

**Speech by the Ambassador Melba Pria of Mexico to Japan
At the World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs – Hiroshima
August 6, 2025**

Distinguished guests, dear friends, and fellow advocates of peace,

Mexico is honored to participate in this commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, two cities devastated in an instant.

In a single flash of light, lives were lost, families destroyed, and entire communities turned to ashes. Human suffering was beyond comprehension — and yet, here in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, out of the ruins and sorrow, a global movement for peace and disarmament was born.

Mexico stands in solidarity with the people of Japan, and with the Hibakusha — the survivors — whose testimonies remain some of the most powerful calls for peace the world has ever heard. Your pain has become your strength. Your memories are not only history — they are a warning. And they have become our responsibility. Now more than ever, the voices of the Hibakushas must be heard in every possible forum and space.

We are gathered here not only to remember, but to act.
Not only to mourn, but to commit ourselves to a better future.

The atomic bombings were not just tragedies of the past. They are warnings for the present — and for the future. The continued existence of more than 12,000 nuclear warheads around the world is not a sign of strength — it is a sign of failure: failure to prioritize life, dignity, and humanity. Mexico strongly criticizes global military spending considering the reduction in official development assistance.

We have a moral obligation to continue working to ensure that this tragedy never happens again in history, and we must make sure that future generations are aware of the risks posed by this threat. The humanitarian consequences of nuclear detonation would indiscriminately affect the entire population, and there would be no capacity anywhere in the world to respond to a catastrophe of this magnitude. No agency within the United Nations system would be

capable of responding to the worst of all humanitarian emergencies. Socioeconomic development would be hampered, and the environment would be severely damaged.

Let us be honest: there can be no justification for weapons that have the capacity to destroy our entire civilization. There is no “responsible” use of nuclear weapons. There is no “safe” nuclear war. The only true security lies in the complete elimination of these weapons.

Mexico considers the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to be the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime and invites its member states to advance multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament. Mexico also considers the Treaty on the Prohibition of nuclear weapons (TPAN) to be a milestone and a complementary instrument to the international nuclear disarmament architecture and celebrates that it has 73 States Parties and 96 signatories and that while other disarmament fora remain paralyzed, the TPAN continues to consolidate its position as a pillar of the global disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.

We believe the world has a moral duty — not just a legal obligation — to ensure that what happened in August 1945 never happens again. The threat of nuclear weapons is not abstract. It is real, and it affects us all — whether we live in Tokyo, Mexico City, or a small village anywhere on Earth.

We must stop accepting the idea that these weapons are necessary. They are not. What the world truly needs is investment in education, health care, clean energy, and justice — not in building machines of death.

We are also here to honor the courage of civil society — the organizations, activists, young people, and elderly people who continue to demand a peaceful world. The voices of the Hibakusha and the tireless work of organizations like Nihon Hidankyo — recognized last year with the Nobel Peace Prize — inspire all of us to raise our own voices and never give in to apathy. Mexico celebrates this achievement and extends its sincere gratitude to this important organization.

Silence in the face of the nuclear threat is complicity. We must speak up, we must organize, and we must act — together.

Mexico will continue to promote new international mechanisms and efforts to place nuclear disarmament at the highest level. Currently, two Mexican scientists are members of the Scientific Advisory Panel of the TPAN, which was established

in 2023 and has a mandate to conduct research to report on the situation and progress in nuclear disarmament.

Recently, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres selected a Mexican scientist to serve on the Independent Scientific Panel on the Effects of Nuclear War, which will examine the physical effects and social consequences of nuclear war at the local, regional, and global levels. We look forward to the panel's final report, which will be published in 2027.

Dear friends, the memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is not just Japanese history — it is human history. The suffering that began 80 years ago cannot be undone, but it must never be repeated.

Today, we recommit ourselves to a world without nuclear weapons. Not someday — but as soon as possible. For the sake of our children. For the future of humanity. And for the dignity of every life on this Earth.

Mexico will always walk this path with you. With hope. With determination. And with a deep belief that peace is not only possible — it is the only way forward.

Thank you.