

**2022 WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST
ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS**

**“WITH THE HIBAKUSHA, LET US ACHIEVE A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-
FREE, PEACEFUL AND JUST WORLD – FOR THE FUTURE OF THE
HUMANKIND AND OUR PLANET”**

**BY H.E. MR. SYED MOHAMAD HASRIN AIDID
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**FOR HIROSHIMA DAY RALLY
6 AUGUST 2022**

Opening

- At the outset, may I express my gratitude to the organizing committee of the 2022 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs for inviting me to participate in this year’s conference.
- I am participating in this conference only virtually due to my on-going responsibilities as Chair of Main Committee I of the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), currently being held in New York until 26 August 2022.

- I am deeply honoured to speak at this year's Hiroshima Day Rally, having participated in the Nagasaki Day Rally in 2021 and 2020.
- The continued convening of this World Conference over the past few years, notwithstanding the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, is testament both to the importance of the issues discussed, and the resolve of the hibakusha and civil society to advance our shared efforts towards a world free of nuclear weapons.
- The testimonies of the Hibakusha are indeed poignant, moving and profound. They serve as crucial reminders of the devastating horrors and unspeakable humanitarian catastrophe caused by the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki more than seven decades ago.
- Any threat or use of nuclear weapons is totally unacceptable, as such weapons are abhorrent and incompatible with basic ethical and security considerations.

Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

- We should recall the seminal UN General Assembly resolution of 1946, in which the aspiration for a world free of nuclear weapons was articulated in the wake of the Second World War, and we must intensify our efforts to realise it in full.

- The continued existence of approximately 13,000 nuclear weapons, the modernisation of nuclear arsenals, and the persistence of these weapons in the military and security doctrines of a small group of countries, reflect the danger they pose to the safety and security of all.

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

- The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) remains the cornerstone of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Its full and effective implementation is integral to international peace and security, as well as the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
- All States Parties have the responsibility to implement their obligations under the NPT in a full, objective and balanced manner across the three (3) pillars of the Treaty.
- Building on Malaysia's initiative in issuing a Joint Communique to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the NPT in 2020, a Joint Statement on the convening of the 10th NPT Review Conference was issued by 15 States Parties on 31 July 2022.
- Through this statement, the States Parties concerned have reiterated long-standing principles which they subscribe to in the context of the NPT.
- The Joint Statement was officially issued through the Permanent Missions of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and through social media platforms of the participating States.

- We appreciate the positive feedback received on the Joint Communique, in particular from civil society, whose voice is crucial in moving forward our discourse and action on nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

- As a State Party to the TPNW, Malaysia welcomes the successful conclusion of its First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP) in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022.
- The MSP allowed States Parties to reaffirm our resolve to ensure the elimination of nuclear weapons, through a landmark instrument which we view as complementary to the NPT.
- During the MSP, States' Parties heard testimony from hibakusha as well as representatives of communities harmed by the testing of nuclear weapons, which underlined the imperative of sustained progress on nuclear disarmament.

Closing

- On this solemn occasion, as we remember the pain and suffering inflicted on the Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, let us remain steadfast in our resolve to herald the day when the entire world will constitute one unbroken nuclear-weapon-free zone.

- Civil society and youth will undoubtedly play a crucial role in our efforts, and States should engage them as partners in dialogue and action, including in enhancing public awareness on the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons.
- Let us move forward in the spirit of solidarity, and concern for life and the future of our planet, which underpin our collective efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons, in the common interest of peace, security and sustainable development for all.

Thank you.