake that led to the 1945 bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
3. The Japanese government does not have enough system to provide medical treatment for 2nd and 3rd generation Hibakushas and to their children and grandchildren. And if we are able to realize the Nuclear Ban Treaty, we can use it as a support for the Hibakusha and provide them with adequate medical treatment
4. The adoption of the Treaty gave us hope not only for the Hibakusha, but also hope for the people of Japan and to all countries and movements supporting peace. We should not be complacent with the adoption of the treaty, we work harder and should all join hands together so we can effectively:
  - a. We should strengthen our call on other people to collect more signatures for our campaign;
  - b. We should review the list of countries who confirmed their attendance in September and work and rally for the government of our own country to change their attitude and sign and ratify the treaty.
5. No human beings should suffer what the Japanese people have suffered in 1945. No succeeding generations should suffer nuclear wars. We are part and parcel of humanity and should fight and move for the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons in every country in the world.
6. Lastly, as Abacca shared, we are one big family and that we learn from each other to find peaceful solutions. All the hard work done by each

and every one of us led to the adoption of the treaty. Let us use our pain and struggle to find a conviction under rainbow.

NO MORE HIBAKUSHAS! NO MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS! NO MORE WARS!

## **Workshop II: From Prohibition Treaty to Abolition of Nuclear Weapons: Role of Peace Movements and Civil Society**

**Eulit Fernandez Torres**  
**Executive Director**  
**Tri-People's Organization against Disaster Foundation, The Philippines**

Opening Statement:

- Started the workshop on time
- A good number of delegates were present
- 4 persons shared the chairing of the Workshop process:

- Ms. Nagao Yuri
  - Mr. Sudhir Tulshiram Dhurwey of India
  - Ms. Eulit Fernandez Torres
  - Mr. Fukushima Isao
  - 18 persons submitted their Request for Speech with five others who intervened with questions and sharing of ideas and experiences
- Proposals for JAPAN Organizations:

1. To study deeply the kind of government that Japan has of today.
2. To build the new movements to deal with Local governments who will stand for the abolition call.
3. To formulate demands like the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons and zero nuclear power plants.
4. To create the new movement for No-Nuclear Weapons Municipalities.
5. To continue with the signature campaign and to organize communities that will initiate and manage this campaign for the ratification of the treaty in every country.
6. To mobilize people through the Peace March
7. Japan should make known to and educate the people the leakage of radiation that pollutes the environment and spreads hazardous materials from power plants.

General Proposals for Everyone (Japan & International Delegates):

1. The importance of community education and conscientization, the work of producing

publications and the necessity to maintain contacts with media.

2. To use testimonies and personal experiences of victims of war (e.g. Hibakusha, others) and to continue their story-telling in various ways – publishing books, organizing meetings, dialogues and conversations that will open awareness of people we intend to invite and support the movement.

3. To change our government, turn it (government) to a “non-nuclear government”, so we can have a “non-nuclear world”; if traditional groups and political groups work together, it is not impossible.

4. To be creative in the way we push the campaign and our tactics.

5. To organize different creative and interesting activities that increase visibility and gets the attention and interest of our target groups and the public (e.g. Exhibition in government buildings, initiating free dance events, cooking lessons among women and mothers, creative artworks, postcards-making, by composing songs and cultural activities, by using information technology like the social media, candle lighting, etc.

6. To develop creative campaigning, e.g. “Sex and No Bang!”

7. To continue looking for creative ways in organizing communities, sectors and groups and build broader coalitions to expand our movements.

8. To organize gatherings on the day of the treaty being adopted (July 7, 2018).

9. Understanding how legislators work, studying the influencing system, and identify the best targets of pressure

10. To engage in elections by getting involved in electing pro-peace candidates.

11. To organize petition against increase in military budget and spending; instead redirecting the budget for the ratification of the treaty.

12. To criticize war on one hand and promote peaceful policies by governments

13. To build closer and renewed relations and links between people and societies.

14. To launch an international appeal (in support to the Hibakusha's efforts) demanding the ratification of the treaty.

15. To organize unified/simultaneous actions on the following dates:

- Sept. 21 - International Day for Peace
- Sept. 26 - International Day of the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
- July 7, 2018 - adoption day of the treaty

16. To demand from government of every country to create museums.

Lessons Learned and Some Challenges:

1. Need of being aware through engagement about the low awareness of people, about failures and not being effective in some of the tactics and strategies in a given time.
2. Need of youth active participation.
3. Need of launching initiatives to counter dis-information, dissemination of wrong information (e.g. exposing children to the military facilities....), giving of bribes and influencing powers to mayors and legislators if they side the opponents.
4. Never give up! Fight! Fight! Fight! Until we succeed in building non-nuke municipalities and cities, a non-nuke country and a non-nuke world!

**Workshop III: Action and Cooperation for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World - Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Radiation Damage; Safe and Secure Life and Environment**

**Christian Ciobanu  
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation  
U.S.A.**

Chairs: Jun Chisaka (Japan Peace Committee), Michie Yuhara (New Japan Women's Association), Kayla Worley (Tufts Peace Action), Christian N. Ciobanu, (Nuclear Age Peace Foundation)

Thematic Discussions:  
Ban Treaty Discussions

Joseph Gerson from the US conveyed the necessity to educate the public about the significance of the ban treaty. He stated that the movement must launch grassroots activities about the ban treaty. Further, activists must communicate to the media about the success and importance of the ban treaty. He further discussed concerns about the Trump administration.

Mr. Takashi Kasaki of Kanagawa Gensuikyo discussed the importance of the ban treaty. He underscored that the treaty was enormously successful and marked a significant achievement in the nuclear disarmament movement. He emphasized that nuclear disarmament activists must educate ordinary citizens, especially in Japan, about the ban treaty in order to generate a large public movement that can pressure Japan to

support the ban treaty. He further felt that the ban treaty reinforces and complements Article 9 of Japan's Constitution.

Due to the fact that the majority of states supported the ban treaty and the provisions set forth in the ban treaty, Ms. Noriko Yamamoto of the Japan's Teachers Association explained that there must be an educational program to educate children about the ban treaty. She further expressed her concerns that the Ministry of Education may be censoring information about the ban treaty and the history of Japan during World War II.

Petition Drives

Both Mr. Yonezawa Masahiro of the Tokushima Prefecture Peace Committee and Mr. Saburo Sugawara of the Yamanashi Prefecture Gensuikyo talked about the importance of several efforts on Hibakusha international petition drives. For instance, Mr. Yonezawa mentioned he promised to collect 20,000 signatories by 2020. To date, he managed to obtain 5,600 signatures. Additionally, Sugawara mentioned that he collected 1,200 signatures for the petition by approaching people in his prefecture engaging with officials from his municipality, and talking to mayors and assemblymen.

Actions after the treaty

Ms. Sawada Toshie, the Secretary General of Kyoto Shinfujin, discussed actions, which must be implemented after the ban treaty. Specifically, she conveyed that domestic issues should be interlinked with the ban treaty.

Also, due to the special situation in Kobe, associated the movement of foreign ships into the port, one should educate the public that the ban treaty could address the entry of ships, which possess nuclear weapons.

Kobe Formula

Regarding the Kobe Formula, Mr. Masahito Hayashi of Hyogo Prefecture Gensuikyo discussed the special Kobe Formula. He stated that historical origins of the formula. Specifically, he noted that on 18 March 1975, the Kobe Municipal Assembly passed a resolution that became known as the "Kobe Formula." From that day forward, the resolution said, any ship carrying nuclear weapons would not be allowed to enter the port. Unfortunately, the current mayor is reluctant to implementing the aforementioned provisions. He is also cautious about any measures that raise political controversies against Japan's constitution.

Other interesting items:

Suganuma Mikio of the Peace committee discussed the necessity to launch a campaign, which would educate the public about the dangers of a limited nuclear war with North Korea. Ms. Yoshida Yukiko informed the public about her concerns with the nuclear power plant accident of Fukushima and the dangers linked to the effects of radiation.

Interestingly, Ms. Akimoto Keiko discussed that nuclear deterrence theory is an obsolete idea. She mentioned the editorials by the 4 Horsemen (Shultz, Perry, Kissinger, and Nunn) criticized nuclear deterrence theory and urged the U.S. to renew their thinking of a world without nuclear weapons. She also emphasized that the public must be aware about the influence of the military industrial complex in order to cripple this complex.

#### Recommendations Proposals

1. The participants identified the necessity to educate the public about the ban treaty. Significantly, a young high school student mentioned that the majority of youth are ignorant about politics and nuclear disarmament. Therefore, he felt that there must be more discussions in schools about the atomic bombings. He also felt that the peace museum's exhibits do not convey the gravity of the humanitarian effects of nuclear weapons. He proposed that the officials at the museum should re-evaluate their exhibits. There was also a substantive exchange about the need for Gensuikyo to coordinate an international rally, which would consist of all of the organizations in Hiroshima and provide information about all events in Hiroshima.



# Hiroshima Day Rally

## 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

(August 6)



### Keynote Address on Behalf of the Organizer:

#### Tomida Koji Drafting Committee Chairperson of the International Meeting

Allow me on behalf of the Organizing Committee to give the report on the International Meeting.

Friends, the world has at last obtained a treaty banning nuclear weapons. On July 7, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at UN Headquarters, supported by 122 countries, or more than 60 percent of the UN member states.

The treaty outlawed nuclear weapons. In the name of the World Conference against A and H Bombs, I want to share the great joy at this achievement.

In its preamble, the treaty severely denounces the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. Noting the intolerable suffering and damage experienced by the Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and those of nuclear tests around the world, the treaty makes clear that the only guarantee to prevent

such inhumane weapons from being used again is their complete elimination.

The treaty is nothing but the outcome of the world's effort to listen to, and face up to, the outcry of the Hibakusha for No More Hiroshimas or Nagasakis. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest respect to the indomitable struggle of Hibakusha for this great achievement, which has paved the way for the survival of humanity.

Friends, the treaty has outlawed nuclear weapons as a step conducive to their complete elimination. It offers the prospect that banning nuclear weapons by law can pave the way for their complete elimination. This does not mean an immediate elimination of nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapon states and those that are under the nuclear umbrella, including Japan, may continue to use various pretexts to refuse to sign and become party to the treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons.

But the treaty's Article 1 prohibits and outlaws all activities associated with nuclear weapons, including those to develop, test, produce, manufacture, possess, stockpile, use, threaten to use, transfer, and receive them. It also bans each

state party from assisting, encouraging, soliciting these activities or allowing nuclear weapons of other countries to be deployed. This is a great achievement. Especially, the treaty's prohibition of "threatening to use" nuclear weapons is an explicit denial of "nuclear deterrence". It prohibits countries, including Japan, from relying on a nuclear umbrella as part of security efforts. What a great achievement it is!

Friends, the treaty's Article 6 makes it an obligation for each state party to provide assistance in various ways to the atomic bomb survivors, Hibakusha, and those affected by the testing of nuclear weapons. Paragraph 6 of Article 7 provides that a state party that has used or tested nuclear weapons has a responsibility to provide adequate assistance to affected state parties. The ideas of assistance to and solidarity with Hibakusha, which have been consistently advocated by the World Conference against A and H Bombs, have been endorsed by international law.

Now that a majority of the states stigmatize nuclear weapons as illegal, the world should be different from what it used to be. We must exert our power to make that happen.

Those countries that continue to possess nuclear weapons, which are prohibited and outlawed, would be condemned as "rogue states." The international community and civil society would criticize them for continuing to possess illegal weapons.

Also, we must remember that the treaty not only prohibits nuclear weapons. Its Article 4 provides a framework of processes toward completely eliminating nuclear weapons. The treaty is to play the role of a ladder to help realize a world without nuclear weapons.

Success or failure in this treaty as an instrument conducive to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons continues to depend on the growth of people's awareness and movements, in particular in nuclear weapon countries and those bound by being under the nuclear umbrella based on alliance commitments.

Friends, we cannot tolerate the Japanese government's opposition to the treaty. Despite its being the government of the only country to suffer nuclear attacks, it is refusing to sign or ratify the treaty. The task now is to force the government to change its nuclear and security policies. We are called upon to build up a political majority to change the government. To achieve it, we need to build a broad coalition of people. Now that we have the treaty banning nuclear weapons in this world, let us make progress in high spirits to fulfill our international duty as people of the only

country to suffer nuclear attacks.

Friends, the International Meeting of the 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs was held over three days from August 3. I hope you already have the text of the unanimously adopted declaration.

The Declaration at the outset refers to the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, adopted on July 7. It says, "Having worked with the Hibakusha since the First World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955 to call for the prevention of nuclear war, the elimination of nuclear weapons and the relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, we heartily welcome the adoption of the treaty as an historic event" and pledge to move forward with renewed determination to achieve a "Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World."

Friends, I call on each one of you to reaffirm and share this pledge.

Declaration highly recognizes the treaty as a milestone leading towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the long cherished aspiration of the Hibakusha and the people around the world.

Citing the main points, the Declaration says the treaty rightfully acknowledges the struggle of the A-bomb survivors and recognizes the treaty as the fruit of the global struggle over some 70 post-war years to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Our urgent task now is to have better understanding of the treaty, make it known to as many people as possible and use it to help increase our movement. I ask you to make use of this Declaration of the International Meeting.

The Declaration goes on to call on all countries to join the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and strongly urges them to halt all their activities prohibited by the treaty and renounce them for good. This is exactly the most fundamental demand we put forward now that we have the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. I ask you to join me in reaffirming this point.

Friends, the Declaration powerfully states, the treaty's ban on threatening the use of nuclear weapons is nothing but a clear rejection of nuclear deterrence, which nuclear weapons countries use as the sole rationale for their possession of nuclear weapons. We strongly demand that all nuclear weapon countries reassess their nuclear deterrence policy. We demand Japan and other allies of nuclear powers give up their policy of relying on nuclear deterrence and get out from under the nuclear umbrella.

Friends, affirming the present stage of our achievement marked by the adoption of the treaty

to prohibit nuclear weapons, we must continue to make powerful strides towards a peaceful and just world without nuclear weapons.

We now need to further develop the joint effort with governments, the United Nations and civil society, which led to the realization of the treaty. The World Conference against A and H Bombs has offered an important platform for increasing the joint effort. We should be convinced of this important role of the World Conference and continue to work to further develop the joint effort.

As we keep moving toward the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the key to making a success of the effort is, without doubt, our work to build up a majority supporting the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons in the nuclear weapons countries and their allies and press their respective governments to sign and ratify the treaty. In these countries, we are especially called upon to raise the level of public opinion and increase the movement to urge their governments to join the treaty.

Friends, the North Korean nuclear and missile development programs are seriously threatening the peace in the region and the rest of the world. We must not tolerate them. All parties concerned should take steps for a diplomatic and peaceful solution without delay and stop all forms of military provocation and intimidation. We urge North Korea to support the principle of the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and to end and give up all its nuclear development programs.

Friends, as the Declaration points out in the last paragraph, the refusal of the government of Japan, the only atom-bombed country, to join the treaty is greatly disappointing the Hibakusha and other people supporting ridding the world of nuclear weapons. The Declaration of the International Meeting strongly demands that the Japanese government remove itself from the US nuclear umbrella and swiftly move to sign the treaty. The Declaration also expresses solidarity with the Japanese movement to defend and revitalize the principle of the Constitution. We appreciate the international solidarity expressed to us. It is our international duty to realize without delay a Japanese government that takes a lead in the global effort to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.

Friends, the Declaration puts forward six specific actions before the peoples of the world. These actions are to take place during the week of "Peace Wave" global simultaneous action from September 20 through 26. The idea of the action grew out of discussions at the International Meeting. We should further discuss the subject

and develop a firm action plan.

We are holding this World Conference from today to discuss the task of further enriching the proposed plan of action. I now conclude my report on behalf of the Organizing Committee by asking all participants in the World Conference to contribute to making the discussions fruitful.

## **Greetings from the Hiroshima Mayor:**

**Matsui Kazumi**

**Mayor of Hiroshima City**

*(Delivered by Tanimoto Mutsushi, Chief of the Civic Affairs Bureau)*

I would like to convey my heartfelt greetings to the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs. Thank you for your travel to Hiroshima. On behalf of one million and 190 thousands citizens of Hiroshima, I warmly welcome you and express my heartfelt appreciation for your everyday effort to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapon and eternal peace of the world.

On August 6, 1945, one atomic bomb was released over the sky of Hiroshima. This "absolute evil" burned down the city of Hiroshima instantly, taking precious lives of innumerable citizens regardless of their age, nationality or belief. Those who narrowly survived the moment later suffered from radiation effects, social discrimination or prejudice. Their deep injuries in both mind and body remain uncured even now.

Overcoming anger and hate from their indescribably cruel experiences, the Hibakusha, despite their sorrow and agonies, looked to the future and appealed for the elimination of nuclear weapons, determined that "there should never be any more man or woman who undergoes such suffering." We must seriously take this Hibakusha's desire for peace and step up our effort to build a cohesive world by respecting diverse values in race, religion, language and so forth.

On July 7, at a conference held in the UN Headquarters in New York, a treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons was adopted with the support of 122 countries. This means that the international community began to take a concrete step towards abolishing nuclear weapons. As the Mayor of this A-bombed city I warmly welcome it.

From now on it will be important that as many countries as possible will hold in common an understanding that the elimination of nuclear weapons is what is to be achieved, and that they proceed to sign the treaty. Those states which did not participate in the negotiation conference

are called on to sit at a common table with the parties to the treaty and help to work to enhance Treaty's legal effectiveness. To this end, Mayor for Peace, which I preside, will make use of our network of 7,400 member cities in 162 countries and regions and in cooperation with many variety of partners to urge national leaders around the world to boldly take the leadership for the elimination of nuclear weapons and join in the discussions constructively and positively.

In order to achieve a "peaceful world without nuclear weapons", the corporation and support from you who are promote it is essential. In this context, it is truly significant that this 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs is being convened, in which so many participants are assembled and share the desire with the Hibakusha. I wish this conference will be successful in renewing your determination for peace.

I want to conclude my greetings by wishing you the success in the conference, your good work and your health.

## **Greetings from the Hibakusha:**

### **Tanaka Terumi Co-Chairperson, Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)**

I am Tanaka Terumi. Allow me on behalf of Nihon Hidankyo to send our greetings of solidarity to you all. I became one of the Co-Chairpersons of Nihon Hidankyo last June. I was exposed to atomic bomb radiation in Nagasaki when I was 13 years old.

We are meeting at the first World Conference since the adoption of the historic "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons". I am pleased to share with you my great joy at this achievement.

As I am one of the initiators of the "International Hibakusha Appeal" signature campaign, my heart is filled with deep emotion. When we launched the Promotion Committee to start this campaign in April 2016, we never imagined that a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons would be adopted with support from the majority of U.N. member States. We proposed achieving the set goal by 2020 at the latest. But we achieved it much earlier than expected. It's like a dream come true.

We are very pleased that the joint appeal issued by the Hibakusha and all of you and our movement have reached the people around the

world and the countries seeking a ban and abolition of nuclear weapons. The Preamble of the Treaty has two references to the "hibakusha". The Treaty is mindful of the unacceptable suffering of the Hibakusha and recognizes the role played by the Hibakusha. We are grateful for this. Firmly believing in the cause we have carried forward over the more than 70 years since the atomic bombing, we are renewing our determination to continue to work.

The Treaty will be open for signature on September 20, and will enter into force 90 days after the 50th nation has ratified it. In the "Hibakusha Appeal", we asked, "Why do we hesitate to conclude a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons which are far more destructive than chemical or biological weapons?" This has been overcome. We will be happy to amend this part of the text of the Appeal when the treaty will enter into force.

We Hibakusha are calling on all States to sign the Treaty. However, nuclear-armed states and those relying on the "nuclear umbrella" refused even to take part in the negotiation conference. They shamefully said, "We will not sign the treaty" or "a treaty will be ineffective without the participation of nuclear weapon states." The Japanese government has claimed to represent the only country to suffer nuclear attacks in warfare but remains part of the group of countries refusing to join the treaty. We cannot but express anger at the refusal.

From here, the major task is for us to promote the "Hibakusha Appeal" signature campaign as broadly and powerfully as possible so that the nuclear-armed countries clinging to nuclear deterrence and Japan relying on the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" will change their security policies and join the "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons".

We need to make the government of Japan adhere to the constitutional principle of pacifism and adopt a new security policy not based on military forces. National security policy must be devoted to the protection of the lives and the livelihoods of the people. Military force cannot guarantee the security of citizens or society.

Our experience in the last War is important. Even with its world-class armed forces, Japan was defeated in the war. Millions of people were killed. Most Japanese major cities, including Tokyo, were reduced to ashes and ordinary people were forced to endure impoverishment. I wonder what and who in the world were protected by the military. Ultimately, the lives, health, houses and living conditions of tens of thousands of people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed.

In the 21st century world filled with nuclear weapons, any conflict between nations could lead to a nuclear war. The Preamble of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons succinctly talks about the possible consequences that the use of nuclear weapons might have. A U.N. ambassador from one of the nuclear powers said to me, “The nuclear weapons of my country are necessary for national security based on nuclear deterrence. But they will never be used.” But then, what is the point of maintaining something that will never be used?

Let us increase our calls on the citizens and civil society in the nuclear-armed countries to act to give up on the security policy of their countries based on nuclear deterrence. Let us further develop the movement by making full use of the International Hibakusha Appeal signature drive.

Let us work together to achieve a world without nuclear weapons or war! Let us save the earth, our blue planet, for our children and grandchildren!

I conclude my greetings by quoting a favorite phrase of Tsuboi Sunao, my fellow co-chairperson of Hidankyo from Hiroshima: “Never give up!”

## **Statement by the National Government Representative:**

**Martin Krüger**  
**Minister/ Deputy Director for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs Austria**

Let me first of all thank you sincerely for the invitation to speak to you here today and present the latest developments in the quest for a world free from nuclear weapons from an Austrian point of view. There are certainly no better places than Hiroshima and Nagasaki that have seen the horror and the unspeakable humanitarian consequences of the use of atomic bombs to address the question of nuclear disarmament. The impressive turnout at this conference clearly demonstrates that there is wide-spread support for a world free of atomic and hydrogen bombs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Until the fall of the Iron Curtain Austria was a country positioned on the demarcation line between NATO and the Warsaw Pact faced with all the ensuing risks and threats. Austria, therefore, has traditionally been at the forefront of all international efforts at disarmament, arms control

and non-Proliferation. I would just like to mention here the Treaties to ban anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions, better known as the Ottawa and Oslo Conventions. Austria also strongly supports the Arms Trade Treaty that for the first time ever sets internationally binding standards for the transfer of conventional weapons. Furthermore, in 1999 the Austrian Parliament adopted with the support of all political parties a Fundamental Law establishing Austria as a nuclear free state and containing a national ban on nuclear weapons.

As far as multilateral nuclear disarmament is concerned, after the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1996 (the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency are hosted in the Austrian capital Vienna) we saw a standstill in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for about 20 years. That is why a couple of countries, including Austria, decided to promote new initiatives and draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and the risks attached to nuclear weapons in general. Conferences were held in Oslo/Norway, Nayarit/Mexico and Vienna/Austria.

An overwhelming majority of States have endorsed the Humanitarian Statement as well as the Humanitarian pledge that have drawn attention to the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. Hiroshima and Nagasaki have so drastically demonstrated to which extent a nuclear conflagration would by far outstrip national and international capacities for humanitarian assistance. The only way to prevent such a voluntary or involuntary nuclear explosion is to eliminate all nuclear weapons. As with the Conventions banning biological and chemical weapons an elimination of nuclear weapons will require a legal basis in the form of a binding treaty.

The process and considerations outlined above finally culminated in a Conference of States held at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York. 129 States participated in the deliberations under the able chairpersonship of Ambassador Whyte-Gomez of Costa Rica. The core group of States actively promoting the treaty consisted of Mexico and Brazil from Latin America, Nigeria and South Africa from Africa as well as Ireland and Austria from Europe. Finally, on 7 July 2017 122 States voted in favour of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Treaty will be opened for signature from September 20 in New York and enter into force once the fiftieth instrument of ratification will be deposited. We expect this to happen in 2018 and

Austria offered to organize the first meeting of States Parties in Vienna most likely to be held in 2019.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in the English version is about 10 pages long and I hope that copies in Japanese will be available to those that are interested in the details. Allow me to highlight some of the provisions of the Treaty.

The **Preamble** draws attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, transcend national borders and pose grave implications for human survival. The mere existence of nuclear weapons poses grave risks to all humankind given the possibility of a detonation by accident, miscalculation or design. The unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the victims of the use of nuclear weapons (Hibakusha) is acknowledged. The Preamble expresses concern on the slow pace of nuclear disarmament and the continued reliance on nuclear weapons in military and security concepts, doctrines and policies and recognises that a legally binding prohibition of nuclear weapons constitutes an important contribution towards the achievement and maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons.

**Article 1** is the core of the Treaty and prescribes that “each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to:

- a: Develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- d: Use or threaten to use nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- g: Allow any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control.”
- Lit b and c concern the transfer of or receipt of transfer or control over nuclear weapons.
- Lit e and f concern the prohibition to assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in activities prohibited under the Treaty or seek or receive assistance from anyone to engage in activities prohibited under the Treaty.

In accordance with **Article 2 and 3** all States joining the Treaty will declare whether they possess nuclear weapons or whether such weapons are stationed on their territory and will maintain safeguards as existing in the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

**Article 4** is another core provision of the Treaty and is called “Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons”. It is important to

emphasize at this point that the new Treaty will remain open for accession by all States. It sets out a clear pathway for accession by States possessing nuclear weapons or States on which territory nuclear weapons are stationed. What is required from them, however, is the will to abandon their nuclear weapons in a time bound, irreversible and verifiable manner.

**Articles 5 to 7** deal with national implementation, victim assistance and environmental remedies, as well as international cooperation and assistance.

The rest of the **Articles (Art. 8 – 20)** concern issues such as meeting of States Parties, amendments (2/3 majority) and reservations (the articles of this Treaty shall not be subject to reservations).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The nine States currently possessing nuclear weapons chose not to participate in the negotiations.

However, we think that even before the accession of States possessing nuclear weapons, the Treaty will have significant positive effects. It sends a powerful signal that the majority of the world’s States are determined to take action now for a future free from nuclear weapons which will be a safer and more secure future for everybody without exception. It complements, reaffirms and strengthens existing norms such as the Non Proliferation Treaty including its non-proliferation obligations and the safeguards regime under the International Atomic Energy Agency. Furthermore, it provides both a basis and a stimulus for additional measures in nuclear disarmament which will have to follow.

