

原水爆禁止2016年世界大会

2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 2-9, 2016



Organizing Committee
World Conference against A and H Bombs

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Main Theme:

- A Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World -



Organizing Committee
World Conference against A and H Bombs

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2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs

Declaration of the International Meeting

Seventy one years ago, the USA used nuclear bombs for the first time against humanity by releasing atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. With tremendous destructive power and radiation, the two bombs burned out the cities and claimed the lives of about 210,000 people by the end of the year. It was a hell on earth. The Hibakusha who survived then had to suffer from latent effects and social discrimination for many subsequent years. Such inhumane weapons should not be used again in any circumstances whatsoever.

The nuclear powers still maintain more than 15,000 nuclear warheads. Not a small number of them are on alert for launch. The concern for the outbreak of nuclear war due to deteriorating regional tensions is real. A recent study shows that even if only a small percentage of existing nuclear weapons are used, it would cause serious climate change and would bring the human race to the brink of extinction. The elimination of nuclear weapons is an urgent task for the very survival of the humanity.

By international law and justice, weapons of mass destruction are widely perceived to be illegal. As biological and chemical weapons have been banned by international treaties, nuclear weapons should be banned immediately and made illegal.

At present, a new move to open the door to a “world without nuclear weapons” is developing. Substantial discussions for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons have begun at the United Nations.

The 70th Session of the UN General Assembly adopted by majority a number of resolutions calling for the start of negotiations on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. With the support of more than 70% of the member states, it also decided to convene an open-ended working group (OEWG) to discuss “concrete effective legal measures” to achieve “a world without nuclear weapons”. The meetings of the OEWG turned out to be an epoch-making opportunity where substantive matters for a treaty to ban nuclear weapons were discussed, and the convening of a conference in 2017 to negotiate a treaty was proposed. We cordially request that the OEWG include the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons in the recommendations submitted to the coming session of the UN General Assembly.

The motive power of these developments is found in the anti-nuclear peace movement all around the world, including the Hibakusha who have kept warning about the inhumanity and atrocity of nuclear weapons. The appeals of Hibakusha in the international political arenas have elicited huge responses. Through the 2015 NPT Review Conference, where international anti-nuclear peace movements rallied, the voices demanding legally binding measures have expanded ever more widely.

The forthcoming session of the UN General Assembly in autumn will have discussions, focusing on the report of the OEWG. To ban nuclear weapons by treaty and eliminate them is the long standing core demand of the World Conference against A and H Bombs. Now is the time to make every possible effort to build overwhelming public support to achieve this goal.

The five nuclear powers of the USA, Russia, the UK, France and China are working in unison to counter this development. Their posture and that of their allies who follow them is clearly a major obstacle put in a way to achieve a “world without nuclear weapons”.

They boycotted the OEWG, and their allies who spoke for them, including Japan, oppose any immediate step to take to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons and insist that the “step-by-step” is the only practical approach. History proves, however, that this approach does not really lead us one step closer towards nuclear disarmament. It is an approach that puts off the abolition of nuclear weapons into indefinite future.

While being defensive before the argument on humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, the nuclear powers still cling to the “nuclear deterrence” doctrine, saying that the security aspects should also be considered. The essence of this argument is to try to justify the use or threat to use nuclear weapons against other countries to protect so-called national interest, which is the most dangerous concept. Besides, deterrence has actually induced nuclear proliferation in the name of “self-defense”, and thus helped spread threat to peace.

Opening a door to a “world without nuclear weapons” will only be possible by defeating such absurdity in the posture of the nuclear powers.

The focal point today is a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons. We must make every effort to strengthen the movement and public opinion demanding the commencement of negotiations and conclusion of such a treaty. No first use of nuclear weapons and ban on their use, ratification of the CTBT, ending the development, replacement and modernization of nuclear arsenals, and reduction of nuclear armament are also all important. These measures will become more effective, if the movement and public opinion demanding an agreement on the prohibition of nuclear weapons are mobilized.

The nuclear weapon-free zones are playing an important role for regional peace and security, and their further development is called for. As agreed upon by the past NPT Review Conferences, an international conference for the creation of a nuclear weapon and WMD-free zone in the Middle East should be convened with no further delay. The problem of nuclear development of North Korea should be resolved through diplomacy, including the resumption of the six party talks.

To achieve a “world without nuclear weapons”, it is essential to resolve regional conflicts and contentious problems by peaceful means based on the peace principles of the U.N. Charter and international law, excluding the use or threat to use force. International community in unity must isolate and root out terrorism, which resorts to indiscriminate killing, by non-military means. For the purpose of preventing proliferation, it is all the more urgent to reach an agreement to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.

