

Call from Nagasaki

We have no illusions about the challenges and obstacles that lie before us in realizing the aims of this Treaty. But we move ahead with optimism and resolve.....We will not rest until the last state has joined the Treaty, the last warhead has been dismantled and destroyed and nuclear weapons have been totally eliminated from the Earth. ("Vienna Declaration", the 1st Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons)

Seventy-seven years have passed since the atomic bomb was dropped by the United States on Nagasaki. The world is facing a new a danger of nuclear weapons being actually used, in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and President Putin's nuclear intimidation. The use or even the threat of use of nuclear weapons, the ultimate inhumane weapons, should never ever be allowed to happen. The only way to root out this danger is to completely eliminate these weapons. In support of the "Hiroshima Declaration" adopted on August 6 by the 2022 World Conference against A and H Bombs, we call for immediate actions for it.

The "Vienna Declaration" adopted unanimously by the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) made unrelenting criticism against the "nuclear deterrence" doctrine, and confirmed the powerful determination for the elimination of nuclear weapons. It is clear now that "nuclear deterrence" is nothing other than a means to invade and rule another country under nuclear threat. With the TPNW as our strength and by widening cooperation between grassroots movements, civil society and many governments, we must overcome present crises.

Let us call on the government of every country to support and join the TPNW. Let us make known the damage of the A-bombings and denounce the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons; organize A-bomb photo exhibitions and meetings to hear Hibakusha stories; strengthen support and solidarity with the Hibakusha in their demand for the drastic improvement of the A-bomb disease recognition system and the establishment of State compensation; and demand from the State relief of the sufferers of the "black rain" in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Let us build up cooperation between grassroots and civil society movements and governments that stand for nuclear disarmament, using as an opportunity the

10th NPT Review Conference (August 1-26), the 77th General Assembly of the U.N. and the Second Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW.

Japan must play a role commensurate with being the sole A-bombed country in war. Prime minister Kishida refused to speak even a word about the TPNW or Article 6 of the NPT at the current NPT Review Conference or at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony, thus turning his back on the Hibakusha's desire. We urge the Japanese government to break away from the "nuclear deterrence" doctrine and sign and ratify the TPNW. Let us strengthen our signature campaign, dialogue and the campaign to urge local governments to request Japan's participation in the TPNW. For the break from the "nuclear umbrella", let us demand the abrogation of the Japan-US secret nuclear arrangements and the strict observance and the legislation of the Three Non-nuclear Principles.

We must firmly block every move to take advantage of "threats" from Russia, China or North Korea to consolidate the military alliance and to build up armaments. The revision of Article 9 of the Constitution, development of "enemy base attack capability", massive military expansion, arguments for "nuclear-sharing" and all other actions to "make Japan 'war-prepared'" under the Japan-US military alliance are the real threats to the peace and security of North East Asia. Japan must not choose to adopt these measures. We demand that the Japanese government reject the dangerous response of "strength" against "strength", and "nukes" against "nukes", and that it actively use diplomacy, making the most of Article 9.

Let us prevent the attempted revision of Article 9, oppose the build-up of "enemy base attack capability", doubling military expenditures or any other move for a major military expansion and consolidation of the Japan-US military alliance, and let us get the war legislation repealed. In solidarity with the struggle of the "All-Okinawa" coalition, let us get the construction of a new Marine base at Henoko reversed while winning the immediate return of the Futenma base. Let us win the Okinawa gubernatorial election this coming September. We call for active diplomacy based on the Constitution to help realize denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and build peace in East Asia. Let us reinforce solidarity between citizens of Japan and Korea and other countries in East Asia for peace. Let us strengthen fund-raising for the relief of Agent Orange victims in Vietnam.

We will build huge cooperation for human dignity, reaching hand in hand with movements for Zero nuclear power plants, stopping the climate crisis, overcoming poverty and inequality, reduction of military expenditures and improvement of living, welfare and education, gender equality and expansion of rights for the LGBT community, and for all other demands for more human lives

and livings. Let us open the future together with the Hibakusha and young generations of people.

No More Hiroshimas, No More Nagasakis, No More Hibakusha, No More Wars!
Let us make Nagasaki remain the last place of the A-bomb suffering.

August 9, 2022

Nagasaki Day Rally, 2022 World Conference against A and H Bombs