The Treaty is fully compatible with other ongoing or desirable activities in nuclear disarmament, such as the launch of negotiations for a fissile material cutoff treaty, efforts to universalize and bring into force the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, work on nuclear disarmament verification, creation and expansion of nuclear weapon free zones among others. It lays the foundation for further effective disarmament measures.

Our common objective, a world free from nuclear weapons can only be achieved and maintained if all States including the States possessing these weapons and the so-called nuclear umbrella States work together. Austria will continue to seek opportunities to engage in dialogue with all States and civil society in order to contribute to creating the necessary political will for progress.

## Orizuru Presentation in Hiroshima:

**Hiroshi Taka**

**Steering Committee Co-Chair, World  
Conference Organizing Committee**

Last June, as the second session of the U.N. Conference to negotiate the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons started, we launched nationwide actions to demonstrate to the world the ardent support of the people of Japan for the negotiations, despite the absence of the government of Japan from the conference. Many Hibakusha walked at the head of the march, while those Hibakusha unable to walk folded with their whole heart paper cranes to be carried by the marchers.

The first World Conference against A and H Bombs held in August 1955, based on the 30 million signatures collected for banning A and H bombs, issued an appeal for the struggles to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons, saying that the genuine relief for the A-bomb victims can be achieved only when all atomic and hydrogen bombs are prohibited.

Responding to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, this World Conference now call for the "Peace Wave" simultaneous grass-roots actions for 1 week from September 20 - the day when the treaty will be opened for signature -- which will circle around the globe with a common demand on all States to sign the treaty.

The Orizuru, paper cranes brought here today are the proof of our determination to ensure successes in these actions. Expressing our gratitude and solidarity, we would like to present them to the Hibakusha and government representatives.



## Greetings from the Political Party Representative:

**Shii Kazuo**

**Chair, Japanese Communist Party**

### **From a ban to elimination – Let us move human history forward**

Hello friends gathered here at the World Conference. I am Shii Kazuo of the Japanese Communist Party. With the adoption of the nuclear weapon ban treaty, our movement has entered a new stage. Until recently, our slogan has been "Conclude a treaty for a total ban on nuclear weapons". From now on, we will say, "Sign the ban treaty". Let us join our forces to bring human history forward from the ban towards elimination of nuclear weapons.

### **"A combination of reason and human heart" - The Hibakusha's voice has moved the World**

Having attended the UN Conference, I am convinced that the Japanese anti-A and H Bomb movement has made a great contribution to the successful outcome of the Conference. Above all I would like to commend the role played by the Hibakusha. In fact the speeches delivered by Mr. Fujimori Toshiki and Ms. Setsuko Thurlow were welcomed by the conference with roaring applause. Ms Elayne Whyte, the Conference President, at the press conference held shortly after the adoption of the ban treaty, said, "Hibakusha have been the driving force in the creation of the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty. Their experiences touched the human soul. The negotiations were a combination of reason and heart".

From my attendance in the UN Conference, I keenly realized that the Hibakusha's voice has moved the world. This is what I want to report to you, with my deep respect and gratitude to the hibakusha.

### **"International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign" -- the biggest driving force towards a "world without nuclear weapons"**

Another thing that impressed me is the power of the International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign. When I met with the Conference President Elayne Whyte last March, I told her about the international petition and handed her the petition forms in English and Spanish. She listened to me, putting her hands over her chest and said, "This is something that gives me strength. I am touched to know that there are so many messages from people."

In June, the Hibakusha representatives presented the list of 2.96 million signatures to President Whyte and Ms. Nakamitsu, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. President Whyte, with red and watery eyes told them her resolve to achieve the adoption of the ban treaty. The biggest power to move forward to a world without nuclear weapons is the petitions collected one by one from the grassroots. Let us obtain hundreds of millions of signatures worldwide and overcome the forces clinging to nuclear weapons.

### **Let us establish a government that will sign the ban treaty**

The government of the sole country that has suffered atomic bombings in wartime is turning its back on this groundbreaking treaty. It is a shameful attitude. I strongly urge the Japanese government to change its policy and seriously consider joining the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

If they say they will not sign the treaty, then let us establish a government that will sign. Japanese people shall create a government that will take the lead in step with mainstream of the world that moves towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. With this call, I conclude my greetings to you.

## **Messages from Japanese Political Parties:**

### **Ozawa Ichiro President, Liberal Party**

On the occasion of the 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs, I convey my greetings to you. First of all, I want to express my heartfelt sympathy to the victims of the A-bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I want also to pay my homage to the Organizing Committee for the day-to-day effort towards abolishing nuclear weapons.

Nuclear weapons are the “absolute evils” that can never be justified. They are the worst weapons that humans have ever created by abusing science technology only to annihilate themselves. Unfortunately, however, these worst arms have proliferated everywhere in the world so much that they could even destroy the earth many times over. It means we lived each day cheek by jowl with death, so to speak. Each one of us should face up to this dreadful reality.

Those who have nuclear weapons should understand well that nuclear weapons are after all

targeting not only their enemies but also their own countries and citizens. This is what nuclear weapons are all about.

Japan is the only atomic bombed nation in the world. It is supposed to take the lead in discussions on ways to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. Yet, how do matters stand now? Now is the time for Japan to give heed to the A-bomb survivors and demonstrate its firm determination to set the world free of nuclear weapons.

Hand in hand with you all assembled here today, we will do our utmost to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. We hope that you will continue to lead us as a movement specifically working for world peace. Let’s work together for bringing about true peace to the world.

### **Itokazu Keiko President, Okinawa-no-Kaze (Okinawa Whirlwind)**

Wishing you every success in the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs, I send you my message of greetings of solidarity. I would also like to offer my sincere condolences to the victims of the atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and pay my heartfelt respect to you for your tireless day-to-day work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons was adopted at the U.N. on July 7, opening a new path for building a truly peaceful society without nuclear weapons. Its preamble provides that the States Parties are “mindful of the unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the victims of the use of nuclear weapons (hibakusha), as well as of those affected by the testing of nuclear weapons. I believe that this is a fruit of your longstanding activities to inform the world of the damage and sufferings caused by the atomic bombs and campaign to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Japan, the only country in the world that suffered atomic bombs and that possesses a pacifist Constitution that proclaims the renunciation of war, has a role to lead the world for the elimination of nuclear weapons. In pursuit of a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons, I will continue to join hand with you.

## **Never again Hiroshima/Nagasaki -- Appeals from Hiroshima:**

### **Mimaki Toshiyuki Member of the Board of Representative Directors, Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)**

My name is Mimaki Toshiyuki and I am a member of the Board of Representative Directors of Nihon Hidankyo. I live in Hiroshima.

I went to New York last June to participate in the UN Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons.

We, Hibakusha, had been almost hopeless for the past 2 years since the last NPT Review Conference broke down. But last year we decided to take the last chance for our old bones, and started working on the International Signature Campaign for nuclear weapons elimination.

For us, Adoption of Nuclear Ban Treaty was the most historic event. We handed over some 3 million signatures to Ambassador Elayne Whyte, Chairperson of the UN Conference and Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.

It was such a historic moment. Amazed by this moving moment, I took my "crane badge" from my jacket and gave it to Ambassador Whyte. She pinned it right away to her chest. High Representative Nakamitsu kindly told me to "take a good care of yourself."

I was deeply moved and shed happy tears. I even thought I was dreaming. And then, my old memory as a poor child after WW II came to remembrance.

My father had been a railway employee and survived the A-bombing at about 2 km from ground zero. Luckily, he was in an underground space but afterwards when he came out on the ground, he almost went out of his mind to witness the unprecedented destruction.

I was playing outside, in front of our house and I only remember the bright flash. My father didn't come home that night, so my mother carried my baby brother on her back, took me by the hand and walked around Hiroshima city to search for him. Three days later, my father came back home. Later I wondered, how much radiation did we take into our body while searching him? My father died of prostate cancer. My mother for many years suffered from a liver disorder and died of uterus cancer.

Eliminating nuclear weapons is a mandate for us humans to survive forever, as they are the most

dangerous on the earth. The Treaty was adopted but we need to pay close attention to those states under the nuclear umbrella, including Japan in the General Assembly.

Currently 160 thousand Hibakusha are still alive. We will keep moving forward, with Hibakusha International Signature Campaign activity. We will never stop working for nuclear weapons elimination.

### **Ohira Yumiko General Secretary, Hiroshima Chapter, New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin)**

I joined Gensuikyo's delegation to the UN Conference to negotiate a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and civil society actions in New York. "If all Hibakusha I have met were here with us now, how would they be feeling?" This question haunted me all the time when I was in New York, and each time I took it to my heart.

Fifty five years ago, when the New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin) was founded, women Hibakusha in Hiroshima welcomed it, delighted at the prospect that at last it became possible for Japanese women to act together nationwide to eliminate nuclear weapons. Given that there still were discriminations against the Hibakusha, it took courage for the Hibakusha to speak about their stories under their own names. How happy they must have been to know they now had a place to go and speak about what they had gone through and felt, which they had not been able to tell anyone. And they now knew there were people who were eager to listen to them. Our senior members wrote down their own experiences or stories told by other Hibakusha, and started publishing them every summer in the series of collections entitled, "*Burnt Like Fallen Leaves*". The latest 51st issue has just been released. Thus we have continued sharing the Hibakusha stories and their desire for the elimination of nuclear weapons with people in Japan and overseas.

We have asked for signatures in support of the Hibakusha Appeal, presenting the collections of Hibakusha stories to schools in the city, or displaying photographic panels of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the street. I am sure that Hibakusha's stories and desires have touched people's hearts.

At the UN Conference to negotiate a nuclear weapons prohibition treaty, the representative of Shinfujin delivered a speech, which carried heartfelt desire of women in this A-bombed country that there should never be anyone else

who would suffer from A-bombs and wars. I wish I could tell those colleagues who have passed away, “You gathered the courage to speak out what you experienced. Your voices have been heard throughout the world. Our long-standing effort has finally won the adoption of the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty.”

The Japanese government was absent from the whole process of the UN Conference. I have seen people signing the Hibakusha Appeal say that it was unbelievable that the Japanese government refused to attend the UN Conference. There are even such Hibakusha who for the first time take part in the signature campaign, because, they say, they “fear of the present government”, “Amend Article 9? No Way! I have to do something myself.” I feel strong resentment but not discouraged. Because from the adoption of the treaty, I learned that each and every signature we collect has the power, and because we witnessed that we are able to change the world.

The day when women marched in New York to “Ban the Bomb”, Shinfujin in Hiroshima held “Orizuru (paper crane) Parade”, and walked with the Hibakusha and young people together. Carrying forward the Hibakusha’s desire, we will continue acting in solidarity with people all around world until the day we will finally achieve a world without nuclear weapons and war.

## **Speech by the Victim of Nuclear Tests:**

### **Sue Coleman-Haseldine Aboriginal Nuclear Test Survivor Australia**

*(Delivered by Simon Prideaux, her son)*

My name is Sue Coleman-Haseldine. I was born on Kooniba Aboriginal Mission in 1951.

From east to west, Kooniba is in the middle of Australia but right down south where the desert meets the sea.

Atomic Bomb tests began in the desert areas north of my birthplace in 1953. First at Emu Fields and then Maralinga. The area was picked because the British and Australian governments didn’t think our land was valuable. But Aboriginal people were still looking after and living off the land. Aboriginal people have special places throughout Australia, including in the vast arid areas. Looking after these places is our religion. There were still Aboriginal people living and travelling this way in the Emu Field and Maralinga region when the bomb tests started. The government was no good at ensuring everyone was safe. At this time Aboriginal people did not

even have the right to vote.

Many people died and became sick in the immediate test areas. The first atomic bomb called “Totem 1” spread far and wide and there are lots of stories about the “black mist” it created which killed, blinded and made people very sick. The bomb tests continued for many years right until 1967. Big atomic tests that the British and Australian governments were proud of and then a whole lot of secret tests that the British did with plutonium. These tests contaminated a huge area and everything in it but people 100kms away were also impacted. This includes my family and the broader community where I live.

I remember older people talking about Nullabor dust storms. It was the fallout from the Maralinga tests. We weren’t on ground zero, but the dust didn’t stay in one place. It went wherever the winds took it. I noticed people dying of cancer, something that was new to us. To find out that our bush foods were possibly contaminated was a real blow to me.

I learnt that uranium mine in Australia was used in these weapons of destruction. To know that uranium from our country was devastating other countries and people was a horrible lesson for me. There are too many cancer deaths in our country. I believe it is caused from radiation contamination, but I can’t prove it.

It doesn’t matter if you’re Aboriginal or not, everyone has a sad story about premature sickness and death in their families. It is also common for people to suffer from thyroid conditions. This is the case for myself and one of my granddaughters. Fertility problems, still births, birth defects became more common at the time of the testing. But even today we wonder if women have trouble because of the ongoing radiation in the area or genetic changes passed down through generations.

Not knowing the true impact of the nuclear tests causes a lot of anguish and we would like to have answers and hopefully find some solutions. We don’t want others to suffer as we have.

The bombs have destroyed a large part of Australia and it will never be safe or clean. There are many Aboriginal people who cannot go back to their ancestral lands and their children and their children’s children and so on will never know the special religious places it contains.

Thank you for listening about our situation in Australia. We are telling the story so that our history is not forgotten but also to create a better future for all people, all over the world.

## **Report on the A-bombing on Hiroshima and Its Consequences:**

**Fujiwara Hidefumi  
M.D., Hiroshima Federation of  
Democratic Medical Institutions  
(Hiroshima Min-Iren)**

I am a physician at Fukushima Co-op Hospital, which is located at about 1.5 km from ground zero in Hiroshima. As a doctor engaged in the treatment of atomic bomb survivors (Hibakusha), I would like to speak about the atomic bombing and damage it caused.

Seventy-two years ago, the first nuclear bomb in history was exploded at an estimated altitude of 600 meters. It was a uranium bomb that used energy released by the nuclear explosion. It had great destructive power such that humanity had never experienced. It was beyond human imagination. It caused a huge blast and emitted heat rays and radiation, completely destroying buildings and houses. The city was totally devastated and people were burnt alive.

The effects of the atomic bomb radiation on the human body were totally unknown and far beyond our medical knowledge and experience. Not only acute radiation syndrome, but damage caused at a later time by low levels of radiation is still being unraveled little by little even today, 72 years after the bombing. Atomic bomb radiation is having immeasurable effects on people.

The existence and destructive power of this “new type of bomb” were something unknown to Hiroshima citizens. People who were just below the bomb’s explosion died immediately. The atomic bombing indiscriminately killed more than 110,000 residents instantly, mostly noncombatants. A large number of older people, women, including the pregnant, infants and other children had no time to escape. This shows how nuclear weapons are horrible and inhumane.

The Hibakusha account for about 40 percent of my outpatients, including home-visit patients. A small number of Hibakusha who are my patients tell me about what the damage from the atomic bombing was like at the time. One Hibakusha talked about his classmate who suddenly got burned near ground zero. Another talked about his brother: He was upstairs at the time of the bombing and was crushed under the collapsed house, unable to get out or to be rescued, and he had to be abandoned when his house caught fire.

Those children who managed to survive had a hard time to live without family after they became orphans. They endured hardships due to hunger

and poverty. They had difficulty going to elementary school or getting a job. They had to give up getting married. All this suffering left deep wounds in their hearts over the 72 years of hardship.

As a doctor engaged in medical services for Hibakusha, I have been involved with the “No More Hibakusha lawsuits” since 2014. The State has recognized some diseases such as radiation dose-related cancer, myocardial infarction, and hypothyroidism as illnesses caused by atomic bomb radiation and promised to provide compensation under the Hibakusha Aid Law. But the State has turned down some Hibakusha’s applications for compensation on the grounds that their diseases do not meet the requirements for certification. Those Hibakusha who disagreed with the reason the State gave for the rejection filed lawsuits against the State.

I have assisted those Hibakusha. Throughout these affairs I have gained new experiences regarding the aftereffects of atomic bomb radiation exposure and how radiation affects the Hibakusha’s body. I learned a lot from them.

The position of the State remains unchanged: It is consistent in estimating the amount of radiation exposure based on the distance of the Hibakusha from ground zero at the time of the bombing in disregard of how the Hibakusha are affected by the atomic bomb radiation dose. I have learned about the need for individual Hibakusha to be assessed for their recognition as the Hibakusha with illnesses linked to atomic bomb radiation exposure based on their actual health conditions instead of on the distance from ground zero.

A 10-year-old girl was exposed to atomic bomb radiation at 3 km from ground zero. The following day, she accompanied her mother to a place near ground zero. Later, when she visited her relatives in Shikoku, she discharged blood on her way to Shikoku from Hiroshima. She was told she might have dysentery and quarantined at a clinic in Ehime Prefecture.

In court questionings, the State, the defendant, said to me, “How can you say for sure that the girl did not have dysentery although you did not examine her at the time?” I said in reply, “Dysentery may have been suspected if only blood discharge was confirmed. But three days after the atomic bombing, she began to lose her hair. She also had gingival bleeding as well as blood discharge. These symptoms are enough to determine that she had radiation damage.” Unfortunately, the doctor in Shikoku, who examined the girl, did not know what was going on in Hiroshima at the time or what acute

radiation injury was like. The State argued that one should have been exposed to a tiny amount of atomic bomb radiation at a point 3 km from ground zero. But the plaintiff insisted that the girl was exposed to a significant amount of radiation judging from acute radiation syndrome she had, regardless of the distance from ground zero. That was a fact.

The State maintains that the Hibakusha's myocardial infarction can be linked to a smoking habit, obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, or dyslipidemia, since they had been exposed to only a small amount of radiation. I refuted this argument scientifically by showing data from the Radiation Effects Research Foundation.

The United States, which obtained a new weapon using nuclear energy that humankind had never imagined, needed to test its explosive yield whatever the war situation was at the time. That's why it dropped a uranium bomb and a plutonium bomb on Japan in succession 72 years ago. The United States showed off the powerful weapon to the world. However, the world ushered in a terrible nuclear age, in which a nuclear arms race began.

Amid the growing movement that has continued for many years for the elimination of nuclear weapons, a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons was adopted on July 7 at a UN conference. I wholeheartedly welcome this outcome, which marks a historic, epoch-making step. I would like to close my statement by expressing determination to work with you to build a world without nuclear weapons, a world that enables people the world over to live in peace, free from fears, and talk with each other without restrictions.

## **Speeches by Overseas Delegates:**

**Corazon Valdes Fabros**

**Secretary General**

**Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition**

Warm greetings of peace and solidarity from the Nuclear Free Philippines and from the National Campaign Against Dictatorship!

It has been a privilege to return to Hiroshima for the World Conference every year. And to that allow me to express our gratitude to Nihon Gensuikyo, Nihon Hidankyo and all the organizations in the forefront of organizing the World Conference every year, bringing us together to this gathering of people who have deep aspiration and commitment to peace, justice and freedom.

Today, we have been extremely energized by the Ban Treaty victory – a success that demonstrates the power of truth and the struggle for justice that is demonstrated by every Hibakusha's courage and tenacity and strength of spirit. We have drawn inspiration and courage from them at different points in our lives and that is why we all want to come back to Hiroshima to remind us that the struggle is not over – that this victory is a springboard to the real and ultimate victory of nuclear abolition that we, together with our friends in governments and the international community have long aspired for. At no time have we ever again realized the power of the people as the ultimate factor that can bring real change especially when our own governments fail to listen.

I come with deep longing for inspiration and solidarity in the midst of challenges back home as an upsurge in human rights violations and culture of impunity in my country. At no time have I ever seen such blatant display of impunity and arrogance in power, except of course, during the Marcos martial law years when I was a university student. And as the Philippines host the 50<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, there is a pervasive culture of impunity in violence especially against women and girls, due mostly to the ASEAN governments' lack of attention and action that reflects blatant disregard of the massive women's rights violations in the region and within the member states. Prisons across the region remain overcrowded with inadequate health and rehabilitative programs. The lack of public defenders and congested courts in addition to harsh sentences for minor drug offences; to name a few in most of Southeast Asia. With victims being shrugged off as "collateral damage," despite scientific publications and global evidences showing the ineffectiveness of militaristic approaches in solving the drug problem. The Philippine President has condoned extra-judicial killings.

But challenges always present opportunities. It leaves us with no option but to find ways to organize, to effectively expose and oppose the real enemies. These challenges also gives us the reason to find ways to form united front even with those who were once, in not so distant past, have also been our tormentors, torturers and jailers. There are bitter pills that we sometimes need to swallow as part of the sacrifices we have to make as we journey to reach our dream for a peaceful and just world for ourselves and for the future generation.

But it has been a tremendous ray of hope to witness more young people taking on the lead in organizing campaigns and being the real voice of

the courageous youth of today – more skillful, hopeful and unafraid – a true mark of the real peace and justice worker. In the Philippines, this generation has recently given birth to National Campaign Against Dictatorship.

Twenty-five years ago, I gave you the good news of the closure of U.S. bases in the Philippines. But the U.S. military troops are back after several security and defense agreements between the Philippines and the U.S. We knew then as we still believe today that these military bases are springboards for nuclear weapons deployment in many parts of the world. That, as nuclear abolition advocates, it is important to work for the closure of foreign military bases as they not only violate the sovereignty and freedom of the host nation, and they pose a grave danger to peoples and environment.

I am grateful for the opportunity to share platforms and to work with anti-bases, anti-nukes activists in our region where situations are difficult yet the morale of those engaged are that of hope, courage and non-violence. It gives us that sense of hope for the future. That even if the situation gets so bad, our protests continue because it will build solidarity with other movements in our own local environment and internationally. We continue to see it in places like Henoko, Takae, Jeju, Diego Garcia, Guam as well as Hawaii, other parts of Europe, in the Philippines especially, in Mindanao and here in Japan. Your demonstrations and rallies are getting bigger – an indication that people are fighting back and saying that enough is enough.

If there is any reason for the passage of the Ban Treaty, to whom we should all be grateful -- it is every Hibakusha who bear witness to truth – using their voice, their mangled and burnt bodies and their entire lifetime to speak truth to power. There is one powerful image and strong voice that resonated in my heart on that historic day of the passage of Ban Treaty – that is SENJI YAMAGUCHI who, At the United Nations' Second Special Session on Disarmament in 1982, became the first Hibakusha to address the assembly. Holding a photograph that displayed the extent of his scars, he called upon the delegates to “look at my face and hands. No people on earth, neither the people who are born in the future nor our children, should have to suffer the death and cruelty of the atomic bomb as we Hibakusha did.”

And today, I urge you to adopt that call ‘NEVER AGAIN!’

And as we walk on the grounds of Hiroshima today, I encourage you to whisper a prayer for people sleeping there burnt alive, with no one to mourn them, and pledge that you will work hard for the abolition of nuclear weapons, so that they can

have the consolation that their death was not in vain. We shall overcome.

**Frances Motiwalla**  
**Deputy Director of Development**  
**Peace Action, U.S.A.**

Because the United States of America was on the giving end, instead of the receiving end of the Atomic bomb, my country has enjoyed the luxury of ignorance - not remembering or never actually understanding - the real impact of nuclear weapons. The fact that many Americans still reserve judgment regarding the possible need to use them again, is a sad testament to this reality. For 8 years, I led a team of organizers, engaging in one-on-one conversations with strangers on these issues. I learned a lot during this time and want to share some of the insights I gained with you today.

I learned that there are two types of people in America. One who believes that there is a good guy and a bad guy and feels it is justified that the good guy beat the bad guy - at any cost. You may not be surprised to learn, those people are extremely confident that both they and America are the good guys. Not all are as militaristic, I am sad to say, though, I would often hear someone propose the policy solution “bomb them all.” There are many names I am inclined to call these people, however, let’s call them Nationalists for our purposes today.

The other type, believes that everybody - and every country - has the capacity for both good and evil. They understand things are not so black and white and that everyone should be held responsible for both their good and bad deeds. Let’s call these people, Internationalists.

I found this distinction to be a very clear indicator to predict who was likely to join as a member of Peace Action and start taking ongoing political actions with us.

I also learned that many Americans have little understanding of how our political system functions and what power they actually have to affect our democracy. This is why our organizing efforts are so important, it is critical that we find, educate and inspire as many Internationalists as possible to engage in our political system, to help change our policies - to get rid of nuclear weapons, end our reliance on war and build the global cooperation necessary for a peaceful future.

The passage of the historic nuclear deal with Iran is one recent example of the power of our organizing. While the multitude of grassroots

conversations, political actions, coalition building and lobbying we did happened outside of the public eye, the impact of our actions is clear, in the fact that we slowed the momentum of a war that seemed inevitable and gave diplomacy a chance to succeed.

While President Trump seems to be set on destroying these diplomatic efforts with Iran and with many countries across the globe, we must give him credit for reawakening the public to the immense threat posed by nuclear weapons. Many Americans for the first time have begun to pay attention and get involved. It has been encouraging to see women, people of color, the LGBT community and immigrants take greater leadership roles and build a more unified, intersectional movement in America. It is an extremely challenging time, however. There is much work to be done.

I admit there are times I grow incredibly frustrated with my fellow Americans and am tempted to give up, to stop trying. I am deeply inspired by you, though, and the stories of the Hibakusha, and your energy will forever serve as motivation to keep me going. You have done a great service to the world by remaining committed to make known the true horror of nuclear weapons.

No other country has had the experience you have, and it is noble that your reaction has been to help the rest of the world understand why these terrible weapons must be abolished, instead of shutting off from them, or growing resentful. I am also inspired by the members of Peace Action, who for 60 years now, have been working to spread that same message and advance our shared goal of a world free from the risk of nuclear weapons.

I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to spend these days with you, to learn from you and to build a stronger bridge between our countries' movements. And, I want to thank you, dear friends, for every action you take for a more peaceful world for us all. Arigatou!

**Jammu Narayana Rao**  
**Director, Global Network Against**  
**Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space**  
**India**

**The Great Betrayal**

Ever since the Nuclear Weapons have been used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, there is universal clamor for abolition of nuclear weapons. The Stockholm Appeal initiated by Frederick Joliot in 1950 to ban the bomb attracted

273,470,560 (more than two hundred seventy three million) people to sign. Massive demonstrations were held in different cities of the World. Hamburg Anti-Nuclear Demonstration in 1958, in Moscow more than 800,000 people in June 1982, in New York more than 500,000 people in June 1983, in India 400,000 by the All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation in Oct 1982 demonstrated.

Many International and national organizations have sprung up and plunged into action against the deadly nuclear weapons. The World Peace Council, the International Peace Bureau, The International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, Women's' International League for Peace & Freedom, Mayors for Peace, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain, All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation, Peace and Planet Intentional Network and several organizations in US and in different Countries, are leading nuclear disarmament movements.