Releasing greater resources by drastic cuts in military expenditures, including the cost for maintenance and development of nuclear forces, overcoming poverty and disparity, improvement of living standard and welfare, and protection of human rights and democracy are all integral parts of “a peaceful and just world”.

Although the Japanese Government is expected to play an appropriate role as the only A-bombed country, it is actually acting as a spokesperson for nuclear powers. At home, it forced through the security-related laws, or War Laws, disregarding the constitutional principles of peace, to consolidate its readiness to take part in war overseas. Relying on the US “nuclear deterrence”, it is even taking the position of agreeing to the use of nuclear weapons. Underlying this is the absolute priority given to the Japan-US military alliance.

In the meantime, a wide range of people have risen in action demanding the abolition of War Laws and restoration of constitutionalism. Against this background, all opposition parties came together to field their united candidates in the House of Councilors elections in July. In Okinawa, a

united candidate who opposes the construction of a new US base defeated a former Cabinet member. The Japanese anti-nuclear peace movement took active part in this struggle. The International Meeting of the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs expresses solidarity with the Japanese movement which stands in defense of the Constitution and works to establish a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan.

The movements and public opinion of the peoples of the world are the driving force to open a nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just future. We propose the following actions:

-- To build the “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha, the Atomic Bomb Survivors of Hiroshima & Nagasaki, for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons” and other actions to build public opinion demanding the start of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons, with the goal of hundreds of millions signatures collected worldwide. To help to promote these actions, we will continue to make widely known the damage of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and help Hibakusha to speak about their experiences internationally. We will carry out these activities particularly on such occasions as the nuclear disarmament deliberations of the UN General Assembly, UN International day for Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (Sept. 26) and UN Disarmament Week (Oct. 24-30).

-- Let us extend relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha and support them to achieve their demand for state compensation. Let us call for the relief of the victims of the nuclear tests and nuclear plant accidents. Let us strengthen our support of the sufferers of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. We strengthen our solidarity with the zero NPP movement. Let us extend our support to the victims of Agent Orange and depleted uranium, and other war victims.

-- Let us strengthen our solidarity with all such movements against war and for peace, reduction and dismantling of foreign military bases from Okinawa, Guam and other places, effective control of arms exports and military industry, cuts in military expenditures, improvement of living conditions, employment and social welfare, overcoming poverty and disparity, prevention of climate change, protection of global environment, elimination of sexism and other discriminations, overcoming social justice and for sustainable development.

The Hibakusha appeal: “It is our strong desire to achieve a nuclear weapon-free world in our lifetime, so that succeeding generations of people will not see hell on earth ever again.” Responding to their pressing desire, with fresh determination, let us make many steps forward to a “nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world”.

August 4, 2016

International Meeting, 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

Letter from Nagasaki to All Governments of the World

Assembled in the A-bombed city of Nagasaki on August 9, 2016, we appeal with Hibakusha, the A-bomb sufferers, to all governments to take action to achieve “a world without nuclear weapons” without delay.

Seventy one years ago, two atomic weapons of mass destruction were used for the first time against humans. With indescribably cruel effects, they claimed the lives of about 210,000 people by the end of that year. The use of nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity, which should never ever be repeated.

The Hibakusha who barely survived the calamities were further tormented by diseases, wounds, anxiety and anguish. In the midst of this hardship, however, they refused to indulge in hatred or reprisal, but resolved to work to “save the world” (the founding declaration of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-bombs Sufferers’ Organizations, 1956). They have since devoted the rest of their lives to achieving “a world without nuclear weapons”. Their struggle has given courage to many millions of people, and impelled world leaders to act. The voices in favor of focusing on the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons now prevail in international politics. We urge leaders throughout the world to visit the A-bombed cities to face the truth of the damage caused by nuclear weapons.

There are still more than 15,000 nuclear warheads in the world. The only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again is through their total elimination.

In the current session of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) of the United Nations in Geneva, a majority of States called for legally binding measures, such as a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, and a proposal for the UN General Assembly to convene a conference in 2017 to negotiate an instrument to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons is supported by many countries. These are what civil society around the world, both in nuclear weapons and non-nuclear weapons states, with the Hibakusha in the forefront, have long appealed for.

We sincerely hope that on the basis of the discussions of the Open-ended Working Group, the coming 71st Session of the UN General Assembly will make an epoch-making decision to open the door to a world without nuclear weapons.

