

(Unofficial translation)

PRESIDENT

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Hanoi, July 6th, 2022

MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY

To: The 2022 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

I am very glad to know that the 2022 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs will be held in Japan after more than two years under COVID-19 pandemic impact. On behalf of the State and the People of Vietnam and in my own name, I would like to extend our respectful and cordial greetings to all participants in the Conference.

Over the past nearly seventy years, the World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, along with other peace movements in Japan and throughout the world, have made tireless endeavors for a peaceful world without nuclear weapons. Thanks to those and other efforts, the world has registered positive progress with the adoption of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1968, the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in 2017 and the TPNW's entry into force in 2021.

Nevertheless, the world has been witnessing utterly complicated developments due to major powers' strategic competition, rising great-power politics, militarization and arms race, unilateral actions in the use or threat of force, leading to an accelerated nuclear arms race and a potential danger of nuclear war.

We are all well aware that world peace and nations' security can only be built on the basis of respect for and compliance with the principles of international law, including the United Nations Charter, particularly principles governing respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs of states, settlement of disputes by peaceful means, no use or threat of force, as well as on the basis of mutually beneficial cooperation and with sincerity, trust and responsibility.

Being a responsible member of the international community, Vietnam has always been supporting and making active contributions to nuclear disarmament

efforts. We call on all nations, peace movements and every person on Earth to continue joining hands in the struggle for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, for preventing wars and conflicts in the future.

I believe that the 2022 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, along with the outcomes of the First Meeting of the TPNW's States Parties and the Tenth NPT Review Conference, will generate an important impetus, contributing to building a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

On behalf of the State and the People of Vietnam, once more, I would like to express our solidarity with and support for the victims of atomic bombs, Agent Orange victims and all other war victims. I would also like to convey my sincere thanks to peace organizations and movements, as well as peace-loving people in Japan and around the world for the support they reserved to Vietnam's past struggles for national independence as well as present efforts in national construction and defense.

On this occasion, I would like to express my sincere feelings of friendship and best wishes to the people of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and all over Japan.

May I wish all participants in the Conference good health, peacefulness, happiness and success./.

(Signed)

NGUYEN XUAN PHUC