Above all GENSUIKYO of Japan is doing yeoman service for nuclear disarmament. Since 1955 by organizing World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, they are providing a global platform for peace activists to reinforce their resolve to struggle to end the mad nuclear arms race.

Several attempts were made in the direction of nuclear disarmament. The Baruch Plan of US in 1946, proposed to extend between all countries the exchange of basic scientific information for peaceful ends; implement control of nuclear power to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes; eliminate from national armaments, atomic weapons and all other major means, weapons adaptable to mass destruction; and establish effective safeguards by way of inspection and other to protect complying States against the hazards of violations and evasions.

The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice in July 96, UN Secretary General's five point plan for nuclear disarmament in 2008, Report of the Canberra Commission in 1997 which inter alia states that "nuclear weapons are immensely destructive and any use would be a catastrophe".

On 27 October 2016 the First Committee of the UN adopted a resolution to convene a Nuclear Ban Conference. The negotiations were held on 27-31 March 2017 and the second round was held on 15 June to 7 July 2017. Earlier almost all

nations in one way or the other committed for nuclear disarmament. When the crucial time has arrived to clinch the issue, the nuclear nations back tracked and either abstained or voted against.

It is highly regrettable and condemnable that Japan the only country which suffered nuclear devastation instead supporting the resolution has sided with those nuclear nations who voted against. The stand of India which takes the names of Buddha and Gandhi the apostles of peace, chose to abstain, instead of voting in favor of the resolution is condemnable. It states that it is not convinced that the proposed conference could address the longstanding expectations of the international community for a comprehensive instrument of nuclear disarmament and the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva only the appropriate forum. An absurd logic.

In the second and final round of discussion on 7 July 2017, a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination was adopted by an overwhelming majority. But will the nuclear nations which are boycotting to participate in these discussions accept the document? If they do not accept, what will happen.

The nuclear nations are betraying the hopes of billions of people the world over. It is an appropriate time for putting an end to the nuclear nightmare. I hope that with the passing of Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty by the UN, a new dawn will emerge for all.

### **Jacqueline Cabasso Abolition 2000/ Western States Legal Foundation, U.S.A.**

Last December, US President-elect Donald Trump tweeted: “The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability *until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes*”.

On July 7, the majority of the world’s countries adopted a historic treaty to prohibit the possession, development, testing, use and **threat of use** of nuclear weapons. The vote, by 122 to 1, unambiguously demonstrates that most of the world has indeed come to its senses regarding nuclear weapons.

**We stand at a nuclear crossroads, with a sharply divided world.** While the Ban Treaty represents the total repudiation of nuclear weapons by most of the states that don’t possess them, the nine nuclear-armed states boycotted the negotiations. In a joint statement following the vote, the US, France and the United Kingdom

declared: “We do not intend to sign, ratify or ever become party to [the Treaty].” Meanwhile, nuclear tensions have risen to levels not seen for decades.

The executive director of Global Zero has assessed today’s nuclear threat as “an unprecedented moment in human history. The world has never faced so many nuclear flashpoints simultaneously. From NATO-Russia tensions, to the Korean Peninsula, to South Asia and the South China Sea and Taiwan — all of the nuclear-armed states are tangled up in conflicts and crises that could catastrophically escalate at any moment.”

We must keep both realities – the promise of the Ban Treaty **and** growing dangers of nuclear war – fully in mind as we develop strategies to accomplish the urgent goal of a world without nuclear weapons.

Donald Trump entered office with the US poised to spend at least one trillion dollars over the next 30 years to maintain and modernize its nuclear bombs, warheads, delivery systems and infrastructure. All of the nuclear-armed states are modernizing their nuclear weapons.

“Deterrence,” the threatened use of nuclear weapons, has been reaffirmed as the “cornerstone” of US national security by every President, Republican or Democrat, since 1945, when Harry Truman, a Democrat, oversaw the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Last October, President Obama’s UN Ambassador condemned the Ban Treaty in the General Assembly: “Advocates of a ban treaty say it is open to all, but how can a state that relies on nuclear weapons for its security possibly join a negotiation meant to stigmatize and eliminate them”.

Immediately following the July 7 UN vote, the US, France and the UK jointly declared: “Accession to the ban treaty is incompatible with the policy of nuclear deterrence, which has been essential to keeping the peace in Europe and North Asia for over 70 years. A purported ban on nuclear weapons that does not address the security concerns that continue to make nuclear deterrence necessary cannot result in the elimination of a single nuclear weapon and will not enhance any country’s security, nor international peace and security.”

During the Cold War, deterrence was typically understood to mean maintaining the capacity to inflict a devastating retaliatory second strike, or “mutually assured destruction,” if either the United States or the Soviet Union attacked the other with nuclear weapons. Deterrence is used today by nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states as an all-purpose justification for the perpetual possession and **threatened use** of nuclear weapons.

“Unfortunately,” as former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted in 2008: “[T]he doctrine of nuclear deterrence has proven to be contagious. This has made non-proliferation more difficult, which in turn raises new risks that nuclear weapons will be used.”

On July 28, North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile, claiming it demonstrated the capability to reach the “whole U.S. mainland.” The US responded by flying two supersonic B-1B bombers over the Korean peninsula in a show of force, and testing its own Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in the Pacific.

Responsible US diplomacy is urgently needed to de-escalate the potentially catastrophic nuclear flashpoint on the Korean peninsula.

Little known to the public and little reported, the US regularly conducts flight tests of its Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles. The US maintains 448 Minuteman III missiles, fully capable of devastating North Korea, on high-alert. The most recent test launch was August 2. Prior to a 2016 test, a US Defense official told reporters: “We and the Russians and the Chinese routinely do test shots to prove that the operational missiles that we have are reliable. And that is a signal ... that we are prepared to use nuclear weapons in defense of our country if necessary.” Each of these test launches is a threat of use.

The Ban Treaty’s unambiguous prohibition of *threat of use* is an essential point for the peace movement and civil society in the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states to highlight in our public education and advocacy. The ideology of nuclear deterrence *must* be delegitimized and stigmatized to make progress on abolishing nuclear weapons, and *our* task is to change the discourse – from the bottom up.

To build the necessary political will in the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states, we will need to move public opinion from the irrational fear-based ideology of deterrence to the rational fear of an eventual nuclear weapon use, whether by accident or design, by some nuclear-armed state that places its own survival above the survival of its people. We will also need to stimulate a rational hope that security can be redefined in humanitarian and ecologically sustainable terms that will lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons and dramatic demilitarization, freeing up tremendous resources desperately needed to address universal human needs and protect the environment.

## Young People’s Panel Talk: How Can We Change the World?

Moderator:

*Nakayama Ayumi (Democratic Youth League of Japan)*

Panelists:

- *Kayla Worley (Tufts Peace Action, U.S. / 2017 International Youth Relay marcher*

- *A.G. Guerrero Saño (Teach Peace Build Peace/ Art for Peace Missions, the Philippines/ 2017 International Youth Relay Marcher)*

- *Hironaka Takae (Hiroshima Committee President, Democratic Youth League of Japan)*

**Nakayama Ayumi:** Hello everyone. I am Nakayama Ayumi of the Democratic Youth League of Japan. The new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a big hope for all of us and coming generations who will create the future. Today, we listened to the stories of the Hibakusha as well as our forerunners who have been working for a world without nuclear weapons for a long time. Now I want our young friends who bear the future of the world to speak of their aspirations. First, please introduce yourself, then share your impressions.

**Hironaka Takae:** My name is Hironaka Takae, I participated in the International Youth Relay March. Today, I was deeply impressed to learn that so many people have been working for nuclear weapons abolition not only in Japan but all over the world, and this movement actually paved the way for the adoption of the nuclear weapon ban treaty. This treaty is a great treasure for us. By getting more young people involved, I really want to develop this movement stronger and bigger.

**Kayla Worley:** Hello, I’m Kayla Worley from the United States, Tufts University Peace Action. And I also participated in the International Youth Relay March among all the people wearing yellow sashes. This was my first time travelling internationally and it was really my first involvement in the peace action. This was a wonderful opportunity to learn so much what you are doing. American students are not educated properly on the effects of nuclear weapons, and I think that we should have more and more youth relay marchers -- this has just been an amazing experience and opportunity. Thank you so much to everyone, especially the Hibakusha, for sharing your experiences with me. It really touched my heart.

**AG Saño:** Hello, everyone. I am A.G. Saño from the Philippines. This is my third peace march. In 2015 I walked from Fukuoka, Saga

and Nagasaki, and last year I walked from Miyagi to Fukushima, and in Osaka. This year, I walked in Gifu, Shiga, Kyoto, Nara and Osaka. I'd like to give out my love to all the Japanese people, especially those who have been walking. The Peace March began in 1958, and up to now we are still going strong, walking together. Just keep on walking, bring everyone from our families and friends. Keep on walking and walking together. The nuclear ban treaty is just the beginning. We need to keep on fighting, and we need to keep on fighting together.

**Ayumi:** Thank you. The World Conference and Peace March that have been held for many years are now leading the world into a new stage of disarmament. From now, we need to call on world's governments to sign this treaty. What should we, young generation of people, do to promote this effort?

**Takae:** I think it is important that we learn together, discuss the issue and communicate with each other among young people. When we meet people who have different views, we shouldn't see only the surface, but need to look at their ideas behind and try to find a common ground. Even among people having different opinions, it should be possible to find common grounds, such as their hatred towards nuclear arms or wars. Then we can ask them, "How can we realize this common goal together?" This is the kind of dialogue I want to spread among many young people.

**Kayla:** I think that the problem with many human rights violations, including nuclear weapons, is that people aren't really aware of what's happening, and I think that that starts really from how we are educated as children -- the emphasis on compassion, and about being aware

of our government and civics. And I've just been really struck by how little people know in my country, especially young people. So I think that we should really push to create more civically-aware students. And I think that will increase youth involvement so much, which will keep us pushing the governments to really represent us in our interest, which includes abolition of nuclear weapons, which I think really is everyone's best interest, if they know what's happening with nuclear weapons.

**AG:** I think we can summarize all the efforts in one word, and that is "Solidarity" - solidarity among people, solidarity among nations. One nation cannot do this alone. We can only move forward, being bound together and pass this issue, a burden, pass this fight with the next generation. That's precisely why you have youth in front of you. (There was) Scarcity of the youth in the peace march. And the peace march actually reflects the bigger struggle. So let us keep on feeding the peace march with energy and enthusiasm. We can only find that if we bring in the youth.

**Ayumi:** Thank you for your valuable opinions shared in this short discussion. In concluding, let us express our passion for nuclear abolition by chanting together. AG is going to lead the calls.

**AG:** Peace Marchers, let's make Peace Calls!

*Abolish nukes! Abolish nukes!*

*No US bases! No US bases!*

*Stop war! Stop war!*

*No more Hiroshimas! No more Nagasakis!*

*No more Bikini! No more War!*

*Thank you folks. Let us work together!*



Resolution:  
**APPEAL FROM HIROSHIMA**

*“Nuclear weapons have always been immoral. Now they are also illegal.  
Together, let us go forth and change the world.”*

*Speech by Setsuko Thurlow, Hibakusha of Hiroshima, on July 7, 2017 at the  
UN Conference that adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons*

Seventy-two years have passed since a US atomic bomb devastated the city of Hiroshima, turning it into a hell on earth. We have at last won a treaty to prohibit and outlaw nuclear weapons. The treaty banning nuclear weapons has stigmatized them as inhumane weapons and prohibited all activities associated with nuclear weapons. The treaty came into being as a result of embracing the voices of the Hibakusha calling for “No More Hiroshimas or Nagasakis” and for the elimination of nuclear weapons. It was also due to the efforts of the Japanese movement against atomic and hydrogen bombs, which has always worked with the Hibakusha, along with the global movements for peace and opposing nuclear weapons. Warmly welcoming the treaty, we are renewing our determination to go forward toward a “world without nuclear weapons.”

We urge all countries, including nuclear weapons countries and their allies, to sign the treaty and immediately stop all nuclear-related activities that are banned by the treaty, and to renounce them for good.

The treaty has established legal norms to outlaw nuclear weapons. Even if a country refuses to participate in the treaty, any activity in contravention of the treaty would be subject to severe denunciation.

For the countries that refuse to recognize the treaty as well as their allies, we are called upon to make efforts to press their governments to sign and ratify the treaty by building a people’s majority in support of the treaty.

The Japanese government is the only country to suffer nuclear attacks but remains under the US nuclear umbrella. We must not allow the government to continue to rely on the threat to use the very nuclear weapons that have been made illegal by this treaty. Let us work to establish a government that goes out from the nuclear umbrella and signs the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons so that it will take a lead in the global efforts to completely eliminate them. Doing it is an international duty of the Japanese movement. Let us bring together the broader sections of the people regardless of differences of opinion and creed to turn Japan into a country that follows the Constitution; Let us realize a non-nuclear Japan committed to peace.

Meeting at the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs, we call for all sorts of grassroots activities to move forward from a ban on nuclear weapons toward their complete elimination.

Let us take part in various activities across the country in response to the call of the Declaration of the International Meeting for a concerted international “Peace Wave” action. Let us create a wave of opinion urging all countries to swiftly join the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and to tackle the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Let us learn about the treaty and explain about it to as many people as possible.

Let us further spread the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons by joining efforts in communities as well as in municipalities, Let us demand that the Japanese government get out from under the US nuclear umbrella and participate in the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. Let us demand that the government strictly observe the Three Non-Nuclear Principles and encode those principles in legislation.

Let us make the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons and the necessity to eliminate nuclear weapons known to broader sections of the people. Let us make known the damage and after effects of the atomic bombings to as many people as possible. Let us organize A-bomb exhibitions and meetings to listen to Hibakusha tell about their experiences. Let us demand a fundamental improvement in the system for certifying Hibakusha’s illnesses as having been caused by exposure to atomic bomb radiation. Let us demand adequate state compensation of Hibakusha. Let us step up peace education, to which the treaty attaches importance.

Let us use the power of cooperation between the citizens’ coalition and opposition parties to drive the government of Prime Minister Abe Shinzo into a corner, a government which continues to turn its back on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and pursues an adverse revision of the Constitution to gut the war-renouncing Article 9. Let us maintain solidarity with the all-Okinawa struggle against the construction of a new US military base in the Henoko district and push for the reduction and removal of other US bases.

Let us join forces for the common cause of defending peace and protecting people’s lives and livelihoods in order to achieve a non-nuclear Japan committed to peace and a world without nuclear weapons.

No More Hiroshimas; No More Nagasakis; No More Hibakusha; and No More Wars.

August 6, 2017  
2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs

# Opening Plenary

## 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs-Nagasaki (August 7)



### Keynote Address on Behalf of the Organizer:

**Anzai Ikuro**  
Member of the Committee of  
Chairpersons, World Conference  
Organizing Committee

Welcome to the World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki, travelling in this typhoon! First of all, on behalf of the organizer, I want to report to you that starting with the International Meeting, the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs has arrived at this point successfully, and that we are assembling here at the Nagasaki Conference from within Japan and overseas with all our burning aspiration for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

It is 72 years since the atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. From now on I am going to present a report which will perhaps sound a little quaint to you. Nevertheless, I hope you will do your best to follow it. I am so fond of

mathematics that I feel electrical sensation in my brain when I see numerals. Besides, I have some personal attachment to the number “72”. It may sound somehow funny for you, but I hope that you will please try to summon up your spirits of patience.

Well, the number “72” is known as the “smallest Achilles number” to mathematicians. What on earth is an Achilles number, then?

Seventy-two is obtained by multiplying 9 by 8. Nine is the second power of 3 ( $= 3^2$ ) and 8 is the third power of 2 ( $= 2^3$ ). You did not imagine that you would have to practice mathematics at the World Conference, did you? Anyway, 72 is “the second power of 3” multiplied by “the third power of 2”. (i.e.,  $72 = 3^2 \times 2^3$ ) Such numbers as obtained by the formula “ $A^2 \times B^3$ ” (the second power of A multiplied by the third power of B) are called “powerful numbers” in English.

On the other hand, such numbers that can be expressed simply as  $a^b$ , for example,  $36 (= 6^2)$  and  $81 (= 3^4)$ , are called “perfect powers” in English. Seventy-two cannot be expressed by such a simple

formula. Therefore, 72 is a “powerful number” but not a “perfect power”, or it is “powerful but not perfect”. In fact, the smallest value of all these “powerful but not perfect” numbers is 72. The mathematicians call these numbers “Achilles numbers”.

You know the Achilles’ tendon, which attaches to the heel. This name is taken from Achilles, a hero of the Greek Myths. Wanting to make him immortal, his mother soaked Achilles in the water of the Styx River, which ran between the earth and the underworld. But grabbed by his mother, Achilles’ heels were not soaked in the water. As a result, his heels remained raw, his fatal weak-points. Achilles grew up to be a hero in the Trojan War, but finally an arrow pierced his heel. The wound was fatal and he died. This “powerful but not perfect” hero Achilles gave his name to the “Achilles heel,” which is used even for a number such as 72 to mean that this number is “powerful but not perfect” -- though such a story maybe does not interest anyone other than me.

Now, 72 “Achilles number” of years after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, we have come to have a “powerful but not perfect” treaty, i.e. the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons. Powerful as it is to have been voted in favor of by nearly two thirds of the 193 UN member states, yet not perfect at least at present because not only the nuclear powers but also those countries that cling to extended deterrence policies, such as the A-bombed country of Japan, have been declaring they will not sign on to it. In this sense, we may call it an “Achilles treaty”. But I highly appreciate the efforts made by the Hibakusha, NGOs around the world, Government officials, as well as Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs who is with us in this conference today, who all contributed to achieving the treaty, and reiterate my homage and gratitude to them.

Akashi Yasushi, who used to be Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and was my colleague specializing in peace studies at Ritsumeikan University, said at a conference on disarmament held in Kyoto some time ago, “An ideal today will become a reality tomorrow.” The adoption of the nuclear prohibition treaty is, to the eyes of large numbers of people who have committed themselves to the movement to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs for more than 60 years, a magnificent incident that turned the distant-looking idea into a reality before their faces, which the Declaration of the International Meeting of our World Conference highly appreciates, saying: “The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a milestone leading towards their total elimination,

the long cherished aspiration of the Hibakusha and people around the world.”

Providing anew that nuclear weapons are inhumane weapons that would result in catastrophic humanitarian consequences, the treaty set out the principle without loopholes of banning the development, production, testing, manufacturing, possession, stockpiling, use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. In addition, it did not fail to take into consideration preparing the road through which the nuclear weapons possessors which are not yet ready to join the treaty will be able to become parties to it in the future.

Mindful of the unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the Hibakusha and nuclear test victims, the treaty stipulates them as among bearers of the “role of public conscience”, and by so doing it does justice to their activities in their call for “No more Hibakusha.”

The world still sees some 15,000 nuclear warheads threatening the survival of the human race. Yet for me, who has been engaged in this World Conference against A and H Bombs for more than 40 years, the nuclear prohibition treaty is a ray of hope that shows us that if like-minded people join hands, put forward a legitimate objective to the world, and act for it unyieldingly, we will be rewarded without fail.

In 1977, the movement of this country for a ban on A and H Bombs had serious differences of opinion concerning the way to run campaigns, the problem of nuclear power plants and other specific issues. Those who wanted to resolve the problem focused on the “International Symposium on the Damage and Aftereffects of the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki”, which the NGO Special Committee for Disarmament had decided in February the preceding year to convene, and made every effort to bring together all organizations concerned, or to form an “All Japan” team, to co-sponsor it. Thus, the international symposium that gave a “human face” to the “suffering from the A-bombings”, was an epoch-making success, participated in by such persons as Nobel Peace Prize laureates Sean MacBride and Philip Noel Baker, and Joseph Rotblat who later won the prize. On the basis of this success, we sent a united 502 member delegation to the First Special Session on Disarmament of the UN (SSD-I) held in 1978.

I joined in the delegation as a member of its steering committee in charge of public relations. After completing my ultra-busy schedule in which I had a total of only 13 hours for sleep in five days, I proceeded to Boston to participate in a citizens’ rally as a member of the religionists and scientists’ team. There, a Buddhist monk from Japan made

an appeal in fluent English: “Three years ago in 1975, we achieved the Biological Weapons Convention. Why not for atomic bombs? Why not for nuclear weapons?”

With the passing of 40 years since then, we finally witnessed the historic moment of the adoption of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons by the UN. As the Declaration of the International Meeting of this year’s conference proposes, we will launch international simultaneous actions, a “Peace Wave,” linking diverse grassroots actions for one week from September 20, the day when the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons will be made open for signature, through September 26, the International Day for Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. With this “Peace Wave” as a start, we will make every effort to build up public opinion calling on all states to become parties to the treaty without delay and endeavor to achieve the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, thus rendering the treaty even more powerful and bringing it closer to perfection.

Above all, we who share responsibility in the movement for obtaining a ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs, have to press for Japan’s signing of the treaty being made a matter of national politics, turning our disappointment at the Japanese government’s rejection of the treaty into indignation. To our surprise, although Japan is the only country that suffered from nuclear attacks in war, the government officially approved at its cabinet meeting a reply interpretation that the Japanese Constitution does not prohibit either possession or use of nuclear weapons.

Japan’s so-called policy of nuclear deterrence to make the security of Japan rely on the US “nuclear umbrella” is meant to prevent war from breaking out by the force of nuclear weapons, and deter nuclear war by nuclear blackmailing. Its risk, however, has long been something Japan has been warned about. A UN Secretary General once said that nuclear deterrence works up until the time when it proves not to work. Just one week ago there was an accident in an amusement park in Nagasaki Prefecture in which a bungee jump cord, which had right before undergone a verification test, snapped. Even a lifeline can work as lifeline only until it has snapped. The report of the UN Secretary General thus pointed out that the nuclear deterrence can work as deterrence only as long as it continues to function, suggesting that its intrinsic danger is that no one is sure when it will become a bankrupt theory.

Robert Green, a friend of mine who has been to our World Conference, used to be a Commander of the British Royal Navy and involved in nuclear

strategy. At the time when the Falkland War broke out in 1982 between the UK and Argentina, he realized the deception of the nuclear deterrence doctrine. Later he authored “Security Without Nuclear Deterrence --Testimonies of a British naval officer who engaged in nuclear strategy” and a number of other books, and condemned the nuclear deterrence policy, saying that it amounted to a national credit fraud.”

Given that the nuclear weapon states pursue their nuclear deterrence policies, Israel, India, Pakistan and now North Korea have sought theirs. Even if nuclear weapon states, such as the US, tried to criticize these countries, it would never be convincing since they themselves possess massive nuclear arsenals. It has been compared to the likes of an anti-smoking campaign waged by heavy smokers. For preventing any further proliferation and eliminating all existing nuclear weapons, there is only one path, which is to make the most of the nuclear prohibition treaty, a powerful tool which we have won through many years of hard effort, and call on people, particularly citizens of the nuclear powers and their allies, to increase pressure for a change of policy, thus continuing to move ahead to reach the perfect goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Friends in this World Conference in Nagasaki, each of us as individuals is limited in our ability: we are neither powerful nor perfect. Maybe our power is limited. But, even though the ability of each one of us is small, we are not powerless, as I always say it. Its evidence is condensed here in the fact that the nuclear prohibition treaty has now been won. Even if multiplied by 100 million, zero still makes zero, but one multiplied by 100 million makes 100 million. Herein lies the potential of the international signature campaign in support of the “Hibakusha Appeal”. It is very important not only to pursue an outcome but also to explain to people around you the meaning of choosing a nuclear-free, peaceful future and working to gain their support. Enlarge the circle of cooperation through the process of steady work, like adding one to one. Mahatma Gandhi said that there is no fate but what we make. It is not yet too late. The way you live now determines your future. For the sake of ourselves as well as future generations to follow, we have to choose to live life with no regrets.

I want to conclude my report by hoping that you, the participants in the conference, will not become discouraged by the typhoon, learn the “Declaration of the International Meeting”, exchange opinions and experiences of grassroots activities between yourselves, and thus make the 2017 World Conference a very fruitful and successful conference.

## **Greetings of the Hibakusha:**

**Kido Sueichi**

**Secretary General, Japan Confederation  
of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations  
(Nihon Hidankyo)**

Hello everyone attending the 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

I shared the news of the adoption of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty with the deceased whose lives were claimed by the atomic bomb, and the pioneers who have fought for “No More Hibakusha.” I am happy to rejoice with all of you here. It has been 72 years since that day, and we have finally made it here. My heart is swelling with emotion.

I suffered the atomic bomb on a street near Inasa Bridge in Asahi town in Nagasaki. The next day, on the 10th, I went along the east side of the Urakami River, crossed the Ohashi Bridge, and evacuated to Michinoo, and from there I saw a ghost town, with crowds of people begging for water and countless bodies carried in big baskets.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki taught us that if atomic bombs are used, humans will go extinct. The people’s determination that atomic bombs must not be used again gave birth to the UN Resolution No.1 and Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution.

But contrary to the resolution and the constitution, nuclear weapons have increased, and there remain about 15,000 of them to this day. Nuclear-armed states have increased from one to nine. Nuclear weapons could not eliminate warfare. On the contrary, they brought damage, fear, and pain, and neither nuclear disarmament nor non-proliferation have yet to be realized. Nuclear weapons are the devil’s weapon that have the sole purpose of slaughter and destruction, and they are weapons of absolute evil that cannot coexist with humans. This is the truth that 72 years of history teaches us. This is the reality of the nuclear deterrence theory.

For the Hibakusha, the 72 years was a history of struggles. In the 11 years of cover-ups, oppression, and abandonment, the Hibakusha struggled in pain and desperately fought to protect lives and livelihood, and to survive. And on August 10th, 1956, we formed the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Hidankyo), supported by many wishing for a ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs.

We swore to “save ourselves, as well as humanity from this crisis, through our experiences.” We shared the truth on the damage caused by the atomic bombs and what it brought about to humans, and demanded “No More Hibakusha.” This

demand and world public opinion that responded to it have prevented a third nuclear war for the past 72 years. The Hibakusha and the citizens are proud of this.

Hidankyo has fought hard to achieve an elimination of nuclear weapons and state compensation for A-bomb damages in order to never create new hibakusha. The adoption of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty is a historic step towards the abolition of nuclear weapons. A new door has been opened.

Previous governments have stubbornly refused state compensation for the A-bomb damage. The basis of their refusal is the “endurance of war sacrifices theory.” A memorandum from “Kihonkon” [advisory board on the handling of A-bomb victims] states, “during the war the very survival of the nation was at stake, and in this state of emergency, all the people were forced to endure sacrifices of life, limb, and property to a greater or lesser degree; all citizens alike had to bear these losses as wartime sacrifices or damages.”

This endurance theory not only demands the endurance of the sacrifices of previous wars. It also demands the people endure the sacrifices of future wars. The realization of state compensation for A-Bomb damages is a task of Japanese citizens, to overthrow the endurance theory and create a system where there will be no A-bomb damages.

By realizing the “elimination of nuclear weapons, and state compensation for A-bomb damage,” the people’s lives and safety will be protected.

The world isn’t changed by a handful of leaders. It is changed by the citizens.

Last year in April, we started the “Hibakusha Appeal” signature campaign, with the message “Hibakusha Earnestly Desire Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.” It is a grassroots movement that tries to achieve a nuclear weapon-free world through hundreds of millions of signatures from across the globe and public opinion. Let’s build up a pile of signatures.

The hibakusha, whose average age is over 81, earnestly desire a world without nuclear weapons in our lifetime, no matter what it takes.

Let’s all work together and save humanity from destruction, and leave behind a blue Earth for future generations.

## **Orizuru Presentation at Nagasaki:**

**Hiroshi Taka**

**Steering Committee Co-Chair, World  
Conference Organizing Committee**

(Please see page 68.)

## **Greetings from the U.N. and National Government Representatives:**

**Nakamitsu Izumi  
High Representative for Disarmament  
Affairs  
United Nations**

### **For a nuclear-weapon-free, peaceful and just world – let us work together to achieve a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons**

I wish to thank the Japan Council against A and H Bombs for inviting me to address this Conference. It is an honour for me to be among you today, as I make my first visits to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in my capacity as High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.

My trip this week has come amidst a confluence of significant occasions. I am here in Japan to represent the Secretary-General at the commemoration ceremonies to mark the seventy-second anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These are normally mournful occasions in which the international community pauses to reflect on the horrors of nuclear war and the suffering of the Hibakusha.

However, this year, I came here not just to commemorate, but also to celebrate new hope, and to think through with you how to make concrete progress in nuclear disarmament.

In my remarks today, I will address two related matters. The first is the significance and meaning of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, in the context of the current international situation. The second concerns the next steps the international community can take together to arrive at our common destination of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Let me start with the significance of the prohibition treaty, I first wish to emphasize that the Secretary-General welcomed its adoption, as the first multilateral legally binding instrument for nuclear disarmament to have been negotiated in 20 years.

He also expressed hope that the new treaty will promote inclusive dialogue and renewed international cooperation to achieve the long overdue objective of nuclear disarmament.

It can be said that this prohibition treaty represents a victory for the Hibakusha. For the first time in a multilateral treaty, the unspeakable suffering they have endured has been recognized. The treaty also recognizes their heroic efforts to spread awareness of the human impact of nuclear

weapons and to ensure that their tragedy is never experienced by anyone ever again, under any circumstances.

In concluding the treaty, a large majority of nations has sent a clear message regarding the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and the risks posed by their continued existence. We hope this message is heard. Despite the major reductions in many arsenals since the height of the Cold War from 70,000 to 15,000, the risks to humanity posed by nuclear weapons remain serious.

The heart of the treaty reflects the overwhelming desire of the negotiations to firmly reject nuclear weapons, and to codify this rejection in international law. Many of its provisions draw directly from existing nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties. The meaning of its terms and the scope of their application should be clearly understood by all. By joining the prohibition treaty, a State will have to subscribe to the highest available norms against nuclear weapons.

This treaty must be seen as a wake-up call by those States that continue to rely on nuclear weapons in their security doctrines. But this wake-up should not be taken as another sign of incompatibility between humanitarian and security imperatives on questions of nuclear weapons.

I believe that the very notion of tension between these two legitimate perspectives is counter-productive. The humanitarian movement that led to the prohibition treaty did not materialize only recently. It goes back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the international community has sought to progressively develop the law of war in parallel with rules to prohibit or restrict specific weapons that cannot be used in conformity with humanitarian principles. Rather, it was grounded in a growing awareness of the consequences that would result from even a single use of a nuclear weapon in an urban environment would bring about serious consequences.

At the same time, we must face the security concern that the nuclear risks we face have been growing in recent years.

All nuclear-armed States are engaged in programmes to upgrade and modernize their nuclear weapons and their delivery means. At least half of these States are actively expanding the size and diversity of their arsenals, and some make these efforts in without sufficient transparency about their programmes or the steps they are taking towards disarmament.

And, as we all are aware, nuclear threats are growing in this region in particular. Over the past two years, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has accelerated its efforts to acquire multiple

types of ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons. That country's actions, and the manner in which it has carried them out, have defied international norms and the legally binding decisions of the Security Council and have increased insecurity throughout the region and beyond.

Meanwhile, advances in technology and emerging military capabilities are outpacing the ability of our normative frameworks to mitigate the challenges they pose. The development of certain capabilities, such as long-range conventional strike weapons, anti-satellite weapons and missile defenses, may further complicate the disarmament process and even lead to new arms races. That is to say, considering the continuous development of military capabilities, inaction in the field of disarmament means not to maintain the status quo, rather it would deteriorate the security environment.

The international community has historically conducted dialogue towards disarmament, even during the most difficult times during the Cold War. For example, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) bore fruit at such a time. Arms control and disarmament measures have played an important role in reducing international tension and preventing conflicts. Now is the time to recall this fact, and we should start dialogue towards disarmament in order to deepen the discussion from both view points of the humanitarian perspective and security perspective.

So, how can international community work together towards the common goal, "a world free of nuclear weapons"? How can we fill the gaps of the divided member states and rebuild cooperative relationships?

The prohibition treaty itself now exists and will soon come into effect.

But, it is only an interim measure and only one piece of the nuclear disarmament puzzle. In this regard, General Assembly resolution 71/258 explicitly acknowledged that additional measures, both practical and legally binding, would be needed for the irreversible, verifiable and transparent destruction of nuclear weapons.

I therefore encourage all States to look forward and to re-engage on the implementation and further pursuit of additional measures leading to nuclear disarmament. This will require deeper dialogue, renewed commitment and greater flexibility, and a new international cooperation.

The negotiations on the new treaty underscored that there may not be a single path leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons. Whichever path is taken by any State, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty must remain the cornerstone for the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

The nuclear-weapon States and their allies need to think thoroughly about how to face the prohibition treaty as a new reality and what kind of practical steps can be taken towards disarmament at the NPT Review Conference in 2020.

At the same time, the States Parties to the prohibition treaty need to think about not only creating moral pressure for nuclear-weapon States by creating additional norms, but they also need to think about how to maintain a commitment to the NPT by all States in the mid-and-long term. Furthermore, they need to think about how to maintain and enhance the standards for verification and safeguards. During the negotiations, we heard that "prohibition treaty will complement Article VI of the NPT." I would like you to consider this will be achieved through concrete measures.

This is not limited to just the disarmament issue, however, and I would like to call all parties to consider how to make progress on disarmament under the current security environment.

Finally, it should be recalled that the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament placed the elimination of nuclear weapons as the top priority in a broader process. In working towards nuclear disarmament, we should not lose sight of areas where the reduction, limitation and regulation of other types of arms can complement and facilitate these efforts.

I appeal to all States to intensify their dialogue and to re-focus on their common aspirations. We will redouble our efforts to work with all States to make concrete progress towards that goal.

**Seiko Ishikawa**  
**Ambassador to Japan**  
**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

On behalf of the Government and People of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, it is an honor to convey a message of solidarity at this World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, marking the 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the first nuclear weapons used in human history that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, cities that today show the rejection of the great majority of the international community against the use of nuclear weapons.

Venezuela's position on nuclear disarmament is included in our National Constitution, which expressively promotes nuclear disarmament, and furthermore prohibits the production and use of weapons of mass destruction. Venezuela has expressed its profound pacifist will, being part of the first free zone of nuclear weapons, consecrated in the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1967, and to

underwrite the declaration of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), as a complete Peace Zone in 2014.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomes the historic adoption, on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2017, of a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, while encouraging the international community to promptly accept and ratify this legally binding instrument.

The government and peoples of Venezuela graciously saluted the Hibakushas, who have visited Venezuela, on board the Peace Boat, spreading their message of peace around the world, and demanding the prohibition and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. The Venezuelan people offered more than 500 signatures in support of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, being the greatest number of signatures collected in any country, during the Peace Boat's 94<sup>th</sup> Global Voyage.

We greet the celebration of the Ninth General Conference of Mayors for Peace, and reaffirm our support for the principles and objectives of the Global Network of Mayors for Peace, which Venezuela participates with 25 member cities.

Venezuela will chair, until 2019, the 120 country strong Non Aligned Movement (NAM), which fulfills an important role towards the preservation of world peace, global stability, prosperity and wellbeing of humanity.

Consequently, I wish to read the important message from the Non Aligned Movement, being the first time such an entity addresses this meaningful World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. (See page 15.)

**Maylem Rivero**  
**Chargé d'Affaires ad interim**  
**Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan**

Cuba belongs to the region that pioneered the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone; And at the same time welcomes the historic proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace, on January 29, 2014, on the occasion of the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States held in Havana, To banish forever the use and threat of use of the strength of our region.

For Cuba, the very existence of nuclear weapons seriously threatens international peace and security and the survival of the human species on the planet.

Our country has reiterated that the only guarantee to avoid the use or threat of use of

nuclear weapons by States or individuals would be by their absolute elimination and prohibition.

It is unjustifiable and unacceptable that in today's world, more and more are being spent on developing and testing nuclear weapons, and less on promoting life and wellness. We live in the absurdity of a world that makes exorbitant expenditures on armaments, including increasingly deadly nuclear weapons, while claiming that there are not enough resources to promote development and fight hunger, poverty and disease.

Cuba does not and does not intend to possess weapons of mass destruction and has taken measures to ensure the strict implementation of the commitments and obligations entered into as a State Party to the Conventions on Chemical Weapons, Biological Weapons, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, The Treaty of Tlatelolco and as a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

We reiterate our rejection of any type of nuclear weapons trial and any strategic concept justifying the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons or the promotion and establishment of military and political alliances based on nuclear weapons and deterrence nuclear policies. We call for increased international cooperation, in the face of the danger of weapons of mass destruction.

On July 7, a treaty banning nuclear weapons was adopted at the United Nations with the vote in favor of 122 countries. The agreement reflects the concern of the international community over the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and recognizes the need to eliminate them, prohibits its development, testing, production, acquisition, possession, storage and transfer, as well as the threat of its use. It also includes the obligation to assist victims and to address environmental damage arising from nuclear weapons testing.

We reject and demand the immediate abolition of unilateral measures aimed at prohibiting or limiting the legitimate right of States to access and use nuclear energy, biological agents and chemical substances for peaceful purposes, as well as the technologies and knowledge associated therewith.

Cuba renews its commitment to nuclear disarmament and will spare no effort to achieve the total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons.

People have the right to require a commitment by political leaders in this regard, to ensure human survival. When the life of the human race faces such a risk, nobody can afford to be indifferent. We cannot lose a minute in demanding respect for that right. Tomorrow would be too late.

A change in the consciousness of humanity is essential to meet these challenges. It is vital to spread the truth about these issues, that many politicians hide or ignore, the press does not publish, and for many people are so horrific that look amazing.

Cuba experienced the crisis of October 1962. We know how close of a disaster the world at that time was. Now would be even worse: there are more powerful and accurate weapons. Tests have been conducted with bombs reaching tens of times the power of those who were criminally dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

72 years after the atomic bombs that sowed destruction and death in these two cities, nothing can justify that humanity is still threatened by the existence of thousands of nuclear weapons, many of them ready to be used immediately. Fidel Castro, Historical Leader of the Cuban Revolution, in his visit to Hiroshima in March 2003 left written as a memorial of his visit: Such barbarism should never happen again.

We must not give up our efforts to reach a more secure and stable world, where human and financial resources are destined to build more just and prosperous societies.

Let's join forces to save the peace, the planet and the lives of future generations.

Let us not renounce the ideal that a better world is possible!

## **Solidarity with the All-Okinawa Struggles:**

### **Senaga Kazuo Secretary General, Okinawa United Action Liaison Council against Japan-US Security Treaty**

On the occasion of the World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki being held in the year when the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations, I would like to extend greetings of solidarity from Okinawa, which continues to struggle to achieve the right to live in peace.

Seventy-two years ago in Okinawa, the only inhabited Japanese islands that saw a land battle during World War II, the U.S. forces widened and improved bases they took from the Japanese Army to use them to attack mainland Japan. Then in violation of the Hague Convention respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, the U.S. seized Okinawa residents' lands and built military bases while confining them to concentration camps.

The U.S. forces stayed in Okinawa even after the end of the war. Under U.S. occupation for 27 years after that, Okinawans were forced to live like colonized people without human rights or autonomy and suffered many base-related damages, accidents and crimes on their lands which the U.S. used as its unsinkable aircraft carrier. But residents continued their unyielding resistance. They carried out whole-island struggles against another U.S. attempt to seize their lands, which developed into a movement calling for Okinawa's return to Japan. In May of 1972, Okinawa was finally returned to Japan. However, Okinawans' wish for their islands without nuclear weapons or bases was not realized. Even 45 years after the return, we are still suffering from excessively heavy base burdens.

In 2012, the Japanese and U.S. governments deployed accident-prone Osprey aircraft in Okinawa in disregard of Okinawans' continuous call for the right to live in peace to be guaranteed. Since 2014, they have been forcibly building a new U.S. Marine base, which is said will last 200 years, in the Henoko district of Okinawa, bringing further burdens to the islands which have been suffering base-related damage for 72 years.

In all recent elections fought over the new base construction, we Okinawans have expressed our opposition to the plan by electing candidates backed by "All-Okinawa" forces. In protest against the ongoing construction in disregard of the public will, we have continued non-violent actions at the bays of Henoko and Oura as well as non-violent sit-ins in front of the U.S. Camp Schwab gate.

Unfortunately, police and coast guard officers, who are supposed to take a neutral position, are working as the government's instruments and cooperating with the new base construction by violently removing citizens joining the protests. In front of the base gate, our sit-in actions in accordance with the constitutional freedom of expression are removed on the pretext of the "Road Traffic Law." Police officers are taking away our freedom of movement by encircling us without any legal grounds, and violating our right to health by exposing us to gas emissions from their vehicles, as well as usurping our freedom of speech.

The Japanese Constitution requires "the constant endeavor of the people" to maintain their "freedoms and rights". We Okinawan residents will never be beaten by the brutality of authority, and we will continue our sit-in protests as a symbol of protection of peace and human rights, maintaining our voice against the new base construction.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear

Weapons adopted at the U.N. is a big hope for Okinawa. It has shown us that if we never give up and keep fighting, our wish will come true. We continue our unbending struggles so that we someday will be able to achieve a true peace as promised by the Japanese Constitution as well as the right to live in peace.

I would like to conclude my speech by expressing solidarity with all those working for peace.

## **Message from Okinawa Governor:**

### **Onaga Takeshi Governor of Okinawa Prefecture**

On the occasion of the 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs, I would like to convey my greetings to you. I pay my deep respect to you for your work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In the Battle of Okinawa 72 years ago, we lost many precious lives, immeasurable cultural heritages and beautiful nature. From this harsh experience we have deeply learned that the tragedy of war should never be repeated and that peace is the irreplaceable treasure.

As the expression of our desire for eternal peace in the world and our pledge for the calamity of war to be never repeated, Okinawa had the “Cornerstone of Peace” built to mourn everyone, friend and foe alike, who died in the Battle of Okinawa, and has sent out many messages for peace.

In 1995, Okinawa declared itself a non-nuclear peace prefecture, saying: “We call on peoples all over the world to eradicate all nuclear weapons and wars, choose dialogues instead of weapons and with love and trust turn this earth to a planet full of peace and green nature.” We thus send out messages of peace-loving Okinawans inside and outside the prefecture.

The “Flame of Peace” lit in the “Cornerstone of Peace” is taken from Akajima Island where the U.S. forces first landed in Okinawa, mixed with one from the “Flame of Peace” in Hiroshima and from the “Flame of Commitment” in Nagasaki, the two A-bombed cities. The flame has been kept burning quietly as the symbol of our effort for peace creation.

I would like to conclude my message by wishing that this conference becomes an opportunity for its participants and people around the world to strengthen cooperation to achieve a fruitful outcome in their endeavors for a world without nuclear weapons.

## **For nationwide promotion of the “International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign”:**

### **Tomonaga Masao M.D., Co-Chair, Nagasaki Association to Promote Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign**

Seventy-two years have passed since Hiroshima and Nagasaki were attacked with atomic bombs. I was exposed to A-bomb radiation when I was 2 years old. I have turned 74 now. The average age of the A-bomb survivors is over 81. It's been 60 years since the movement against A and H bombs spread nationwide after the Japanese people again fell victim to a hydrogen bomb test conducted by the US in the Marshall Island in 1954. Despite all that happened, 15,000 nuclear weapons still exist in the world.

Hibakusha have continued the global effort to tell people about their experiences of A-bombing for many years, which led up to the adoption of a treaty banning nuclear weapons on July 7 this year at the United Nations conference. It is a great achievement in the history of humankind. Condemning nuclear weapons as violating humanitarian law as well as human rights law, the treaty prohibits their activities comprehensively, from production to use.

However, the nine nuclear weapon possessing countries and those relying upon their “nuclear umbrella”, including Japan, boycotted the UN conference. After the adoption of the treaty, the United States, Britain and France issued a statement to make clear that they would not join the treaty. The Japanese government has also rejected the treaty. As you may know, at the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference expressed the pledge of all NPT countries to make efforts towards achieving the common goal: A world without nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, the countries are divided up into two groups: one that promotes the treaty and the other made up of nuclear weapon possessing countries and those relying upon their “nuclear umbrella”. What is necessary now is for the two groups to continue dialogue as the way to strengthen the treaty into a powerful instrument with all countries participating.

Here lies a new great goal of the Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign that was launched and is carried out extensively in Japan. This signature drive is directed to the UN General Assembly and the Disarmament Conference, but it is also a campaign to appeal to the nuclear weapon possessing countries and their citizens. It is also

a campaign to push the Japanese government into supporting the prohibition treaty.

Friends, let us bring the international signature campaign to success. It is a driving force for pushing Japan into joining the treaty.

**Iwanaga Hisayuki**  
**Executive Director, Nagasaki Prefectural**  
**Federation of Co-operative Unions**

The International Signature Campaign for a ban on nuclear weapons and a treaty for their elimination began on April 27 last year. It was called for by the Japan Confederation of Atomic- and Hydrogen- Bomb Sufferers' Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo).

The Japan Consumers' Co-operative Union threw its support behind the drive. The Co-op Hiroshima and Nagasaki federations have joined together to request all the other prefectural federations to support the campaign. We are aiming to collect 1.3 million signatures nationwide. In Nagasaki, we have just collected more than 60,000 signatures.

We are to make appeal tomorrow at the Co-op Peace Action Rainbow Square. We are the last generation to have a chance to hear Hibakusha tell about their experiences. We are calling upon Co-ops throughout Japan to learn about the serious desire as well as the tragic experiences of the Hibakusha and organize the Hibakusha international signature drive seizing it as an opportunity to help people participate in increasing support for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

**Tanaka Shigemitsu**  
**Vice President, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb**  
**Survivors Council**

The Hibakusha rejoice at the adoption of the treaty banning nuclear weapons.

Seventy-two years have passed since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In a declaration adopted at the founding of the Japan Confederation of Atomic- and Hydrogen Bomb Sufferers' Organizations (Hidankyo) in 1956, Hibakusha pledged to work to "save humanity from its crisis through the lessons learned from our experiences, while at the same time saving ourselves". The Hibakusha have continued to explain about the damage and aftereffects of exposure to atomic bomb radiation and the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons.

Following the adoption of the ban treaty, we have launched the effort towards eliminating

nuclear weapons. Our movement is entering a crucial phase of the effort. It's a major turning point in history for humankind as the world is faced with the choice of life or death. Of course, life is our choice.

Let us use the Hibakusha International Signature campaign to isolate the nuclear weapon countries. The Hibakusha will continue to walk hand in hand with the world's civil society.

No more Hiroshimas or Nagasaki! No more Hibakusha!

**Greetings from Nagasaki Mayor:**

**Taue Tomihisa**  
**Mayor of Nagasaki City**

On behalf of Nagasaki citizens, I extend our heartfelt greetings to you all for coming to Nagasaki from across Japan and all over the world and joining the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki. Welcome to Nagasaki. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your grass-roots efforts and activities which have been carried on in your towns, cities and countries to achieve peace and a world without nuclear weapons.

This year became a special year to Nagasaki as well as to you all that have made various efforts to realize our shared goal of the abolition of nuclear weapons. On July 7, the day of Star Festival, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted. About 10 years ago, there were already voices calling for the conclusion of a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, but thereabout we were not sure if the treaty could be realized. Over the past few years, however, a momentum of seeking the treaty had grown and this year it was adopted. I think that the Hibakusha played a role of a headstream leading to the adoption. At the beginning, it was a tiny stream, but it has developed into a big worldwide current with support and participation of you and other wide-range of people. In the end, with the support of more than 60 percent of countries, this worldwide current bore fruit.

I believe that this achievement will give us great courage and power. A lesson from that is to never give up. In order for the newborn treaty to become legally binding, we need to build up more support for the treaty. It is a responsibility of civil society to do the work. These efforts will make the treaty a norm and rule of the world in a real sense. Civil society's participation in this process will add more value to this international rule and have a positive impact even on other international problems facing us.

Here in Nagasaki, the General Assembly of Mayors for Peace is taking place now after the lapse of 8 years. A board meeting has started today, and a lot of representatives from cities around the world are offering flowers to the epicenter right now. Many committed representatives of small cities are taking part in the Assembly. Many of them have experiences of suffering from wars or civil conflicts, being hurt or hurting each other. In spite of wishing to do something for peace, it is not easy for the voices of such small cities to be heard and to be given support by the international society. That's why they have joined the network of Mayors for Peace. Together with those who aim at the same goal, they want to spread their wish for peace to all over the world.

Dear participants in the Conference, please expand your networks with like-minded people. Your effort to expand networks will culminate in the layers of networks for peace and they protect the world as a real safety net. We, Mayors for Peace, will work for that purpose with you. Even after the treaty was established, we will work harder and strengthen our force to ensure a peaceful future.

I will conclude my speech by sending again my hearty cheers to you all that have seeds of peace in your minds. I pledge to you that we will continue to work persistently to get small voices prevail and achieve a nuclear weapon-free world without delay. Let us work together.

## **Actions for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World -- Speeches by Overseas delegates:**

**Park Jung-soon**  
**Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association**  
**R.O.K.**  
(See page 20.)

**Roland Nivet**  
**French Peace Movement**

### **United for the elimination of nuclear weapons**

First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge the role played by the **Hibakushas** and Japanese peace movements, whose continued mobilisation has contributed greatly to the successful adoption of a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

### **A victory for citizen mobilisation**

The United Nation's adoption of a treaty

banning nuclear weapons is a victory for millions of individuals and NGOs worldwide. For decades, they have laboured for the full elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, working together with a number of states and with national and international institutions such as the UN, the International Red Cross, the International Labour Organisation, the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation), etc.

### **Global challenges**

Nuclear weapons are obviously a mortal danger for all of humanity. They need to be eliminated. Nevertheless, the capitalist and neoliberal globalization of the world's economy constitutes one of the major obstacles to a world of peace, free of nuclear weapons. Indeed, the pursuit of immediate and large profit feeds the arms trade and creates arms races, including in the development of nuclear weapons.

This logic encouraged the development of the military-industrial complex, one of the main opponents in our struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Indeed, the military-industrial complex, the main cause for increased military expenses, dominates and at the same time controls the media to such a point that, in France, the adoption of the treaty banning nuclear weapons has been met with total silence.

### **Power relationships**

We should not underestimate the success of the nuclear ban treaty, but we also should not over- or underestimate the determination of our opponents to delay the elimination of nuclear arms.

The positive thing is that the balance of power has shifted in favour of elimination but we have to consider two thousands ten in 2010 the number of states which had adopted the draft convention banning nuclear weapons was 157, while the number which voted for the treaty in 2017 is only 122. This decrease is a direct result of the undermining role that countries which have nuclear weapons have played, together with the military-industrial complex, particularly since the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in 2014 to reduce the number of countries voting for the Ban Treaty.

### **Aspirations for Peace and the Available Tools**

Even though the people's aspiration for peace is immense, the military-industrial complex is so strong that it still manages to justify or impose increases in armament spending.

So we need to work together for a pacifist transition and the elimination of nuclear weapons, with an immediate freeze in any new development

of nuclear arms.

We have at **2 main tools**:

- The preamble and principles of the Charter of the United Nations
- The 1999 UN Resolution concerning a program for a culture of peace
- The 17 sustainable development objectives adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2015
- The UN resolutions in favour of nuclear disarmament. Since international law has established the principle of the illegality of nuclear arms, the only thing to be discussed is how to eliminate them.

In fact, the main and irreplaceable tool is civil society, which plays a critical role, and this includes all of the favourable political parties.

### **France and Europe**

In France, the majority of the National Assembly members and the current (Macron) administration are in favour of nuclear deterrence, the militarisation of international relations, military interventions abroad, and alignment with NATO policies. This policy is marked by two serious aims:

1. A doubling of the budget dedicated to atomic weapons (from 3.5 to 7 billion Euros per year) in order to renew the entire fleet of nuclear submarines.
2. To increase France's military budget to 2% of GDP as required by NATO by 2022 or 2025, which means an eventual increase of 10 billion Euros per year.

Faced with these policies, the Mouvement de la Paix has initiated in France a collective of organisations on the basis of the call for action which name is "*on the march for peace, stop war, stop violence.*" Today, this collective is already made up of 115 different organisations, including several labour unions, the most important of which is the CGT with its 850,000 members. The collective has introduced two main actions: a petition to obtain the ratification of the treaties; and different peace marches throughout France on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, around with the International Day of Peace. The Mouvement de la Paix is also calling for a gathering at nuclear development sites on October 9th of this year. All these actions are our contribution to the achievement of the Peace Wave decided by the Conference against A and H Bombs.

### **Our objectives**

- The next step is to ratify the treaty by the maximum number of countries, and in particular by those that have nuclear weapons. This must be the most inclusive and united action possible,

including all movements, people, parties, NGOs, labour unions, networks, citizens, and authorities, as well as national and international institutions that fight for the elimination of nuclear arms.

- We must reinforce the importance of unity of action of peace movements around the world, as this is, in my opinion, one our best options to fight for elimination of nuclear weapons.

The appeal of the International Meeting is a very good opportunity for this. The mobilisation of Japan peace organizations encourages us to be more and more active. Yesterday, I sent a message to the hundred committees of the French Peace Movement to increase our mobilisation for the success of our marches and the Peace Wave in September. We have organized in front of a nuclear base a demonstration to demand France to ratify the Treaty.

- 1) On 23 September we are organizing marches all over France for peace and nuclear disarmament;
- 2) On 7 October, we organize demonstrations in front of the nuclear sites in France;
- 3) In November, when the national budget is going to be voted, we will protest against the budget involved for nuclear weapons;
- 4) On 2 November before the National Congress, we will organize an international meeting for the ratification of the Treaty with different peace movements from nuclear states;
- 5) 50 debates with a film "The Bomb and Us".

Thank you for all the actions you are doing in Japan. It is an enormous, great encouragement for us. Together we shall overcome.

### **Dong Huy Cuong Vietnam Peace Committee**

*Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear friends,*

I would like to say thank you very much to the organizer for giving me the chance to speak at the opening session of a meaningful event in a historical moment, when we are celebrating the adoption of a legally-binding treaty that would ban nuclear weapons with a view to their total elimination. We, peace movements, together with billions of peace-loving people from around the world have been sparing no effort in a decade-long struggle and we have been waiting for our victory for too long. The adoption of the treaty marks a milestone in our struggle. Yes, I want to repeat the word "milestones" a thousand times because we deserve it.

However, please do not oversleep. Please wake up and continue our struggle. While we are

celebrating our victory, thousands of war victims, including Hibakushas, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims are still living in great pain. Weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear weapons are still being developed and modernized, the weapon industry are still making very good profit. Superpowers are still threatening and using force against other countries. Conflicts, disputes, nuclear arm races, competition between superpowers, and the rise of terrorism are still killing innocent people and threatening the world's security.

The treaty has been adopted. But please be reminded there are still nuclear powers who rejected it, please be reminded that the world has had a variety of legal documents and many of them have been violated.

So, it is now the time we started a new struggle. We need to urge all States to seriously to implement the treaty. We need to urge them to stop developing, manufacturing, testing, transferring of trading in nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. We need to remind States to put people's lives ahead of profit, respect and abide by international law, and not use force against others. It is no easy task. It may take very long, but it is what we must do.

One swallow cannot make a summer. So, it is important that all peace movements and peace activist around the world join hands in our struggle, it is also important to strengthen links between all war victims (Hibakushas in Japan, victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam, those in the USA, Australia, Korea, Marshall Island and those from every corner of the world) to create synergies for the struggle.

I am very confident that the World Conference against A and H Bombs will be an event which strengthen our solidarity for a world without nuclear weapons.

Once again, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for the solidarity and support you have reserved for nuclear victims, victims of Agent Orange, and other war victims. I would like to say thanks to GENSUIKYO and Japanese friends for everything you have done for a world of peace without nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction.

May I wish for a fruitful conference, for a beautiful world free from nuclear weapons, and for happiness of you all.

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more wars! Justice for Hibakushas!

**Lee Jun Kyu**  
**Center for Peace Research and**  
**Education of KYOREH HANA**  
**R.O.K.**

**Peace System on the Korean Peninsula should be agenda item for the resolution of 'North Korean nuclear issue' and for peace in East Asia**

I am Lee Jun-Kyu from the Republic of Korea.

This year's World Conference provides a space for anti-nuke peace movements around the world to join forces to take one more step forward toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and a nuclear-free world, building upon the historic result of the negotiations on the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.

However, problems remain. Nuclear weapon countries are resisting this direction. The ROK, Japan and other countries continue to rely on US nuclear weapons. The DPRK, Israel, India and Pakistan also stay out of the treaty.

Cataclysm persisted in the situation on the Korean Peninsula in the winter of last year and last spring. Citizens of the ROK proved their people power by ousting the government that had lost democratic legitimacy. Meanwhile, the international situation relating to the Korean Peninsula has remained unsettled and strained. There were rumors that the United States may preemptively attack the DPRK. The United States deployed the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system to the ROK on the late night of April 26 in the midst of the Presidential election campaign. This drags the ROK into a US-China competition for hegemony. A recent ICBM launch by the DPRK and the show of force by the United States, the ROK and Japan show clearly that instability and tensions still persist.

The Moon Jae-in administration that grew out of the "Candlelight Revolution" is facing a series of issues to tackle: how to improve inter-Korean relations, how to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, and how to build the peace system. He is proposing resuming dialogue and exchanges with the DPRK on the humanitarian issues, the prevention of military clashes, and increased non-governmental exchanges. But the Moon administration is also stressing the need to impose heavier sanctions on the North, strengthen the alliance with the United States, and increase military cooperation between the ROK, the US and Japan. Given the worsening situation on the peninsula, such contradictory response might be understandable. But recently, Moon Jae-in ordered a test missile launch targeting the enemy as a response to the North's missile launch. In his policy

agenda announced on July 19, he called for a strong security setup and an overwhelming deterrent, and a stronger alliance with the United States. He even decided to allow additional THAAD systems to be deployed.

The former US administration under President Barack Obama rejected dialogue with North Korea under the name of strategic patience. It consistently ignored the DPRK. The conservative ROK government clung to the scenario of “collapse of DPRK” and followed a policy of confrontation by imposing sanctions on the North. Ironically, the US policy helped increase the DPRK’s nuclear capability to the extent that the country is virtually armed with nuclear weapons. We must not repeat the same mistake. The Trump administration has expressed a policy of maximum pressure and engagement with DPRK. But in fact, it appears focusing on putting maximum pressure. The recent activities as well as statements by President Trump and his senior administration officials make us believe that they have no idea as to what should be done next, despite defining the previous administration’s policy during the last 10 years as failure.

But I would say that a solution will be in sight if the administration looks at the historical background of the DPRK nuclear issue, namely the confrontation between the DPRK and the United States and the division of the Korean Peninsula, and if it affirms the principle that the attainment of peace on the Korean Peninsula and the creation of a new order is called for in order to overcome the difficulty in East Asia.

Any military provocation or threat, which will increase international tensions, must stop. This applies to the ROK, the United States, and Japan. Responding to DPRK’s provocations by mounting military threats will not help solve the problem before us. The DPRK should be ready to sit at the table of dialogue on humanitarian issues which are products of a tragedy caused by the division and war on the peninsula, instead of talking about the need of an atmosphere for dialogue.

I believe that the need now is for the US and South Korea to halt the joint US-South Korea military exercises and revoke the forward deployment of US nuclear forces, and for the North to stop its nuclear tests or missile launch in return. Of course it would be difficult to make a breakthrough unless the United States shows some change in its attitudes.

A comprehensive approach is needed to deal with the North Korean nuclear issue. The solution of the “North Korean nuclear issue” and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula should be pursued in parallel with, or within, a “peace process

on the Korean Peninsula.” Talks and negotiations on North Korea’s nuclear programs have been dealt with in three main pillars: the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, peace, and multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia. However, no such talks for the peace of the Korean Peninsula has ever taken place. If North Korea is to be forced to give up its nuclear weapons, which it regards as deterrent needed to maintain its security, it is necessary to offer the North security assurances. This is why a peace treaty is indispensable.

It is often said that the Korean Peninsula remains a remote and isolated island of the Cold War. But East Asia was the theater of a hot war, not a cold war. There underlies the cleavage of conflict, or scars from conflict, in the relations between countries as well as politics and society in East Asia. The “DPRK nuclear issue” is the product of such a history. So, its resolution is directly linked with peace in East Asia.

It is the citizens’ power that has created a new history with the vision of realizing a nuclear-free world and peace. I am confident that real power to solve the “DPRK nuclear issue” and achieve peace on the Korean Peninsula and peace in East Asia lies in the solidarity of citizens and people.

**Jim Anderson**  
**President, Peace Action New York State**  
**U.S.A.**

I greet you all as we engage together in this World Conference against the Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. Our presence creates a great international intersectional moment of opportunity.

I extend my apology to the Hibakushas, their families, and the nation of Japan for the unnecessary cruel and inhumane action taken by the United States in bombing both Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I sincerely thank the Hibakushas for their long persistent loving efforts to warn the world and their calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

We have heard it stated here in this conference, and quite honestly we know, that each test launch of these weapons of mass destruction is a threat of use, equally so, we know, that just the presence of nuclear weapons without intentional use creates dangerous accidental situations and actual damages to people and planet. The Truth is, nuclear deterrence is the Fake News. Our need is to unite with and support the History making, people and planet saving action, taken by the 122 nations that have delivered a Treaty banning nuclear weapons, and moreover work to get our own countries to sign on.

Three years after the devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Veterans Day 1948, U.S. General Omar Bradley said in a speech "The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience, Ours is a world of nuclear Giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace..."

I say to you, to we...that the beauty of our being, is that We do know much more about peace, and that the 122 nations that have taken action to save humanity have provided a direction forward, and we must move our countries to sign on.

The inner courage that is needed in this moment will require us to recognize that we in the peace movement must intentionally heighten our efforts in educating civil society to the point that we shattered the walls that create silos. We must understand that thought we have many fronts there is one struggle.

In the U.S. many chant 'No peace No justice' my sisters in Shinfujin the New Japan Women's Association work under the banner of 'No Equality Without Peace; No Peace Without Equality'. Members of Peace Action understand that 'Peace Demands Action'.

The moral arc of the universe bends towards justice, but we must push it!

Our investment in politicians has been at the expense of not organizing more people in our communities.

We have had varying levels of victories gained by people power. The Philippine 1986 revolution that ousted Ferdinand Marcos for regime violence, restoring democracy. 2014 Peoples Climate March. 2017 International Women's March to Ban the Bomb.

## **Marchers of the 2017 National Peace March and International Youth Relay March:**

**Maekawa Shiro (Moderator):** Hello, I will introduce the peace marchers of this year! Please welcome our 'through marchers', who had marched from Hokkaido in the north to Okinawa in the south and met many people. I want to have a few words from each of them.

**Igarashi Shigeomi (Hokkaido - Tokyo course):** I want to report to everyone in Hokkaido, the Tohoku region and Tokyo that I was able to complete the march once again this year. Thank you. 500 members of the JMITU participated in the relay march and walked from Tokyo to Hiroshima. I thank you for your support.

**Nishida Shigeyoshi (Tokyo - Hiroshima course):** My name is Nishida, and I walked from the east all the way to the west. I had sung a song "Heiwa no Koyomi" (Peace Calendar) for the entire time, so I want to sing again one last time. "To those with no name; Sing, sing, sing; We are the Peace Almanac Singers; Seventy years since we were born; Seventy years with no war; Our calendar of peace; No need for anything; As long as we have this. Thank you so much everyone.

**Yamaguchi Itsuro (Toyama - Hiroshima course):** My name is Yamaguchi, and I walked from Toyama to Hiroshima. I thank everyone in those eight prefectures. In Aomori 3 years ago, Mr. Shikauchi, the former mayor of Aomori city, encouraged me to keep walking until I became 85 years old. This year, I'm 85, and I could deliver what I promised. I want to ask participants from Aomori to convey my thanks to him. Thank you.

**Shimada Noriko (Hiroshima - Nagasaki course):** Hello, I'm from Tokyo. I was recommended by Tokyo Gensuikyo and New Japan Women's Association to become a marcher, and walked the Hiroshima-Nagasaki course for about one month. This was the first time for me to walk as a through marcher. I was moved to see many people taking actions for peace everywhere I visited, and members of the Women's Association welcomed me warmly. Even after I get back home, I will continue spreading actions to make Japan participate in the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. Thank you.

**Yamada Tae (Miyazaki - Nagasaki course):** I'm Yamada Tae, and I am currently living in Tokyo. I grew up in Fukuoka in Kyushu, in a strict, traditional, conservative family with Japanese nationalist views. I have come back to Kyushu many times, but I always felt like I was entering enemy encampment. But marching in Kyushu for just one month and a half has completely changed my views on this place, because I was able to march with like-minded people in Kyushu. Also, this sash was passed on by young people from Ebino city in Miyazaki all the way to the epicenter in Nagasaki. There were so many young participants in the Peace March in Kyushu, and they were working hard to keep the Peace March going, which gave me a lot of hope for the future. I felt and learned that Kyushu was such a rich, cheerful place and an advanced area that had been open to foreign countries since a long time ago. Kyushu is no longer the enemy line. It is now like a real hometown for me. Thank you, Kyushu.

**Kobayashi Kazue (Okinawa - Nagasaki course):** Hello, my name is Kobayashi Kazue, and I'm here, representing the Shizuoka Peace Committee. My parents named me with the kanji characters from the words 'peace' and 'Edo', because they wished for peace. I have engaged in peace movement to live up to my name, and I have joined in the Peace March for the past fifteen years. Five young participants from Okinawa walked with me, and they are up here on stage with me, as energetic as ever. Amami-Oshima was also a really lovely place. Thanks to the help of everyone in Kyushu, I was able to make it here. Thank you so much.

**Maekawa:** Thank you everyone for your words. These people with the yellow sashes participated in the International Youth Relay, and they walked a lot this year. I ask Mr. Lee Jae Hwan from Korea to give us a few words as a representative of them.

**Lee Jae Hwan (Hiroshima - Nagasaki course, International Youth Relay Marcher, Civil**

**Network for Justice in Sports, R.O.K.):** I'm happy to meet you all. My name is Lee Jae Hwan, and I'm from Korea. I walked from Hiroshima to Nagasaki from July 5 to August 6. Before the march, I was worried about walking for 33 days straight in summer. But since I started, I have received care, encouragement, and support from kind people in Japan, and I managed to complete this walk. It's been a short while, but I've learned a lot. Through everyone I met, I learned the true meaning of peace. I will return to Korea in three days, but my heart, which longs for peace, will always be here with you all. I will never forget the 30 days I spent, including this moment right now. Let's meet again for peace.

**Maekawa:**

Thank you. Let me also introduce Mr. Akihiko Takeda, who has also walked from Hiroshima to Nagasaki to care for Mr. Lee Jae Hwan. The Peace March will take place again next year, from May to August. Please take part in the Peace March in your respective prefectures, even if it's just for a step or two. I'll see you all again soon.



## 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki

### *International Forum: “Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons - Dialogue between Governments and Grass-Roots Movements”*

(August 8)



#### Panelist Presentations:

**Martin Krüger**  
Minister/ Deputy Director for  
Disarmament, Arms Control and  
Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry for  
Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs  
Austria

(See page 66.)



**Hannah Tweddell**  
Vice Chair, Campaign for Nuclear  
Disarmament  
U.K.

Thank you for inviting me to speak in this forum.

A vote on replacing Trident, the UK's nuclear weapons system, was called in the UK Parliament at very short notice in 2016. Despite the majority of the British public being opposed to nuclear weapons and a strong campaign from CND, a majority of MPs voted in favour of going ahead with building four submarines for a new nuclear weapons system. Parliament had an ill-informed debate about the issue, where the Prime Minister even refused to confirm what a new system would cost.

Although CND is not party political working with all parties, we welcome the election of Jeremy Corbyn as Labour Party leader, our former Vice Chair and now Vice President of CND. Although not winning the general election the

Labour Party gained over 30 seats. Corbyn increased Labour's vote share more than anyone since Atlee in the 1950s and was just 2,227 votes from becoming Prime Minister.

Labour now have a leader that offers a genuine opposition to the Conservative Party. Someone who has campaigned for a more peaceful and just global society. Many of the British people have become excited by this genuine alternative, in particular young people.

With the backdrop of austerity where the Conservatives have made devastating cuts to our public services including education, health and disability benefit support, we have seen an increase in activity in civil society. Many are joining the Labour Party. It is now the largest socialist party in Europe and since the June general election 15 thousand new members have joined including many young people.

Along with offering something different, Corbyn also offered an alternative on important issues. He promised to scrap university tuition fees and to reinstate financial support for those in further education. The UK is seeing a housing crisis at the moment with young people unable to afford a house of their own. Corbyn promised to build more affordable housing. Corbyn promised to save the National Health Service. The manifesto was entitled 'For the Many Not the Few' reinforcing the concept of a social movement.

The past few years have seen an increase in the number of protests and in the numbers attending. In Bristol, my home city in the South West we saw 6 demonstrations with people protesting about different issues including Trump, education cuts and the National Health Service cuts. People are becoming active and many are young and many are new to campaigning. A few demonstrations have been called on social media organised by high school students who have no prior experience and are yet to discover the very active Bristol campaigning scene. The more experienced campaigners are rushing to support these new activists!

Social media has been very important in our campaigning. The main stream media tend to be right leaning and either do not cover the issues or if they do mention a protest they do so mockingly. There was little mention of the ban treaty. Social media enables us to share our alternative messages. As an example, a video made by Momentum, a Corbyn supporting faction of the Labour Party, was viewed 7.6 million times. A word of caution on social media though. We must be careful that we are not confined to our own echo chamber speaking only to like-minded people. Judging by

my Facebook feed before the election, Corbyn would have won with a landslide! That said, it is a powerful tool for us to use.

During the election Corbyn was repeatedly pushed regarding his position on nuclear weapons. He argued for an alternative solution to conflict through using dialogue. As I mentioned, Labour Party membership has soared since his election as leader. These new members are organising around his principles. They are starting to stand for internal positions as well as local Councillors and will filter through to become progressive MPs.

This new membership can also challenge party policies. During the general election Corbyn had a difficult time because of party policy supporting Trident replacement. Trident has not been debated at Labour Party conference for many years. Hopefully with the surge in members, the party can again have an anti-nuclear stance. And Corbyn has appointed a Minister for Peace and Disarmament with the manifesto promising a complete strategic defence and security review once in office.

We at CND are incredibly excited and hopeful about the Global Ban Treaty. The treaty is a significant step towards changing international attitudes to nuclear weapons. Previous treaties prohibiting chemical and biological weapons helped to stigmatise them in the minds of society. This is our opportunity to do the same for nuclear weapons.

It gives us the opportunity to share an alternative message of hope for a more peaceful world. In my home city of Bristol during the negotiations we travelled around the city announcing the news of the talks through a town crier, an old UK tradition for announcing news and it was great to be sharing a positive message about nuclear weapon abolition. People were interested in hearing about the talks precisely because it was a positive story.

In mid July we visited 10 Downing Street to deliver 7000 letters to Teresa May calling on her to sign up to the ban treaty. Campaigners also continue to challenge Trident through the courts. The Attorney General's office is investigating whether Theresa May should face charges in court after statements made suggesting they would launch a nuclear first strike.

As we enter our 60th year of CND, we will continue to lobby our representatives to support the signing of the treaty. We will share the stories of the Hibakusha and of those affected by testing. We will shout loudly about the ban. We will stand in solidarity with our international friends.

Some expect another snap election shortly. There is a real possibility that Corbyn will be our

next Prime Minister which would open the door to real dialogue between our grassroots movement and our government. We've had a lot of political upheaval over the last few years and with Brexit in particular, I was downtrodden. But now I am truly excited and hopeful for a nuclear free future.

I'd like to end with a quote from one of Corbyn's favourite poems by Shelly. I hope it translates as powerfully into Japanese.

"Rise, like lions after slumber  
In unvanquishable number!  
Shake your chains to earth like dew  
Which in sleep had fallen on you:  
Ye are many—they are few."

**Hiroshi Taka**  
**Representative Director**  
**Japan Council against A and H Bombs**  
**(Gensuikyo)**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Allow me first of all to welcome the three panelists from abroad.

The Austrian government has played a leading role in exposing the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons and in conducting negotiations on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Britain now stands out as a country where changes are taking place thanks to the struggles by the anti-nuclear peace movement and many other people. Such changes are also spreading steadily in the United States.

I would like to learn from you about how to achieve a world without nuclear weapons by making use of the Prohibition Treaty.

**Historic treaty**

We are meeting at this year's World Conference against A and H Bombs after the adoption of the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. The world is moving toward the signing of the treaty in order for it to come into force.

A clear and concise explanation on the main points of the treaty has been given by Mr. Martin Krüger.

Article 1 provides that all activities linked to nuclear weapons are prohibited, ranging from development to production, testing and stockpiling. We have been calling for a total ban on nuclear weapons since the signature campaign launched in 1954 in the wake of damage from the hydrogen bomb test at the Bikini Atoll. We have listened to the Hibakusha, collected signatures demanding a ban, held peace marches and the World Conference against A and H Bombs every year. The call for the banning and eliminating nuclear weapons has grown into an overwhelmingly

influential global trend, both from an ethical and a political point of view. The present ban treaty legally prohibits nuclear weapons and fills the gap.

The treaty is open to all states. It shows the countries that currently have nuclear weapons that they can take part in the treaty by abandoning or planning to abandon nuclear weapons. The treaty is also epoch-making in this respect.

Some nuclear weapon countries objected to the treaty saying it would not help reduce nuclear weapons. But nuclear weapons are not decreasing for the lack of a treaty but because of the nuclear weapon states' rejection of a treaty. Only when these countries change their minds and accept the treaty, can nuclear weapons be eliminated for sure.

**Elimination of nuclear weapons represent the mainstream**

On July 7, following the adoption of the treaty, the United States, Britain and France issued a statement declaring they would not sign or ratify the treaty and that they would never be bound by the treaty.

North Korea has continued with its nuclear weapons development programs and repeated their testing and launched missiles. They are insisting that their nuclear weapons are for their security.

Certainly, North Korea should stop nuclear testing or missile launches. Everybody believes so and is saddened by North Korea's acts. But will nuclear or military threats by the United States and other nuclear weapon countries help resolve the problem? Will Japan be safe if it continues to side with the major nuclear weapons state? No, definitely not. The US and Japanese reliance on nuclear or military threats is not something new. That has always been their policy. Nuclear intimidation has caused nuclear rivalries, which have generated the present vicious circle.

So, the answer is that we should break this vicious circle rather than following the path of escalation of a dangerous nuclear confrontation. That's what we should seriously consider.

In October last year, the First Committee of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to convene a conference on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. North Korea voted in favor. Japan voted against on the ground that North Korea was conducting nuclear tests and missile launches. But in Asia, which has 70 percent of the world's population, only two countries - Japan and South Korea - opposed the resolution. There were 3 countries that abstained from voting; i.e., China, India, and Pakistan. All the other Asian states

supported it. I believe that the key to eliminating nuclear weapons as well as to solving issues in East Asia is to advance to a total ban on nuclear weapons. The only way to achieve it is holding talks on the rule of prohibition of nuclear weapons.

**From a ban on nuclear weapons to a world without nuclear weapons: Let us make 'Peace Waves' from atom-bombed Japan to the rest of the world**

Diplomacy, of course, will play a major role in the quest of a world without nuclear weapons, but at the same time, the role of people's opinion is critical in forcing their governments to decide to support the objective, as the people have sovereign power. Civil society movements play an important role in realizing it.

In May 2015, when we delivered signatures to the NPT Review Conference, the president of the conference, Ambassador Taous Feroukhi, told us that not only national governments but political will is necessary for realizing the elimination of nuclear weapons and that success or failure depends on people's efforts. So, we need to rely on the power of signatures.

I think we have two responsibilities to fulfill in this new situation in which we work to help get the treaty to come into force.

One is to let the rest of the world know about the damage and aftereffects of the use of nuclear weapons and convey the Hibakusha's message from the movement of the only country to have experienced the tragedy caused by the A-bombs, so that people's will be expressed by their signatures.

The World Conference has proposed a week of "Peace Wave" action to be held simultaneously throughout the world from September 20 to demand all countries sign and ratify the treaty. We will plan grassroots actions devoted to its success. We hope to send photos of atomic bombings, paper cranes and messages the world over.

The other is to work to achieve political change so that Japan will have a government that signs the Ban Treaty and join efforts with other countries in Asia and the rest of the world to completely eliminate nuclear weapons.

This World Conference is attended by many people from countries that have achieved such political change or countries in which such change is underway. Japan is also in the midst of a major political transformation. While there is a real danger of adverse constitutional revision, people are opposing any measures directed toward preparations for war and joining forces to defend the Constitution and people's livelihoods. Popular

support for politics directed toward adverse constitutional revision is plunging to its lowest level ever.

The Japanese people can exert their enormous power in the cause of the elimination of nuclear weapons. More than 80 percent of Japanese local governments have declared themselves nuclear-free. Much of this has been made possible by our movement.

Starting in 1955, Japan's then two major conservative parties merged into a single party to set out for constitutional revision and the nation's rearmament, but they faced a major obstacle: the signature drive against atomic and hydrogen bombs, which was launched in the aftermath of the Bikini tragedy. One out of two eligible voters signed the petition. Today, as the world is moving toward totally banning nuclear weapons, favorable conditions are before us for spreading the movement just as we did for the signature campaign after the Bikini tragedy. I am looking forward to hearing your opinions, plans and determinations in this session.



**Jim Anderson**  
**President, Peace Action New York State**  
**U.S.A.**

*(Transcribed from the speech)*

I greet you with a heart that is warmed by the masses of Japanese people and others around the world that have gathered in every venue that I had a chance to be in and participate in anyway. I am a grassroots leader of two organizations which frame the context of how I will speak to you today. I've entitled this part of what I will say. I call it "the paradox of our brilliance" and "the practice of our excusiology."

So let me explain. Our brilliance is that we've learned a great deal about war and peace. Our brilliance is, is that we can tell the stories about war and peace. The thing that creates the paradox of our brilliance, or puts us in a paradox of our brilliance is our practice of excusiology. You say, "What is that?" Because of the way we have been cultivated in the various cultures over the years, it must be said that we're still coming out of the dark ages of our old time. Where we saw things, knew things, but didn't really know those things enough to take action on. We knew that we should have peace and peace should be everywhere. But we did not always participate in bringing about peace. Instead, we had all kinds of excuses. Some seemed legit. Some were legit, at the moment. Here is where we are challenged.

We know we need peace, we want peace, and we assume that government will do. Because of whomever we vote for, we believe they will do. In America, the framework of our constitution, which is guided by the bill of rights, it says "whenever a government ceases to serve its people, it is your duty to overturn or abolish that government." It does not mean you have to go to war with the government, it doesn't mean you have to pick up a gun against your government. What it does mean, in a peace culture, is that we must use the processes, the processes that we have established to deal with order.

What are they? One, the ballot box. Two, the right to assemble in mass and make our cares and desires and wants, known. Here's where the excusiology comes in. I won't ask anybody to raise a hand and say "Yeah, I've done that." Think about the times, where those that knew that there was an issue that needed to be confronted with, and you were urged and indeed invited to come to the meeting. And that thing that rises up in to you, that kind of says "Oh, I ah... Oh, if it was another day I would go." "Oh you should have told me before."

We expect those things we want in a peace culture to come about because we expect somebody. Or the classic is, we'll say to someone who is laboring goodly, and very hard towards where we want to go, "Oh, but you do it better", forgiving ourselves, giving ourselves an excuse to sit back. Even when the people we vote for in the elected office fail to deliver on what they promised when they came in the community, we know there should be change, but what do we say? "Oh it's not going to change" - we don't do anything but we delude ourselves.

This is the paradox of our brilliance. We know we want peace. We know we need peace. And we know how to get peace. Except we excuse ourselves, from being motivated. I did not come to beat us up, but I come to shake us up.

You know, baseball. Baseball represents teamwork. Every good team, we see our baseball team bringing people from all around the planet to be on the team. People who are capable of playing and know the game of baseball. But what do they do? When they come together, they don't run out and just play ball. What do they do? They go to a training camp. They go to a training camp to perfect their understanding of how they will play the game as a team. To get comfortable with bumping into each other. To get a sense of the way we flow with one another. And then they go out. It's the same thing you see in the military. The military doesn't pull you in and say "Here, take this gun and run out there." They take you into training and get the military to shape your mind and will to work as a unit and obeying in an instant.

And grassroots movements is definitely not to force you to understand, it's to recognize that the humanity in you will find the natural kinship to the humanity in everyone else. When we begin to understand that, we will find going to a meeting, going to a rally, participating in a protest, is our duty. It's not "Oh by the way, we might try this." It is our duty. It's a way to make our concerns known. We will find that participating in the electoral process is not "Aww, We're not going to get anybody that's going to change." It's our duty. Now, I want to make a quick change almost as fast as the trains here in Japan. And I want you to come with me and see how this plays out.

In political arena, our representatives come from the community. People in the community know what's going on. We know where the problems are, the needs are. So we basically, everyone's in a huddle. So when you elect someone, and all electives come out of the community, and they go to serve on behalf of the people. How can they have forgotten, the plight of

the people? And how, if they do forget or abandon, how do we the people allow them to just sit there and do nothing? We must always see electoral politics as our duty.

In this room, we may have an understanding about the hurt, the harm, and the damage by nuclear weapons just being in existence. I'm not even talking about use, though we know the terrible mean-spirited history of the use of these types of the weapons. And we know who used them. But if we are to be true in our witness, there's a huge mass of people in our community who are unknowing what we know. And who know without being involved, stuck in excusiology.

So, what is the need? And who is to do? It is us. And the need is big. The need is now for us to move this Nuclear Weapons Ban into its fruition to where all States are practicing and engaged in. It is like a big elephant. There's a proverb that says "How do you eat an elephant?" And the answer is, one bite at a time. So imagine the work that we have to do, as the elephant. If there are only a few eating the elephant, it will be long, long, long. If many are eating the elephant, it will soon be consumed. Simply understand that in order for us to bring about what we desire, the peace in the world, for people and planet, we

must, it is our duty to ensure that the Nuclear Weapons Ban is a reality, a permanent reality, and not just something we heard about and wished would happen. It is our duty when the government of the world ceases to serve the people of the world, it is the people of the world's duty to overturn or abolish that government, in the ways that we know how in the peace culture. Using the two things that I said; electoral processes in all of our states and the right to assemble in great mass on this planet and make our wills known. This is what grassroots people do.

And I will end by saying this. The Ban Treaty that we see, emanating from the UN, was not given birth by the UN. The Ban Treaty was given birth in communities like this. Where discussions, where people coming together, and realizing a common connectedness. Connecting the dots. Speaking to the issue. The Ban Treaty is not something somebody else developed. It's what we the people developed. They have codified it into a language that those who sit in the seats of State understand, but we will not make the mistake of just waiting till they get around to do it. We will not make the mistake of waiting to see if the 122 nations who voted for it will deliver it. No. We the people, it is our duty.



## Closing Plenary

### 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki (August 9)



#### Video Message:

**Taniguchi Sumiteru, Co-Chair, Nihon Hidankyo/ President, Nagasaki A-Bomb Survivors' Council**

The treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons is a very welcome achievement.

As one after another countries have acquired nuclear weapons, saying they need them, it is absolutely necessary to act for nuclear disarmament.

Unfortunately, the Government of this A-bombed Japan is not supporting it.

I hope that countries having no nuclear weapons will besiege nuclear powers, and get rid of these weapons without a moment delay. Otherwise, even after any agreement is reached, nothing will change.

I fear what will happen when all hibakusha are gone. For our children, we Hibakusha who have survived should keep struggling.

*(Last Message of Taniguchi Sumiteru, a Hibakusha of Nagasaki, who passed away on August 30, 2017)*

#### Greetings of Solidarity:

**Kakinuma Tomiko  
President, National Federation of Regional Women's Organizations**

72 years have passed since an atomic bomb was dropped here on Nagasaki. With the Hibakusha we have been continuing our campaign for abolition of nuclear weapons holding a slogan for "A Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World". Since last year we worked on the international signature campaign in support of the "Hibakusha Appeal" in collaboration with many organizations. Our members in each community made sincere effort to collect signatures. Currently, the signatures sent to us from our members have exceeded 320,000 in total. The wishes put in the signatures were delivered to the UN negotiation conference for a nuclear prohibition treaty together with the signatures from other organizations. Our voices were recognized, and the treaty on prohibition to develop, produce, stockpile, transfer and use nuclear weapons, leading to the total elimination

was adopted on July 7, 2017, with the support by 122 state parties in many regions, which is a very significant development.

Nevertheless, dear friends, we have an unfortunate situation that our country Japan, the only country in the world that experienced the A-bombings, left the negotiation table in the middle of discussion, and does not ratify the treaty. Its reasoning, it seems, was that a path leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons is not clearly set out, yet if so, it is important that they themselves make clear the path. It is absolutely necessary that the nuclear weapons states, the de-facto nuclear powers and those that rely on “nuclear umbrella”, such as Japan, make up their mind to eliminate nuclear weapons from the earth, and start specific actions for it.

World peace cannot be ensured by nuclear weapons. We know it very well. The nuclear weapons used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki have brought suffering on people not at that moment alone but are doing so even now, more than 70 years passed since then. Our voice must be louder in telling these facts to people of the world, as well as our children who do not have any knowledge of war. We make a strong appeal that it is a major role of the government of Japan, the only nation in history that suffered nuclear attacks, to stand at the front of such campaign.

We, the National Federation of Regional Women’s Organizations, have been working for abolition of nuclear weapons for a long time until today. With the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty adopted on July 7, 2017, we now have a renewed determination in this effort. We will keep telling as many people as possible about the importance of achieving a nuclear weapon-free world at the earliest possible date, through our regional activities that spread like blood capillary to every corner in Japan. Dear friends, let us keep working together in nuclear abolition campaign to build a peaceful world.

## **Greetings by the National Government Representative:**

**Martin Krüger**  
**Minister/ Deputy Director for**  
**Disarmament, Arms Control and**  
**Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry for**  
**Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs**  
**Austria**

Let me first of all thank you sincerely for the invitation to speak to you here today and present

the latest developments in the quest for a world free from nuclear weapons from an Austrian point of view. There are certainly no better places than Hiroshima and Nagasaki that have seen the horror and the unspeakable humanitarian consequences of the use of atomic bombs to address the question of nuclear disarmament. The impressive turnout at this conference clearly demonstrates that there is wide-spread support for a world free of atomic and hydrogen bombs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Until the fall of the Iron Curtain Austria was a country positioned on the demarcation line between NATO and the Warsaw Pact faced with all the ensuing risks and threats. Austria, therefore, has traditionally been at the forefront of all international efforts at disarmament, arms control and non-Proliferation. I would just like to mention here the Treaties to ban anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions, better known as the Ottawa and Oslo Conventions. Austria also strongly supports the Arms Trade Treaty that for the first time ever sets internationally binding standards for the transfer of conventional weapons. Furthermore, in 1999 the Austrian Parliament adopted with the support of all political parties a Fundamental Law establishing Austria as a nuclear free state and containing a national ban on nuclear weapons.

As far as multilateral nuclear disarmament is concerned, after the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1996 (the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency are hosted in the Austrian capital Vienna) we saw a standstill in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for about 20 years. That is why a couple of countries, including Austria, decided to promote new initiatives and draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and the risks attached to nuclear weapons in general. Conferences were held in Oslo/Norway, Nayarit/Mexico and Vienna/Austria.

An overwhelming majority of States have endorsed the Humanitarian Statement as well as the Humanitarian pledge that have drawn attention to the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. Hiroshima and Nagasaki have so drastically demonstrated to which extent a nuclear conflagration would by far outstrip national and international capacities for humanitarian assistance. The only way to prevent such a voluntary or involuntary nuclear explosion is to eliminate all nuclear weapons. As with the Conventions banning biological and chemical weapons an elimination of nuclear weapons will require a legal basis in the form of a binding

treaty.

The process and considerations outlined above finally culminated in a Conference of States held at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York. 129 States participated in the deliberations under the able chairpersonship of Ambassador Whyte-Gomez of Costa Rica. The core group of States actively promoting the treaty consisted of Mexico and Brazil from Latin America, Nigeria and South Africa from Africa as well as Ireland and Austria from Europe. Finally, on 7 July 2017 122 States voted in favour of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Treaty will be opened for signature from September 20 in New York and enter into force once the fiftieth instrument of ratification will be deposited. We expect this to happen in 2018 and Austria offered to organize the first meeting of States Parties in Vienna most likely to be held in 2019.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in the English version is about 10 pages long and I hope that copies in Japanese will be available to those that are interested in the details. Allow me to highlight some of the provisions of the Treaty.

The **Preamble** draws attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, transcend national borders and pose grave implications for human survival. The mere existence of nuclear weapons poses grave risks to all humankind given the possibility of a detonation by accident, miscalculation or design. The unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the victims of the use of nuclear weapons (Hibakusha) is acknowledged. The Preamble expresses concern on the slow pace of nuclear disarmament and the continued reliance on nuclear weapons in military and security concepts, doctrines and policies and recognises that a legally binding prohibition of nuclear weapons constitutes an important contribution towards the achievement and maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons.

**Article 1** is the core of the Treaty and prescribes that “each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to:

- a: Develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- d: Use or threaten to use nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- g: Allow any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear weapons or other

nuclear explosive devices in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control.”

- Lit b and c concern the transfer of or receipt of transfer or control over nuclear weapons.
- Lit e and f concern the prohibition to assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in activities prohibited under the Treaty or seek or receive assistance from anyone to engage in activities prohibited under the Treaty.

In accordance with **Article 2 and 3** all States joining the Treaty will declare whether they possess nuclear weapons or whether such weapons are stationed on their territory and will maintain safeguards as existing in the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

**Article 4** is another core provision of the Treaty and is called “Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons”. It is important to emphasize at this point that the new Treaty will remain open for accession by all States. It sets out a clear pathway for accession by States possessing nuclear weapons or States on which territory nuclear weapons are stationed. What is required from them, however, is the will to abandon their nuclear weapons in a time bound, irreversible and verifiable manner.

**Articles 5 to 7** deal with national implementation, victim assistance and environmental remedies, as well as international cooperation and assistance.

The rest of the **Articles (Art. 8 – 20)** concern issues such as meeting of States Parties, amendments (2/3 majority) and reservations (the articles of this Treaty shall not be subject to reservations).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The nine States currently possessing nuclear weapons chose not to participate in the negotiations.

However, we think that even before the accession of States possessing nuclear weapons, the Treaty will have significant positive effects. It sends a powerful signal that the majority of the world’s States are determined to take action now for a future free from nuclear weapons which will be a safer and more secure future for everybody without exception. It complements, reaffirms and strengthens existing norms such as the Non Proliferation Treaty including its non-proliferation obligations and the safeguards regime under the International Atomic Energy Agency. Furthermore, it provides both a basis and a stimulus for additional measures in nuclear disarmament which will have to follow.

The Treaty is fully compatible with other ongoing or desirable activities in nuclear disarmament, such as the launch of negotiations

for a fissile material cutoff treaty, efforts to universalize and bring into force the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, work on nuclear disarmament verification, creation and expansion of nuclear weapon free zones among others. It lays the foundation for further effective disarmament measures.

Our common objective, a world free from nuclear weapons can only be achieved and maintained if all States including the States possessing these weapons and the so-called nuclear umbrella States work together. Austria will continue to seek opportunities to engage in dialogue with all States and civil society in order to contribute to creating the necessary political will for progress.

## Report on the Nagasaki A-Bombing and Its Consequences:

**Honda Takaya  
M.D., President, Nagasaki Doctors and Dentists Association**

### Effects of the Atomic Bomb in Nagasaki

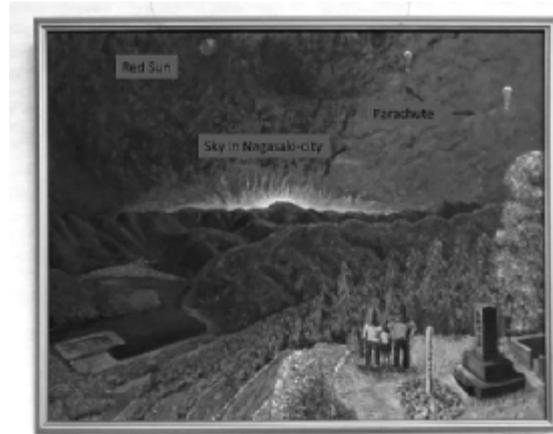
Hello everyone. My name is Honda and I am a chairperson of the Nagasaki Doctors and Dentists Association. The association consists of around 1,900 doctors and dentists in Nagasaki prefecture, which is working to protect the lives and the health of the nation.

My clinic is in the eastern Nagasaki area, around 10km east of the ground zero. My father started the clinic, and even today, nearly half of my outpatients are either Hibakusha or "Hibaku Taikensha," those who experienced the A-bombing, but are not officially recognized as the Hibakusha.

When the bomb was detonated, a west wind at 3m per second was blowing in Nagasaki. The huge mushroom cloud that was generated by the bombing was blown to the east by the west wind, which brought black rain and deadly fallout over the residents.

All residents who remember the day testify as follows: "After I saw a flash of light, the blast flew me away. Then the sky suddenly turned dark, and I could see the dark red sun with my own eyes. A lot of dust and fallout had fallen from the sky."

<Slide 5 - right> This is an oil painting by Torigoe Shigenobu, based on his recollection of the time when he experienced the bombing in the Toishi area in east Nagasaki. You can see the red sun on a dark sky. The sky over Nagasaki city is glowing due to the fire, while parachutes carrying

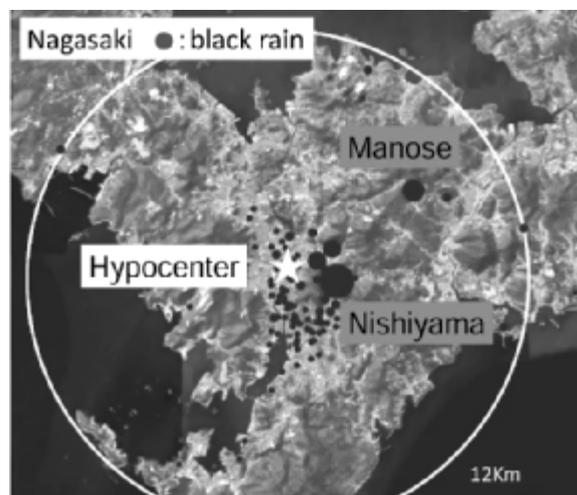


radiosonde, a battery operated weather monitoring instrument, dropped along with the bomb, are falling from the sky.

<Slide 6 - below> Nagasaki experienced black rain, or radioactive fallout. It is known that in the Nishiyama area, 3km east of the hypocenter, a high level of radiation was detected after the black rain or, more precisely, muddy rain. But the amount of rain and the affected area was limited in Nagasaki except the Nishiyama area, and little surveying was conducted on the radioactive fallout. However, even though it was unknown to researchers, the Manose area near my clinic experienced a fair amount of radioactive fallout.

Manose is a small community in the middle of the mountains, around 7km northeast of the hypocenter. According to Japanese law, people who experienced the bombing outside the designated area are not defined as Hibakusha but as Hibaku Taikensha, unless they have clear reasons to be defined as Hibakusha. Since Manose is outside the designated area, the residents are not recognized as the Hibakusha, even though they experienced black rain.

<Slide 8 - omitted> This is the cover of the petition written in 1986, found among the articles left by Kawanami Norio, a resident of Manose



who campaigned to have the area for the Hibakusha recognition to be expanded, but passed away before it became a reality. Hand-written appeals of 14 residents are included in the petition.

You can find the following messages in the petition:

*“After the pouring black rain, children and babies saw their hair fall out and suffered from unknown sicknesses that were accompanied by diarrhea before they died.”*

*“Since then, people including the adults at the time of the bombing have suffered from sicknesses that are said to resemble radiation sicknesses, and many have died.”*

*“Please kindly help us as soon as possible.”*

Unfortunately, their appeals were not met. So far, 9 of 14 who joined the petition passed away.

In July 2011, Dr. Hoshi Seiji’s group of Hiroshima University conducted a soil survey in the Manose area for the first time in 25 years. Unfortunately, no remains of the Nagasaki bombing were identified, but the research raised the nations’ concern over radioactive residue, all because of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant that took place the same year. In fact, there are around 6,000 “Hibaku Taikensha” in total, including those in Manose, within a 12km radius of the hypocenter in Nagasaki. These “Hibaku Taikensha” are currently fighting in court for recognition as Hibakusha.

Both the US and Japanese governments maintain the position that there was little impact of radioactive residue from the bombing on human bodies. This view originated from a statement made by Brigadier General Thomas Farrell, who said during a press conference in September 6, 1945, “As of now, in early September, there is no one suffering from radiation sickness, as those who suffered are all dead both in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.” But it was far from true.

<Slide 12 - omitted> This is a part of the images privately taken by Colonel Elbert DeCoursey, who led the Japan-US joint investigation commission in Nagasaki. He captured images of Omura Naval Hospital between October and November of 1945, the same year as the bombing.

<Slide 13 - omitted> You can see Colonel DeCoursey with a young Hibakusha. The boy is skinny and he is limping. The film taken in Omura Naval Hospital shows burns on his side. This boy has lost his hair. Loss of hair is observed all around his head, but he does not show trauma. It seemed he experienced the bombing indoors. The film seemed to have recorded when his hair had

started growing back.

This is called flash burn, characteristic of bombing victims. The burn is seen on the patient’s back extending to the side, while you can see the edge is quite clear because flash burns affect only the area where heat rays reached.

This girl experienced loss of hair. It is estimated that she experienced the bombing around 1km from the hypocenter. A little hair remains on the back of her head, but hair loss is observed all around her head.

Numerous glass particles, shattered by the blast killed many Hibakusha. This image shows the scars from the glass particles.

Another image of scars on the leg. This is a 10-year old child. You can see burns with clear borders on the neck and right arm, which are typical flash burns. You can see the burns on the left arm as well. You can see traces of secondary infection on the burns from the neck to the face. This is clear evidence of the inhumanity of nuclear weapons, which attack and kill non-combatants indiscriminately.

<Slide 14 - omitted> This is another film taken by Colonel DeCoursey taken outdoors of patients on their way to recovery. However, there were more serious patients in Omura Naval Hospital. This is an image taken by the United States Strategic Bombing Survey in January 1946.

<Slide 15 - below> Three doctors are working on one patient. They are trying to remove pieces of gauze on his back very slowly, but he seems to be in agonizing pain. They are sterilizing the wound after removing the gauze. You can tell the boy is still alive, as his chest is moving up and down as he breathes.

This is the same image taken from the opposite angle. The boy stayed at the brink of life and death for 1 year and 9 months, while lying on his stomach and receiving treatment. Once again gauze is applied to his back after sterilization.

Omura Naval Hospital



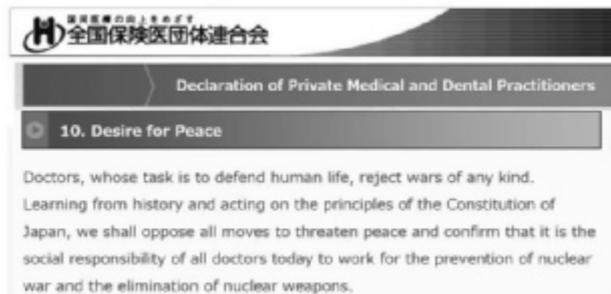
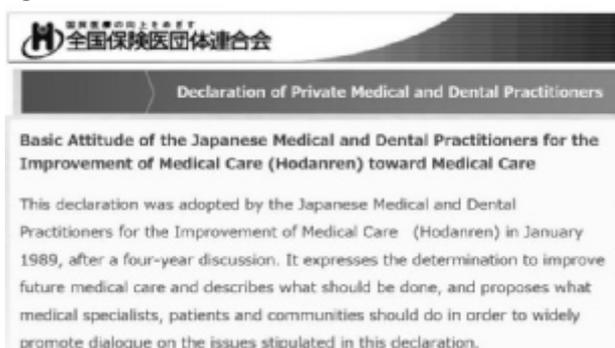
<Slide 16 - below> As many of you probably realize, this boy is Taniguchi Sumiteru, who is well-known for his “Red back.” Taniguchi-san experienced the bombing 1.8km from the hypocenter when he was 16 years old and was hospitalized in Omura Naval Hospital three days later. After his miraculous survival, he has continued activities for 72 years to date, to put an end to nuclear weapons and make Nagasaki the last place that experienced the nuclear bombing.

Dr. Akizuki Tatsuichiro, who tirelessly worked to treat the Hibakusha since right after the bombing, and an author of “The Concentric Circle of Death,” commented during his speech in 1987 for the Doctors and Dentists Association; “In retrospect, what I find most scary today is that the truth was blocked and the false was communicated, and that the learned and intellectuals kept their mouths shut even when they must have thought something was wrong.” I find a lot of significance in this message, which still means a lot in today’s Japan.

Sumiteru Taniguchi



<Slide 18 - below> HODANREN, the Japanese Medical and Dental Practitioners for the Improvement of Medical Care, consists of the Medical Practitioners Associations in all 47 prefectures. We adopted the “Declaration of Private Medical and Dental Practitioners” in 1989, to present our resolution to improve medical practice for the future. It is a declaration of medical practitioners to protect the rights of the patient.



<Slide 19 - above> The Declaration states the following in article 10, Desire for Peace: “Doctors, whose task is to defend human life, reject wars of any kind. Learning from history and acting on the principles of the Constitution of Japan, we shall oppose all moves to threaten peace and confirm that it is the social responsibility of all doctors today to work for the prevention of nuclear war and the elimination of nuclear weapons.”

Nuclear weapons are inhumane not only because they are weapons of indiscriminate mass destruction, but also because they cause radiation terror, which continue to agonize Hibakusha even after 72 years. In any case, any technology that cannot detoxify or neutralize its effect is not worthy of being called “technology”.

We are determined to follow the spirit of the Declaration and call for the abolition of nuclear weapons to protect our patients.

Let’s work together to make a world without nuclear weapons a reality!

## Appeal by the Hibakusha:

### Matsuya Hideko Hibakusha of Nagasaki/ Former Plaintiff of Nagasaki Matsuya A-Bomb Lawsuit

Thank you all for coming to Nagasaki in the 72nd year of the atomic bombing.

I am Matsuya Hideko. Seventeen years ago, on July 7, 2000, I won the case known as “Nagasaki A-bomb Matsuya Lawsuit” at the Supreme Court, which recognized my physical disabilities as caused by the radiation from the atomic bomb. Thank you very much for the support you gave me. I asked for your help many times from the podium of the World Conference, and thanks to your support and encouragement, I was able to carry on my court struggle for 12 years. It is my great pleasure to speak to you on this historic moment of joy as we celebrate the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the United Nations.

When I was three years and five months old, I was playing and watching chickens on the open

porch of my house in Inasamachi, located 2.45 km away from the hypocenter in Nagasaki. My mother was out to receive rationed soy-bean paste. My father was making a fire on the clay charcoal stove to cook lunch. Suddenly, an enormous blast came and a roof tile blown off by the blast hit me directly in the head. Hearing my scream my father rushed toward me to find me unconscious, bleeding heavily from head and with my right hand and right foot hanging down limply. He took me to the aid station, but there were so many seriously injured people already and he had no choice but to take me back home.

After a while, my mother took me to the aid station again, and she was able to have the doctor check me finally. The doctor asked her, "Is she still alive?" My mother answered, "Of course she is. Otherwise I would not have brought her to you. She must have a deep wound in the head as the bleeding won't stop. Please cut her hair and check." The Doctor said to her, "If it's not the case, you'll be sorry." He cut my hair around the wound and found the wound was 5 centimeter deep with a piece of tile still stuck in there. He told my mother, "I am sorry. It's too late to do anything to save her". He only put something like red antiseptic on the wound to help stop bleeding, and sent us home.

I had the piece of tile contaminated by radiation remaining in the head. The tissue around the wound started to fester, my hair came off and I suffered convulsions. As there was no food or medicine in Nagasaki, my family evacuated to my father's home town on the Goto Islands.

In Goto, a local doctor who came to examine my wound said he had good medicine that could cure the wound in two or three weeks. But the pus kept oozing and it took two years and a half before the wound finally closed. The doctor told my family that the atomic bomb was really dreadful. During that period, I was confined to bed and unable to take care of myself. I don't remember anything that happened before and during those days.

My earliest memory starts only about the time when I was 6 years old. It was around the time before I entered elementary school that we moved back to Nagasaki. I had never walked a step myself until then, so I practiced how to walk. Every step I took, I fell, and got injured. Because of the depressed skull fracture that resulted in paralysis on my right side, I was not able to move my right hand and right foot. As I was not in a condition to go to school, I had to postpone my school entrance for one year.

At school, I was bullied by other kids. They imitated me limping, and jeered at me about my

crippled body. I was hurt and sad. My mother always defended me, saying, "She got injured and crippled by the atomic bomb, so please don't pick on her."

When I was a high school student, I started to learn to use abacas, because I wanted to master skills even though I was partially paralyzed on my right side, and become independent. I passed the difficult second level abacas calculation proficiency exam. Every time I felt like giving up, my mother encouraged me to continue. Thanks to her support, I was able to work at the Hibakusha's shop run by the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council (Nagasaki Hisaikyo) for 37 years. If it had not been for Nagasaki Hisaikyo, I wonder what would have become of myself.

My right leg was deformed and only three toes touched the ground. After I was recognized as an A-bomb disease patient and was entitled to receive health benefits, I had a surgery on the right foot to be able to walk with all the five toes touching on the ground. Yet my entire body is inclined to the right, so when I sway, I cannot support my body with my right hand and fall. Last year I had a bad fall and got injured. Since then, I am not able to go out without assistance.

The atomic bomb did not only take the lives of many people, but has continued to give pains to those who survived for all these 72 years.

Nuclear weapons are weapons of devil. We must not allow even one nuclear bomb to exist on this planet.

Nagasaki must be the last place of atomic bombing forever.

Let us spread the Hibakusha International Signature Campaign throughout the world to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons.

We Hibakusha do not have much time left. But we will do all in our power.

No More Hibakusha!

## **Appeals by the Victims of Nuclear Tests:**

**Abacca Anjain-Maddison**  
**Former Senator/ Iju in Ean Club,**  
**Women of Rongelap Atoll**  
**Marshall Islands**  
(See page 21.)

**Mores Abraham**  
**Elimondik, Enewetak Atoll**  
**Marshall Islands**  
(See page 22.)

## **Actions for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World -- Speeches by Overseas Delegates:**

### **Joseph Gerson Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security U.S.A.**

Friends, I am joined by other members of the U.S. delegation to demonstrate the unity of our condemnation of President Trump's nuclear threat against North Korea. We have asked Lee Jun-Kyu and Han Seok-ho to join us in order to demonstrate our solidarity with the Korean people.

Trump's extremely dangerous and outrageous threat yesterday to devastate North Korea with "fire and fury" unlike the world has ever seen must be absolutely condemned. At a time when even his Secretary of State is raising the possibility of negotiations, Trump is ratcheting up the confrontation and making it more difficult for Kim Jung-Un to compromise without losing face. With his ignorance and arrogance, Trump is sleepwalking us toward catastrophe. He may have made his terrifying threat in order to divert attention from his cratering poll numbers and the possibility of his being indicted or impeached. Regardless of his motives, he has brought us to a moment like that which immediately preceded World War I. We must do all that we can to prevent a catastrophic war.

Friends, 72 years after the indiscriminate and criminal A-bombings most the world's nations declared nuclear weapons illegal. In many ways, the Ban Treaty is in the fruit of the Japanese movement and Hibakusha's courageous testimonies and campaigning. Despite Trump, Putin, Abe, Macron and the others, the world knows that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil that cannot coexist with humans. Let us invoke the extraordinary spirits of Watanabe Chieko, Yamaguchi Senji, the courage of Taniguchi Sumiteru, as well as many other Hibakusha. With our peace movements and inspired diplomats, they gave us the Ban Treaty.

Governments that negotiated the Treaty must quickly sign and ratify it. Riding the Japanese political tsunami released by the Ban, our movements must take advantage of its openings. Ratification by one or two umbrella states, could unravel the omnicidal fabric of the world's nuclear architecture. Our movements are at the center of world history.

We still face the imperative of preventing

nuclear war. Most nuclear weapons states have first-strike policies and all are upgrading their nuclear arsenals. During the NBT negotiations, North Korea "tested" nuclear-capable missiles. Trump threatened "severe" actions, launched ICBM "tests", and conducted aggressive joint military exercises with South Korea and Japan. Trump also accelerated his campaign to subvert the P5+1 Agreement with Iran.

The U.S. is now a nuclear armed banana republic. There are constant revelations of Trump's ignorance, conflicts of interest, disregard for the constitution and rule of law, secret meetings with Russian agents, attacks on the media, outrageous lies, and intrigues among White House factions. Trump's fascist assaults on truth, science and the rule of law undermine our democracy and increase the power and privileges of the rich, corporations and the military. This has nuclear implications. Trump pledged to "greatly strengthen and expand" the U.S. nuclear arsenal, called for a nuclear arms race, and made nuclear threats.

Like ASEAN, we must also address the provocative U.S., Chinese and Japanese military tensions and actions in the South China Sea, around Okinawa, and the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands. Incidents there could spark catastrophic escalation. These tensions result from inevitable friction between rising and declining powers, but there are diplomatic alternatives.

We know that while the Kim DPRK dynasty is ruthless, it isn't suicidal. Its nuclear arsenal serves to preserve the Dynasty and North Korean sovereignty. It is fueled by memories of Japanese colonialism, U.S. devastation during the Korean War, and U.S. preparations for and threats of nuclear attack. There is a diplomatic alternative to war with North Korea. Clearly, the U.S. should negotiate with Pyongyang, seeking a freeze of its nuclear and missile arsenals in exchange for scaling back joint military exercises and ending the Korean War with a Peace Agreement. Negotiations for denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula could follow.

Professor Anzai told us that like the number 72, the Ban is imperfect. High Representative Nakamitsu said that the nuclear powers policies can be transformed in many ways. Our will is critical, and the Ban provides us with a powerful tool. We will build the Ban with our Peace Wave, signature campaigns, lobbying and demonstrations. In Japan, the Ban's political tsunami will lead the way. In nuclear weapons states, we will use the Treaty to build our movements and work with Move the Money campaigns and Peace and Planet's commitment to a more unified and

powerful abolition, peace, justice and climate change movements.

Winning nuclear-free world requires defending and expanding constitutional democracy – including defending Article 9, and demilitarizing our societies. We also need to create conditions that prevent war and make great power nuclear disarmament possible. This includes supporting Okinawan resistance and the vision of Okinawa as a model for international peace. Maybe most important is nurturing the next generation of nuclear weapons abolitionists, because our struggle will be longer than any of us want.

So, let's celebrate the Ban and get back to work!

No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis!  
No More Hibakusha! No More Foreign Military  
Bases! No War with Korea! And No More War!

### **Hannah Tweddell Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament U.K.**

Konnichiwa, my name is Hannah. I am a Vice Chair of the campaign for nuclear disarmament. I would like to start by thanking the people of Japan during my first visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I have been humbled by your kindness and reinvigorated by your passion.

In the UK we have seen the surprise election of Jeremy Corbyn as Labour Party leader. Although CND is not party political working with all parties, we welcome the election of Corbyn, our former Vice Chair and now Vice President of CND. In the recent snap general election Labour did not win but did gain over 30 seats. Corbyn was just 2,227 votes from becoming Prime Minister.

At last, Labour has a leader that offers a genuine opposition to the Conservative Party and their nasty austerity policies. Someone who has campaigned for a more peaceful and just global society and has campaigned for nuclear abolition. Many of the British people have become excited by this genuine alternative, in particular young people. Many joined the party after his election.

During the election Corbyn was repeatedly interrogated by the media regarding his position on nuclear weapons. He argued for an alternative solution to conflict through dialogue. New members are organising around his principles. These new members are starting to stand for internal positions within the Labour Party as well as local Council candidates and will filter through to become progressive MPs.

We at CND are incredibly excited and hopeful about the Global Ban Treaty, despite the UK's failure to participate. The treaty is a significant step towards changing international attitudes to nuclear weapons. This treaty gives us a chance to further pressure politicians of all parties around the world who for years have hidden behind the excuse of being 'multilateralists' for the failure to act. An excuse my local Labour MP used in her defence when she voted for Trident replacement. The treaty gives a clear opportunity to join a global nuclear disarmament initiative. Previous treaties prohibiting chemical and biological weapons helped to stigmatise them in the minds of society. This is our opportunity to do the same for nuclear weapons.

It gives us the opportunity to share an alternative message of hope for a more peaceful world. There has been little coverage of the talks in the UK so we have gone out to spread the good news. In my home city of Bristol during the negotiations we travelled around the city announcing the news of the talks through a town crier, an old UK tradition for announcing good news. It was great to be sharing a positive message about nuclear weapon abolition. People were interested in hearing about the talks precisely because it was a positive story for the future.

Next year CND celebrates its 60th birthday. Before that we will join in with the peace wave. We will continue to lobby our representatives to support the UK's signing of the treaty. We will share the stories of the Hibakusha and of those affected by testing. We will shout loudly about the ban. We will stand in solidarity with our international friends.

I'd like to end with a quote from one of Corbyn's favourite poems by Shelly.

*“Rise, like lions after slumber  
In unvanquishable number!  
Shake your chains to earth like dew  
Which in sleep had fallen on you:  
Ye are many—they are few.”*

### **Han Seok-ho Committee for Social Solidarity, Korean Confederation of Trade Unions R.O.K.**

#### **For peace in Northeast Asia by making the best possible use of ‘Candle Revolution’ in South Korea**

On behalf of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, I first would like to extend my greetings in solidarity with all of you gathering in

this World Conference against A and H Bombs, wishing to establish a world without nuclear weapons and to protect Article 9 of your pacifist Constitution.

My name is Han Seok-ho, director of the Committee for Social Solidarity of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions. I am delighted to see you all.

Last winter, we Koreans succeeded in impeachment and arrest of President Park Geun-hye. A total of more than 10 million people with candles in their hands participated in the so-called Candle Revolution. This movement had several characteristic points.

First was that it was a civil revolution which was successful with the use of candles symbolizing non-violence. It turned out to be a historic proof that united, citizens can peacefully bring down illegitimate authority.

Secondly, both progressives and conservatives, except for pro-Park groups, came together. The power struggle between the conservative daily Choson Ilbo and the pro-Park force was also one of the key factors that brought about our successful candle action.

The third factor behind the revolution was public dissatisfaction with serious disparities and injustice in the society. The daughter of Choe Sun-sil, the very person who was involved in allegations regarding intervention in national politics, entered the prestigious Ewha Women's University in an underhanded way. Half of Korea's national workforce are now non-regular workers and more than 10% of young people are unemployed. These were the "core" of our candle action.

The fourth factor was the tragic sinking of the ferry Sewol. Although the incident killed 304 people, then President Park avoided hunting for the truth. She even trampled upon the voice of seven million people expressed in an international signature drive demanding a full accounting of the incident. I believe that the explosion of such anger was shown in the candle rally.

The fifth factor was that the candle rally evolved rather than being led. Neither progressives nor conservatives, or any other forces, could lead the candle movement in a certain direction. The conservatives tried to direct the movement toward compromises with the pro-Park force, but in vein. The progressives such as the Labor Party and citizens' groups worked together as an "urgent national action against the Park regime". However, all they did was rally planning.

As a result of the Candle Revolution, the Saenuri Party representing the conservatives of Korean society and the existing power was split

into two political parties: the Liberal Korea Party and the Bareun Party. Then, Mun Jae-in who called for "breaking away from the pent-up harmful effects" and "establishing a fair society" became the new president. At present, his approval ratings are as high as 70%-80%. The support rating for the ruling party stands at more than 50%. Adding the support rating for the Justice Party, which is progressive reformist, the rating goes up to more than 60%.

However, in terms of the number of parliamentary seats, the Mun-led governing party is still a minority. Out of the 299 seats, the ruling party has 120 seats. With the six seats of the Justice Party and two seats of the independents who used to be labor activists, the total number of seats in support of Mun is still 128. Yet, the Mun government can make the best use of the energy of the Candle Revolution as its driving force. This government has no cozy ties with business barons. These business barons and the large corporate complex have played a part in the Park-Chae syndicate, dubbed "Park Geun-hye Chae Sun-sil gate". This fact provides advantageous conditions to the Mun government in dealing with internal politics.

Many social and economic issues are lying before the Mun administration to solve, such as social disparities which are said to be the worst among OECD nations and the young unemployment problem. The issue of peace and security on the Korean Peninsula as well as the political climate surrounding East Asia are also very difficult challenges to address. It is necessary to wisely cope with these issues to find solutions. If not, the forces which cling to vested interests may launch a counterattack.

Differences exist among Korean progressive movements in their positions towards the Mun government. Part of labor movements thinks that struggles against the government should be prioritized because the present government is still a neo-liberal regime. However, what a majority of labor movements and progressive organizations believe is that they must attach importance to the reformist aspect of the government and must keep focusing on cooperation and playing a leading role in those cooperative activities. That is why the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions decided to join the "Job Creation Committee" which was set directly under the direct control of the president.

The Mun government, amid leaders of neighboring super powers most of whom are hardline rightists, has to try to maintain peace and address the North Korean issue. At the moment, the South Korean government seems to be placing priority on the restart of dialogue with North

Korea to promote exchanges between North and South Korea.

Stances towards North Korea's nuclear issue vary even among progressive forces. Based on the principle of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula, one believes that we should firmly oppose nuclear armament of North Korea while the other believes that we should give consideration to the actual situation in which North Korea is forced to be. Whichever way, I think that the principle of denuclearizing the Peninsula must be maintained. North Korea's nuclear buildup is not good for East Asian peace and for North Korea itself as well. Its nuclear armament could even pose a threat to the Japanese "pacifist Constitution".

The international community should never ever forget the tragedy of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We should remember the anguish of the Hibakusha.

### **Lisa Clark** **International Peace Bureau**

This was my first time at the World Conference. Let me thank Gensuikyo for having allowed me to enjoy this extraordinary experience. The International Peace Bureau (IPB) is dedicated to the vision of a world without war.

We are here, all of us, full of excitement thanks to the vote at the United Nations on the 7th of July, when 122 States approved the text of a Treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons, an achievement that we have worked towards for years! This success has given us new energies. The Treaty opens the door to a new age of United Nations initiated disarmament agreements. As Prof Anzai said, It is our imperfect but powerful Treaty, our Achilles Treaty. Powerful, because it gives us strength. Imperfect, because we need to act to get it ratified by the widest possible number of States.

The new Treaty has created a new climate, strengthening the alliance of civil society and governments that achieved this result. The world's peace movements must now engage in a whole range of activities to ensure the Ban Treaty is ratified.

At this World Conference we have proposed a global "Peace Wave", with actions all over the world being organized between the 20th and the 26th of September, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. Each one of our countries and movements can organize its own events, but we can be coordinated into a vast "Wave" of anti-nuclear activism across the globe.

The Hibakushas are willing to renew the pain

of retelling their stories so that humanity can learn from their experience, so that no one else ever suffers what they went through. Our brothers and sisters from the Marshall Islands and Australia will help us understand the horrors of nuclear testing, when human beings were considered merely part of the flora and fauna. And all the other victims of the nuclear fuel cycle and of inhumane weapons of war will help us educate the younger generations. For we know from experience that is only the solidarity of citizens and peoples that can provide us with the real power to find peaceful solutions.

It is our duty to convince all governments, including those of NATO and nuclear-umbrella countries, to ratify the Treaty. Including Japan, of course! To do this we must rally our citizen's movements in support of our vision of a nuclear-weapon-free world, forge alliances across the generations, bringing together professional associations and trade unions, students and young workers. We can organize inter-faith prayer meetings, participate in our local government institutions and get resolutions adopted, convince parliamentarians to propose motions in our national and international democratic institutions. Our global Peace Wave must turn into a "Ratify the Ban Treaty" Tsunami!

Our first goal is to ensure that the Treaty enters into force, but our ultimate objective is the elimination of nuclear weapons. For this, we need to promote a culture of peace, including support for broader disarmament campaigns. We need to provide activists with the tools for analysing the cost of weapons, militarism and war; to collaborate in the global campaign against military spending, including by proposing alternative budgets for positive peace programmes.

I look forward to putting into practice all the exciting new proposals we have shared over the past few days in this World Conference! We are full of ideas and creativity. Let's build on the enthusiasm created by the approval of the Ban Treaty. The IPB with its over 300 member organizations will actively support and accompany this process. You, in Japan, will redouble your efforts at sharing the legacy of the Hibakusha, at opposing the militarism of foreign bases, at showing the Japanese government that you are the majority! We, in Italy, shall build on the history we are proud of (the first modern state to abolish the death penalty, the peaceful Constitution we share with Japan). And the International Peace Bureau, like other international coordinating structures, will enable us all to make the most of our networks, spreading our activism across the globe in a vast Culture of Peace Wave!

No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis!  
Ours is the vision of a world without war and free of nuclear weapons.

### **Determination of Grass-Roots Activist of the A-bombed Country:**

**Yamamoto Jura**  
**Chairperson, Sapporo Shiroishi-  
Atsubetsu Regional Committee,  
Democratic Youth League of Japan**

This year's "Declaration of the International Meeting" concludes with the following call; "Now that the door to a 'nuclear weapon-free world' is open, let us walk forward with young people in high spirit to achieve it." We have 76 young people under the age of 30 participating in from Hokkaido. My name is Yamamoto Jura, I'm 21 years old, and I'm the Chairperson of the Sapporo Shiroishi-Atsubetsu Regional Committee of the Democratic Youth League of Japan.

In July, in front of the JR Shiroishi station, we held a signature collection action and polled opinions among high school students, asking them to vote using colored seals. Seventeen students voted in favor of the option: "nuclear weapons should be abolished", as against one student who voted for "I don't know." When asked of their opinion about the Japanese government's refusal to sign the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, all 18 students answered that they were against that attitude. When asked why, they said, "Because there is smell of war in it" or "Because many people will die." Then, dialogues followed.

Support of the Hibakusha Appeal is spreading among municipal officials and staff in many cities because "it is a petition, they say, initiated by the Hibakusha themselves." When we visited municipalities with our Peace March, we asked them to collect signatures from their citizens. As the result, the Tokachi Peace March Committee received 322 signatures sent by mail from the mayor of Ashoro, 332 from the deputy mayor of Honbetsu, and 343 from the town of Makubetsu. On June 30, the mayor of Atsuma signed. This lifted the total number of the mayors who endorsed the petition to 136.

Learning from the example of Togitsu-machi in Nagasaki Prefecture, Furano Gensuikyo asked the City Government to install a Hibakusha signatures desk on the first floor of the city hall. It agreed and installed the campaign space, which is open until the end of this August. At the request by Obihiro Gensuikyo, Obihiro City's Commission for the Promotion of its Declaration

for the Elimination of Nuclear weapons and Peace agreed that it would set up a special space for signing the Hibakusha Appeal petition at peace exhibitions and community centers.

Now it is an obligation for us, the Japanese movement, to place pressure on the Japanese government. Eniwa is a city hosting a large exercise ground for the Self-Defense Forces. In June, however, it unanimously adopted an opinion note to urge the Japanese government to participate in the negotiations on the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty and support it. In the Kitahiroshima City Assembly, a similar statement to the Japanese Government was adopted as requested by the Kitahiroshima Gensuikyo.

I will continue our work together with the Hibakusha to spread the cooperation with local governments. Entrusting voices and actions of the people in northern island to the signatures, I am determined to achieve a nuclear weapons free-world from my town.

### **Proposal of actions:**

**Yasui Masakazu**  
**Secretary General, Japan Council against  
A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo)**

Thank you for your active participation and intense discussion during the three days of the Conference.

First of all, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude and warmest solidarity to Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the UN, who came all the way to Nagasaki to join us here at the Conference. Also to Ambassador Elayne Whyte Gómez, who sent us a message, to Mr. Martin Krüger, Deputy Head of the Department for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation of the Foreign Ministry of Austria. In addition, to the other government representatives, the overseas delegates from anti-nuclear peace movements in Asia, the Pacific Region, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, North and South America and from international organizations. My thanks also go to Mayor Taue Tomihisa of Nagasaki who addressed the Conference, Mayor Matsui Kazumi of Hiroshima, Governor Onaga Takeshi of Okinawa and all other mayors who kindly delivered messages, the representatives from political parties and civil society movements, and to the Hibakusha and other nuclear victims from within Japan and overseas. I also want to express my warm appreciation to all friends in Nagasaki who have

helped to prepare the conference, interpreters, staffers and all the other friends who supported the conference.

The World Conference this year is being held under a new situation where a treaty to ban nuclear weapons, which renders nuclear weapons illegal for the first time in history, has been adopted.

As the Organizer's Report pointed out, "to the eyes of large numbers of people who have committed themselves to the movement to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs for more than 60 years it was a "magnificent incident that turned a distant-looking idea into a reality before their faces", a milestone leading towards their total elimination.

In the conference, we shared our joy at the adoption of the nuclear prohibition treaty and deepened our understanding of its historic significance, which stiffened our conviction in the movement. Let us read and learn a lot from the treaty, solidify our conviction and make our movement more powerful.

The key is to make the most of it to bring forward our campaign towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. To this end, let us, first of all, build up the movement and public support for it in this A-bombed country, starting with the "Peace Wave" actions from September 20 through 26, which the International Meeting of our Conference proposed to the world.

The discussions during the conference showed that the conditions for Japan to build a great majority in support of the treaty are growing.

In all six prefectures of Northeast Japan where cooperation between citizens' movements and all

opposition parties is taking place, liaison bodies to promote the signature campaign have been formed and the efforts promoted at the prefectural level. In Yamaguchi Prefecture, Prime Minister Abe's home prefecture, too, a wide-ranging signature campaign has started to reach its goal of 1 million signatures. In Gifu Prefecture, campaigners visited city halls and local assembly members in all municipalities under the prefecture and asked for their support of the "Hibakusha Appeal". As a result, it was signed by the mayors of 7 cities and 16 towns and villages, and by 100 local assembly members and some the staffers of some 1,000 municipalities. Cooperation with local governments and assemblies is thus spreading.

Above all, it is a great encouragement that in this A-bombed city Nagasaki, the mayor and the prefectural governor stand in the forefront of the citizens campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal.

Let us take this opportunity to start dialogue with all organizations and individuals who support the treaty, and build cooperation with them to contribute to developing anew a nationwide joint campaign to press the national government of this A-bombed country to participate in the treaty and lead in the effort for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Let us hold as many meetings as possible to report back on the achievements of this Conference everywhere in the country. Let us learn the Declaration of the International Meeting and the resolutions adopted at this conference and rise in actions. Let us walk forward in order to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.



## **Nagasaki Resolution, 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs**

### **Call from Nagasaki**

*“The nuclear weapon was created by the humans, used by the humans and therefore to be abolished by the humans. I call on everyone: Let us ban and eliminate all nuclear weapons.*

*--Speech by Wada Masako, Hibakusha of Nagasaki,  
at the U.N. Conference on June 19, 2017*

The US atomic bombing changed the city of Nagasaki into a hell on earth in which people were allowed neither to die or to live as human beings. The voices calling for “No More Hibakusha” have been heard at long last by the rest of the world, leading to the creation of a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons. We wholeheartedly welcome the realization of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We are resolved to make use of the treaty as a source of energy to further advance toward the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs at its International Meeting proposed a concerted “Peace Wave” action linking diverse grassroots activities calling on all governments to sign the treaty starting September 20, the day the treaty will be open for signature, through the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on September 26. Let us begin as soon as possible to prepare the action.

The treaty has stigmatized nuclear weapons as inhumane weapons and made it illegal to carry out all activities associated with nuclear weapons, from development, testing, possession, to their use and even the threat to use them. We demand that all states tackle the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by immediately sign and ratify the treaty. Let us begin with the “Peace Wave” action to create a massive surge in public opinion and movement to make the Treaty come into force, leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

In Japan, we must isolate the government of Prime Minister Abe Shinzo, which is turning its back on the Ban Treaty and rushing to adversely revise the Constitution’s war-renouncing Article 9 and establish preparedness to wage war abroad. Let us fight to get Japan removed from the US “nuclear umbrella” and establish a government that will participate in the treaty. The Japanese people’s movement has an obligation to the world to push the government of this atom-bombed country to sign the treaty and take the lead toward the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Many people who have individually participated in such movements are beginning to join forces with others to achieve the shared objective. Let us create this type of common action across the country so that we can use the new power of people’s cooperation to realize a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan and a world without nuclear weapons.

Let us learn more about the treaty and explain to others what it is. Let us further spread the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. In cooperation with mayors and local assembly members, let us involve local municipalities and communities in this signature campaign.

Let us demand that the Japanese government get out from under the US “nuclear umbrella” and sign the Treaty. Let us demand that the government strictly observe the Three Non-Nuclear Principles and encode those principles in legislation.

Let us spread the message to more and more people about the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons and the need to do away with such weapons. Let us tell about the damage and aftereffects of atomic bomb radiation exposure. Let us organize A-bomb exhibitions and meetings to hear Hibakusha tell about their experience. Let us demand a far-reaching improvement in the system of certifying illnesses as caused by A-bomb radiation exposure and provision of the state compensation for Hibakusha. We must strengthen our activities to support and extend solidarity with Hibakusha. Let us step up peace education, which the treaty emphasizes as an important effort to make.

While turning its back on the treaty, the Abe government is intent on adversely revising the Constitution’s Article 9. Let us use the power of the joint effort of the citizens’ movement and opposition parties to press the Abe government to dissolve the House of Representatives for a general election. Let us extend our firm solidarity with the All-Okinawa struggle to further the campaign to stop the construction of a new US base in Henoko and win a reduction and removal of US military bases, including a removal of Osprey aircraft. Let us oppose the further strengthening of the Japan-US military alliance and repeal the recently enacted war and conspiracy laws.

Let us oppose the restart of nuclear reactors and demand a shift from nuclear energy to renewable sources. Let us redouble our efforts to fight against the destruction of gainful employment and people’s livelihoods, the expanding income gap and resultant poverty; let us redouble our efforts to cut in military expenditures and protect social welfare services and education.

People are now overjoyed at the page of this treaty. There are people who, irrespective of political views, are participating in the campaign calling to gather signatures in support of the Hibakusha Appeal to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. Growing cooperation between the citizens’ movement and opposition parties is helping to increase cooperation among people who have until now been unacquainted with each other. Now is the time to decidedly step into a new type of joint action. Let us join hands with the Hibakusha to work with young people to open up the future.

No more Nagasakis! No more Hiroshimas! No more Hibakusha!  
Let Nagasaki be the last target of a nuclear attack!

August 9, 2017

2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs - Nagasaki

## Appendices:

### Overseas Delegates and Guests in the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

#### Representatives of National Governments/ Inter-Governmental Organizations

Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, High Representative for  
Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations

Mr. Martin Krüger, Deputy Director for  
Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-  
Proliferation, Federal Ministry for Europe,  
Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria

Ms. Maylem Rivero, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim,  
Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan

Mr. Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador to Japan,  
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

#### Peace Movement Representatives & Individuals

##### Asia-Pacific Region

##### Australia

Ms. Susanne Coleman-Haseldine, Aboriginal  
nuclear test survivor

Mr. Simon John Prideaux, Ditto

##### Marshall Islands

Ms. Abacca Anjain-Maddison, Former Senator/ Iju  
in Ean Club, Women of Rongelap Atoll

Mr. Mores Abraham, Member of Enewetak Atoll  
Local Council/ Elimondik

##### The Philippines

Ms. Corazon Valdez Fabros, Secretary General,  
Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition

Ms. Adoracion Moreno, Nuclear-Free Philippines  
Coalition

Ms. Eulit Fernandez Torres, Executive Director,  
Tri-People's Organization against Disaster  
(TRIPOD) Foundation

Mr. Guerrero AG Saño, Director, Board of

Trustees, Teach Peace Build Peace/ Director,  
Art for Peace Missions/ International Youth  
Relay Marcher

Mr. Magiting Fabros, Social Service and Outreach  
Coordinator, Peace Women Partners, Inc.

Ms. Abeline Salacata, Education Coordinator,  
STOP the War Coalition - Philippines

##### Republic of Korea

Mr. Lee Kwang-ki, Director, Korean Atomic Bomb  
Casualty Association

Ms. Park Jung-soon, Steering Committee Member,  
Busan Chapter, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty  
Association

Mr. Gong Kee Yun, Korean Atomic Bomb  
Casualty Association

Mr. Han Seok-ho, Director, Committee for Social  
Solidarity, Korean Confederation of Trade  
Unions

Mr. Lee Jun Kyu, Adjunct Research Fellow, Center  
for Peace Research and Education of  
KYOREH HANA

Mr. Lee Jae-Hwan, Civil Network for Justice in  
Sports - Korea

Mr. Kim Kyung Il, Director, People's Health  
Institute/ Neurosurgeon

Ms. Kim Shinae, Director of Culture, Daegu  
Association of Physicians for  
Humanism/Family physician

Ms. Moon Jung Ju, Adjunct Professor, Medical  
College of Seoul National University

Mr. Choung Moon Yong, Busan Association of  
Physicians for Humanism/ Family medicine  
resident

Ms. Lee Bora, Secretary-general, Association of  
Physicians for Humanism/ Pulmonologist

Ms. Kang Ah Reum, Staff, Association of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. Kim Minji, Association of Physicians for Humanism/ General Practitioner

Ms. Kim Sun Joo, Staff, Daegu Association of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. Jeong Seok Soon, Director of Youth and Student Department, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society/ Dentist

Ms. Jung Jinmee, Staff, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Mr. Kim Seong-Rok, Premedical course 2nd grade student, College of Medicine, Keimyung University

Mr. Rhee Byung Kwon, Regular course 1st grade student, College of Medicine, Kyung Hee University

Ms. Lee Saelim, Premedical course 2nd grade student, College of Medicine, Dankook University

Ms. An Eunsun, Reporter of Gunchinews

#### **Vietnam**

Mr. Dong Huy Cuong, Secretary General, Vietnam Peace Committee

Mr. Tran Hong Quang, Vietnam Peace Committee/ Permanent Vice President, Hoa Binh Provincial Union of Friendship Organisations

Mr. Nguyen The Luc, Vice-President-General Secretary, Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA)

Ms. Tran Thi Que Luong, Assistant to International Relations Department, VAVA

#### **Nepal**

Mr. Gopal Prasad Pokharel, Secretary General, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal

Ms. Manisha Thapa, Secretary, AAPSO-Nepal

Mr. Rajesh Bajracharya, C.C. Member, AAPSO-Nepal

Ms. Rashmi Shakya, C.C. Member, AAPSO-Nepal

Mr. Rabindra Adhikari, Coordinator, Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council (NPSC)

Mr. Kumar Malla, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Mahesh Kumar Malla, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Ganesh Paudyal, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Thaindra Rijal, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Jeewan Kumar Shrestha, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Santosh Shrestha, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Suman Shrestha, National Council Member, NPSC

#### **India**

Mr. Sudhir Tulshiram Dhurwey, Executive member, District Bar Association, Nagpur

Mr. Sheshrao Mate, Executive member, District Bar Association, Nagpur

Ms. Archana Kirti Bodele, Vice President, Center for Cultural, Educational & Economic Studies, Nagpur

Mr. Kirti Baliram Bodele, Executive Committee member, Center for Cultural, Educational & Economic Studies, Nagpur

Mr. Ramakrushna Panda, Secretary General, Indian Society for Cultural Cooperation & Friendship, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Mr. Maheswar Rout, Vice President, Indian Society for Cultural Cooperation & Friendship, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

#### **Europe**

##### **Germany**

Mr. Wolfgang Schlupp-Hauck, Chairman, Friedens Werkstatt Mutlangen

##### **France**

Mr. Roland Nivet, National Secretary, French Peace Movement (Le Mouvement de la Paix)

Ms. Fatima Zedira, National Board Member,  
French Peace Movement

Mr. Claude Chapet, President, St-Denis  
Committee, French Peace Movement

### **United Kingdom**

Ms. Hannah Tweddell, Vice-Chair, Campaign for  
Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

Mr. Mark Pickering, Campaign for Nuclear  
Disarmament (CND)

### **Middle East & Africa**

#### **Algeria**

Mr. Hacene Benmechiche, Teacher/ Oleander  
Initiative of the University of the Middle East  
Project

#### **Egypt**

Ms. Violet Nazeem, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of  
the University of the Middle East Project

#### **Jordan**

Ms. Suha Al-Atrash, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative  
of the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Iman Al-Omari, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative  
of the University of the Middle East Project

#### **Lebanon**

Ms. Aline Alam, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of  
the University of the Middle East Project

Mr. Khalil Smidi, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of  
the University of the Middle East Project

#### **Morocco**

Mr. Youssef El Kaidi, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative  
of the University of the Middle East Project

#### **Palestine**

Ms. Bronka Tahboub, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative  
of the University of the Middle East Project

#### **Tunisia**

Mr. Chaouki M'kaddem, Teacher/ Oleander  
Initiative of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Ms. Layla Ben Said, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative  
of the University of the Middle East Project

### **North & South America**

#### **U.S.A.**

Mr. Joseph Gerson, Executive Director, Campaign  
for Peace, Disarmament and Common  
Security/ Director of Peace and Economic  
Security Program, American Friends Service  
Committee (AFSC)

Mr. Jim Anderson, President, Peace Action New  
York State

Ms. Frances Motiwalla, Deputy Director of  
Development, Peace Action

Ms. Kayla Worley, Tufts Peace Action/  
International Youth Relay Marcher

Mr. Samuel Joseph, Tufts Peace Action/  
International Youth Relay Marcher

Mr. Christian Ciobanu, Nuclear Age Peace  
Foundation

Mr. Ray Matsumiya, Executive Director,  
University of the Middle East Project/  
Oleander Initiative

Ms. Mary Popeo, Oleander Initiative Program  
Manager of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Ms. Michelle Emmet, Oleander Initiative organizer  
of the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Galia Shokry, Oleander Initiative organizer of  
the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Elizabeth Gruenfeld, Oleander Initiative  
organizer of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Mr. Michael Otterman, Oleander Initiative  
organizer of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Ms. Kathleen Sullivan, Oleander Initiative  
organizer of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Ms. Kurozumi Kanade, Oleander Initiative  
organizer of the University of the Middle East  
Project

Mr. Matt Winters, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of  
the University of the Middle East Project

Mr. Dunn Woods, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Brittany Fitzgibbon, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Dianne Lochhead, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of the University of the Middle East Project

Mr. Eric Northard, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of the University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Akamatsu Atsuko, Teacher/ Oleander Initiative of the University of the Middle East Project

## International & Regional Organizations

Ms. Lisa Clark, Co-President, International Peace Bureau

Ms. Jacqueline Cabasso, Coordinating Committee member, Abolition 2000/ Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation, U.S.A.

Mr. Jammu Narayana Rao, Director of India, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space

Ms. Shibata Masako, Executive Committee member, Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF)/ President, Japan Federation of Women's Organizations



# Massages of Solidarity from Overseas to the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

## **International Institutions/National Governments:**

*(Please see page 10 for the texts)*

### **Austria**

Alexander Van der Bellen, the Federal President

### **Brazil**

Mr. Michel Temer, President

### **Costa Rica**

Ms. Elayne Whyte Gómez, President of the U.N. Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards its total elimination/ Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva

### **Ireland**

Mr. Michael D. Higgins, President

### **Laos**

Mr. Bounnhang Vorachith, President

### **Lithuania**

Mr. Saulius Skvernelis, Prime Minister

### **South Africa**

Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma, President

### **Viet Nam**

Mr. Tran Dai Quang, President

### **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)**

Mr. Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

### **International Committee of the Red Cross**

Mr. Peter Maurer, President

## **Anti-nuclear and Peace Movements:**

### **Ambassador Sergio Duarte, Former U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**

Thank you for sending me your call for support. I fully support your untiring efforts to achieve nuclear disarmament and am in agreement with the aspiration of hibakusha that it becomes a reality in their lifetime. I shall attend the March 27-31 and the June-July Sessions of the Conference on the

Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and hope to cooperate with you for the success of the Conference.

### **Milva N. Kabirova, Chelyabinsk, Russia**

My dear colleagues! These days I am with you. My very best wishes and successful work of the conference. Greeting to all organizers, I remember with warmth past years.

### **Gediminas Rimdeika, Lithuanian Green Party/ Green Policy Institute, Lithuania**

Today the 2017 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Weapons begins.

All of you will commemorate this tragedy in Hiroshima and Nagasaki while North Korea keeps on testing nuclear weapons. The world said NO to these unexpected actions. These actions were also condemned in my country Lithuania because we clearly understand that Hibakusha story cannot be repeated. So, all your opinions stated and all the moves made during The World Conference must be implemented. And all the nuclear states must continue on to total abolition of nuclear weapons. We must put so much hope on new generation fight for nuclear free world. I bend down to all the people who underwent explosions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and were the first ones who started this movement. I respect those who till present days continue this mission and I hope that nowadays students will continue our successful work. I am proud with my son Danas who is continuing this honorable mission. Only by giving our ideas from generation to generation we will succeed our mission and peaceful world will be guaranteed.

Dear friends, it's been 25 years this years since I started to participate in your movement. Since then you have changed many things in this world, many significant victories have been achieved for reducing nuclear weapons number in the planet. I am honored that I had an opportunity to spend all this time together with you. Only by going together with our governments we will be able to achieve our goal. I wish to The World Conference successful and efficient work.

### **Manabendra Nath Mandal, Chairman, Indian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (ICND)**

Indian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (ICND) congratulates you on the occasion of 2017

World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bomb being organized by the Japan Gensuikyo from August 3 – 9, 2017 at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I am sure that the conference will be a step forward toward stopping production of A & H Bomb and preventing countries stop using them for annihilation of human race. Wish your conference a grand success.

**Srikumar Mukherjee, All India Peace and Solidarity Organization, India**

The human bonding all over the world against warmongers can bring peace. Down those leaders of different countries who consider that peace can be achieved through balance of powers in respect of bombs or destructive materials or through different unwanted treaties. Our duty is to be united against devils so that the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki won't be repeated and tears of sadness out of war be disappeared and tears of joy prevail.

**Ashis Kanungo, All India Kishan Sabha, India**

Successful World wide campaign for abolition of all Atomic, Nuclear and Hydrogen Weapons for World Peace.

**Andrew, Jacqui and the Coordinating Committee, Greater Manchester & District CND, U.K.**

Every year in August, we get together to remember those who died or were injured in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Over 200,000 people perished in those terrible attacks. With the UK government about to embark on its Trident replacement programme, which utilises warheads many times more powerful than those used in Japan, it is essential that we reflect on the human and environmental costs of nuclear warfare.

There will be four activities over the 5th to 6th August, at Manchester Museum, in Heaton Park, in Bolton and in Stockport. Please try to make it to one of these events.

We have also included a video below, about a recent visit to Greater Manchester from two survivors of the Hiroshima bombing, whose company we are greatly missing.

**Phyllis Creighton (Science for Peace), Toronto, Canada**

Remembering the World Conferences I took part in (2001 and 2005), from Canada I wish you every success in your deliberations. At this turning-point in history, let us celebrate the achievement of the ban treaty inspired by the hibakusha! Canada and Japan shamed us by boycotting the treaty negotiations, so we have hard work ahead of us, to

get the treaty signed and in force. But we cannot rest until we have achieved the abolition of nuclear weapons. What states alone could not do in more than 70 years, citizens and diplomats together did and we must persist to ensure that never again will any human being suffer the agony of nuclear attack. In solidarity, in many places on August 6th and 9th we will renew our determination at commemorations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We look to you for leadership and inspiration!

**Dyane Brown, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Nanaimo Branch, Canada**

Nanaimo's sixteenth annual Lanterns for Peace Ceremony will be held on Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup>. Lanterns will be launched at dusk at Swa A Lana Lagoon on Nanaimo's waterfront. This is an event for everyone including families and children.

The ceremony is to commemorate the anniversary of the first use of the atomic bomb when the city of Hiroshima was reduced to ashes in 1945. The City of Nanaimo has declared August 6<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Day, in Nanaimo. This is in keeping with Nanaimo's status as a nuclear-weapons-free city and with past proclamations by the City.

The evening will begin with peace songs at 8 pm by The Owl and The Pussycat. The Lantern Ceremony begins at 9 pm and includes a reading of the Proclamation from the City of Nanaimo about Hiroshima Day, The Everybody Sings Choir, Margaret Sutton playing the Shakuhachi. (Japanese flute) and words by our MP Sheila Malcolmson. The public is invited to help launch the lanterns at 9.30.

The ceremony is organized each year by the Nanaimo Chapter of WILPF, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the oldest women's international peace group, beginning in 1915.

**Andrea LeBlanc (September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows), USA**

Dear Friends in Japan,

My thoughts are with you all today. I send you my love and gratitude for your steadfast commitment and persistence in the struggle to ban nuclear weapons from this our one and only world. Among my strongest memories of being with you those many weeks during Stonewalk Japan and then Stonewalk Korea, was your positive courage, your kindness to everyone, your gentle joy in the journey and your smiling faces!

You are the best evidence that despite humanity's terrible ability and willingness to do great harm, humans are also capable of great wisdom and love for all that lives on this planet.

With heartfelt love and deepest gratitude for who you are, Andrea

**John Steinbach, Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area, U.S.A.**

For the past 36 years, the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area has been organizing for the abolition of nuclear weapons and power, and in support of nuclear victims. We believe that if the world is to avoid repeating the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we must strive to keep alive the memory of the bombings. This August we again plan a full schedule of events.

This summer we welcome a Korean Hibakusha, Ms. Jon Sung Lee. Ms. Lee was 12 years old when she experienced the Hiroshima bombing. Her family were part of the large Korean community in Hiroshima forced to work in Japan during WW2. She entered Hiroshima three days after the bombing and was exposed to the radiation. Ms. Lee will be joined by Dennis Nelson who will testify about his experience as a 'Downwinder' from St. George Utah. He will be joined by his wife Denise Nelson who will talk about their tireless work with Support and Education for Radiation Victims (SERV). In addition, we will have a special showing of the film "Goyou -Pine Bonsai ; Hiroshima Survivor".

entire public schedule is listed below. Please make every effort to attend one of the Commemoration activities, and please forward this letter as widely as possible.

The website of The Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area is located on the Web at:

[http://hiroshimapeacecommittee.net/?page\\_id=69](http://hiroshimapeacecommittee.net/?page_id=69)

**2017 Hiroshima/Nagasaki Calendar with Hibakusha & Downwinder Testimonies  
Hiroshima Peace Commemoration**

Contact: John Steinbach: johnsteinbach1@verizon.net

**Saturday, August 5, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

St. Stephen's & the Incarnation Church, 1525 Newton St, WDC 20015

There will be a moment's silence at 7:15pm to commemorate the Hiroshima catastrophe. Special showing of the video "Goyou -Pine Bonsai ; Hiroshima Survivor".

**Frederick Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration with Hibakusha Testimonies  
Sunday, August 6, 4:00 pm**

Frederick Friends Meeting, 723 North Market, Frederick, MD 21701

Sponsored by Frederick Women in Black  
Nagasaki Candlelight Vigil

Tuesday, August 8, 9:45 pm  
White House (Lafayette Park)

Moment's Silence at 10:02, sharing of thoughts for peace. Candlelight Vigil

**Baltimore Hiroshima/ Nagasaki Commemoration with Hibakusha Testimonies**

Wednesday, August 9, 6:30pm (Picket signs for disarmament 5:30pm at 33rd & Charles St.)

Homewood Friends Meeting House 3107 N Charles St Baltimore, MD 21218

Sponsored by Baltimore Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration Committee.

**Siddharth Divakaruni, Student of Tufts University, U.S.A.**

I am writing with regards to the invitation to the World Conference 2017 you sent me a few weeks ago. I regret to inform all of you that due to prior, unforeseeable commitments, I will not be able to attend the World Conference next month despite your gracious invitation.

I first want to thank you for considering me and my application. I know this must be a huge inconvenience, and I do apologize for any difficulty this decision may cause you all.

Please be in touch if you feel I may be of service in any way. I hope the Conference goes smoothly and provides a place for robust discussion.

**Peace Women Partners (Asia-Pacific)**

We join the Hibakushas and all peace-loving citizens of the world in celebrating the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the United Nations. This is a fruit of the tireless work that the Hibakushas have initiated since the 1950s. It is an expression of humanity's desire to attain the highest ideals of world peace and justice based on law.

We believe that the leaders and people of the nations that signed the treaty will hold steadfast to ratify the treaty and make it a part of international law. We call on the citizens of the nuclear-armed countries who refused to sign the treaty to lobby with their leaders towards the goal of nuclear disarmament.

Peace Women Partners supports the call of the World Conference organizers for A Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World. We stand now at the dawn of world peace! We shall overcome! (Signed by International Coordinating Council members)

**Rene Wadlow, President, Association of World Citizens**

Dear Colleagues, Thank you for the analysis and the notice of the meetings this summer in Japan. The

Association of World Citizens is supporting the ban negotiations at the UN and had been involved in

preparatory meetings in Vienna. Please keep us informed of our efforts.

## **Program of Events of the 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs (August 2 to 10, 2017)**

### **August 2 (Wed)**

Dedication of flowers to Hiroshima A-Bomb Memorial Cenotaph (Peace Park); Visit to Peace Memorial Museum; Registration (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)  
Information meeting for overseas delegates (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

### **August 3 (Thu.)**

Visit to Hibakusha in 3 groups: 1) Hiroshima A-bomb Hospital; 2) Hiroshima Kyoritsu Hospital;  
3) Mutsumien Nursing Home for the Hibakusha  
Opening and Plenary Sessions I & II, International Meeting (Ginga, Hiroshima City Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)

### **August 4 (Fri.)**

Plenary Session III, International Meeting (Ginga, 3F, Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)  
Workshops, International Meeting (Ginga-A and Ginga-B of Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall and Room #201 of Tsuru Gakuen Hiroshima School)  
Drafting Committee Meeting (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

### **August 5 (Sat.)**

Closing Session, International Meeting (Ginga, Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)  
Exchange meeting of overseas delegates and citizens (Ginga, Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)

### **August 6 (Sun)**

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony (Peace Park)  
Hiroshima Day Rally (Green Arena, Hiroshima Prefectural Gymnasium)  
Lantern Floating Ceremony (Motomachi River Park, north of Aioi Bridge)

### **August 7 (Mon)**

Move to Nagasaki by chartered bus/train  
Opening Plenary, 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs - Nagasaki (Nagasaki Shimin Kaikan Gymnasium)  
*Youth Rally: Ring! Link! Zero 2017 in Nagasaki (Nagasaki Shimin Kaikan Gymnasium)*

### **August 8 (Tue)**

Workshops and field trips (different venues in Nagasaki City)  
International Forum: Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons -- Dialogue between Governments and Grass-Roots Movements (Chitosepia Hall)  
Special Solidarity Meeting: Achieving a Nuclear-Free and Bases-Free Japan; Solidarity with Okinawa (NBC Media Two)  
Visit to Nagasaki Red Cross A-Bomb Hospital  
*No Nukes! Women's Forum 2017 (Nagasaki Shimin Kaikan Gymnasium)*

### **August 9 (Wed.)**

Closing Plenary, 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs - Nagasaki (Nagasaki Shimin Kaikan Gymnasium)  
Nagasaki Day Street Signature Campaign (Hamanomachi Shopping Arcade)  
Farewell Party (Nagasaki Washington Hotel)

### **August 10 (Thurs)**

Departure of overseas delegates; Visit to local groups

# **List of Organizing Committee Members of the World Conference against A and H Bombs (As of August 2017)**

## **Member Organizations (INPO):**

National Confederation of Trade Unions (ZENROREN)  
All Japan Teachers and Staff Union (ZENKYO)  
Japan Federation of Private University Teachers' and Employees' Unions  
All Judicial Workers' Union  
Labor Union of MLIT (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, Tourism), JMA (Japan Meteorological Agency) and Affiliates  
All Japan Non-Life Insurance Labor Union  
Japan Social Welfare and Child-Nursing Workers Union  
National Confederation of Automobile Transportation Workers Unions  
Japanese Democratic Writers Association  
National Council of Singing Voice of Japan Organizations  
Japan Federation of Women's Organizations (FUDANREN)  
All Japan Federation of Student Unions (ZENGAKUREN)  
League of Public Order Maintenance Law Victims for State Compensation  
Japan Peace Committee  
Japan-Eurasia Society  
Japan-China Friendship Association  
Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee  
Japan Family Farmers Movement (NOUMINREN)  
All Health and Welfare Ministry Workers Union  
National General Workers Union - National Confederation of Trade Unions  
Congress of Poets  
National Federation of Tenants' Associations  
Japan Federation of Democratic Medical Institutions (MIN-IREN)  
National Council of Visual Disabled in Japan  
New Japan Women's Association (SHINFUJIN)  
Japan Customs Personnel Labour Union  
Japan Federation of National Public Service Employees' Unions  
Japan Federation of Publishing Workers' Unions  
National Federation of Financial Industry Workers' Unions  
Japanese Red Cross Society Workers' Union  
Film and Allied Workers' Union  
Japan Realist Photographers Association  
Japan Scientists' Association  
Association for Workers Education of Japan  
Women's Democratic Club  
Japan Council of Religionists for Peace  
Japan Christians' Association for Peace  
Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (GENSUIKYO)  
Workers' Union of Health Insurance Hospitals  
National Government Employees' Mutual Aid Association Hospital Workers' Union  
Postal Industry Workers' Union  
All Japan Construction, Transport and General Workers' Union  
Japan Federation of Medical Workers' Unions  
Japan National Hospital Workers' Union  
Japan-Korea Friendship Association  
Japan Center, Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace  
Democratic Youth League of Japan  
National Federation of Traders and Producers Organizations (ZENSHOREN)

All Japan Federation of Medical Students Self-governing Associations  
 Central Liaison Conference of Youth and Students for a Bright Progressive Japan  
 Japan-Cambodia Friendship Association  
 National Confederation of Human Rights Movements in the Community  
 National Campaign Committee for Abrogation of the Japan-US Security Treaty  
 National Workers Union of Social Insurance Fee Fund  
 Japan-Vietnam Friendship Association  
 National Federation of Environmental Pollution Patients' Organizations  
 National Federation of Associations for Safeguarding Living and Health  
 New Japan Medical Association (Shin-I-Kyo)  
 All Justice Ministry Employees' Union  
 Liberty Lawyers Guild  
 National Forum for Peace, Democracy and Progressive Unity  
 New Japan Tanka Poets Association  
 All Japan Congress of Realist Theaters  
 National Council of Graduate Students  
 All Labor Ministry Workers' Union  
 All Japan Confederation of Warehouse and Transport Workers' Unions  
 National Council of Securities Industry Workers Unions  
 Water Resources Development Corporation Workers' Union  
 National Federation of JA Hospital Workers Unions  
 National Workers' Union of Labor Accident Hospitals  
 Liaison Conference of Cultural Organizations  
 Japan Clerks Union  
 Warabi-za Theater Group  
 Joint Struggle Conference of Welfare Ministry Workers Unions  
 Faculty and Staff Union of Japanese Universities  
 Japan Congress of Recreation Leaders  
 Workers Union of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry  
 Tele-Communication Workers' Union  
 All Japan Metal and Information Machinery Workers' Union (JMIU)  
 Japan Federation of Prefectural and Municipal Workers' Unions (Jichiroren)  
 National Federation of Agricultural Co-op Workers Unions  
 Tokyo Metropolitan and Ward Governments Workers' Union  
 Legal Assistance and Human Rights Association of Japan  
 Japanese Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Workers' Unions  
 National Tax Office Workers' Union  
 Japan-Cuba Friendship Association  
 Japanese Medical and Dental Practitioners for the Improvement of Medical Care  
 Association for a Non-Nuclear Government  
 Japan Federation of Co-op Labor Unions  
 Japan Pensioners' Union

Observer

Federation of National Diet Workers' Unions

**Committee of Chairpersons:**

AKAMATSU Koichi	Representative Director, Japan Council against A and H Bombs
ANZAI Ikuro	Director, Anzai Science & Peace Office (ASAP)
ANIYA Masaaki	Professor emeritus, Okinawa International University
ARAKAWA Yosei	Buddhist monk/ Director General, Japan Council of Religionists for Peace
EJIRI Mihoko	Former President, Japan YWCA/ Professor emeritus, Tsuda College
OTA Yoshiro	President, National Federation of Traders and Producers Organizations

OMORI Masanobu	Professor emeritus, Hiroshima University
OGATA Yasuo	Executive Committee Vice-Chairperson, Japanese Communist Party
OSANAI Mieko	Scenario writer
ODAGAWA Yoshikazu	President, National Confederation of Trade Unions (ZENROREN)
KASAI Kimiyo	President, New Japan Women's Association
KOYAMA Minoru	President, Democratic Youth League of Japan
SATO Mitsuo	Representative Director, Japan Peace Committee
SAMEJIMA Chiaki	Advisor, Japanese Medical and Dental Practitioners for the Improvement of Medical Care
SAWADA Shoji	Hibakusha / Professor emeritus, Nagoya University
SHIBATA Masako	President, Japan Federation of Women's Organizations
SUZUKI Tesshu	Buddhist monk/ Advisor, Japan Council of Religionists for Peace
TSUBOI Shunji	Japan-Eurasia Society/ Former Executive member of Japan Consumers' Cooperative Union
HATADA Shigeo	Researcher of International Politics
HAMABAYASHI Masao	Professor emeritus, Hitotsubashi University/ Honorary Representative Director, Japan Scientists Association
HAYASHI Tatsuya	Advisor, Hiroshima YMCA
FUJISUE Mamoru	President, Japan Federation of Democratic Medical Institutions (MIN-IREN)
MUROU Noboru	Advisor, Japanese Medical and Dental Practitioners for the Improvement of Medical Care

**Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee:**

TAKAKUSAKI Hiroshi	Japan Council against A and H Bombs (GENSUIKYO)
NOGUCHI Kunikazu	Association for a Non-Nuclear Government





**Organizing Committee**  
**World Conference against A and H Bombs**  
2-4-4 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8464 Japan  
Tel: 03-5842-6034 Fax: 03-5842-6033  
E-mail: intl@antiatom.org November 2017