The average age of the Hibakusha now exceeds 80. They appeal that there should never be another Hiroshima or Nagasaki anywhere on earth, that there should not be another Hibakusha, and therefore that nuclear weapons should be eliminated **in their lifetime**.

We cordially request your Government to give heed to the appeal of the Hibakusha and take bold steps by undertaking the following actions.

- Make every effort for the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons and make the nuclear disarmament deliberation this coming autumn at the 71st Session of the UN General Assembly a decisive turning point towards the achievement of this goal:

- Ensure that political leaders deepen their awareness of the inhumane consequences of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by listening to Hibakusha and using photo-panels; and make widely known to the people the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons.

We sincerely hope that responding to the intense desire of the Hibakusha that “Nagasaki be the last victim of nuclear weapons”, you, Government leaders, will join hands with us civil society movements to open the road to a “Nuclear Weapon-free, Peaceful and Just World.”

International Meeting 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs

*Main Theme:
A Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World*



Opening Session (August 2)

Address of the Organizer:

Noguchi Kunikazu
Co-Chair of the Steering Committee
Organizing Committee of the World
Conference against A & H Bombs

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I want to warmly welcome you and extend our cordial greetings of solidarity to you, who have come from overseas and all over Japan to participate in this 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

Our Conference is going to have representatives of national governments who stand in the forefront and play a vital role in the effort to build momentum for a total ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons. We also have many overseas representatives of anti-nuclear peace movements, dedicated grassroots activists and nuclear victims who are playing major parts in Asia and the Pacific region, Europe, the Middle

East, Africa and North and South Americas. From within Japan we will have many friends from different fields, including local government leaders, who took the lead in the recent campaigns to abolish the so-called security-related legislations and to restore constitutionalism, to end nuclear power generation, or for the dismantling of military bases. Many Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will also join us.

Our Three Founding Objectives: Prevention of Nuclear War, a Total Ban on and the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, and Relief for and Solidarity with the Hibakusha, the A-bomb Sufferers

The first World Conference against A and H Bombs took place in August 1955 in Hiroshima, where a nuclear weapon was used in war for the first time in the world. It was participated in by over 5000 delegates, including participants from countries in Asia, Europe and the American Continents. Behind the participants was mounting support from international opinion, including hundreds of millions of people who signed an appeal against nuclear war. The

participants renewed their determination to achieve a ban on nuclear weapons and defeat the forces who planned for atomic war. The “Declaration” of the first World Conference said in brief the following:

“- The delegates to this Conference have witnessed the agony of the sufferers, and the misery of the victims of atomic and hydrogen bombs. ...we record our opinion that the use of these weapons is a denial of all standards of humane and civilized behavior. ...The misery of the atomic and hydrogen bomb victims 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 avoid a repetition of their sufferings. We appeal to all peoples of the world, irrespective of political, religious and social differences, to carry on with the utmost vigour the movement against atomic and hydrogen bombs.

- Together with all the peoples of the world we must expand and strengthen this movement until 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. The earnest desire for the peace of the world shall be crowned with glory and victory.”

(From “*No More Hiroshimas*”, 1955)

The declaration set the three objectives of the prevention of nuclear war, a total ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons and relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha as the founding principles of the movement against A & H bombs. Despite the passing of almost 61 years since the declaration was adopted, nuclear weapons still have not been eliminated. Nevertheless, ceaseless and undaunted movements for the abolition of nuclear weapons since the first World Conference are steadily bearing fruits. Today, we are facing an opportunity to witness a major turn towards achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

Deliberations at the Open-ended Working Group: Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Gathering Momentum

The problem for inhumanity of nuclear weapons, on which the Hibakusha have insisted for over a half century, has now been raised by many Governments and civil society movements and discussed for years in international politics. With it, voices calling for a ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons are gathering wider and wider support, and placing growing pressure on the nuclear powers.

At the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly, the adoption of a number of resolutions supported by the majority of the member states gained wide attention. These resolutions included “Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons”, “Humanitarian Pledge for the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”, and “Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world”, which emphasized nuclear disarmament as an ethical obligation.

One specifically important resolution adopted by the 70th UNGA session was titled “Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations”. It decided to convene an “Open-ended Working Group (OEWG)” to substantively address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. Of the nuclear powers, the USA, Russia, UK, France, China and Israel voted against it and India and Pakistan abstained from it. Yet it gathered support from 138 states, which represents 72% of all UN member states. The OEWG, set up as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, met in February and then in May this year at the UN office in Geneva, and is going to meet soon this August to summarize the discussions into a report to the General Assembly.

In the OEWG deliberations, the overwhelming majority of governments noted grave humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons as well as the threat posed by the very existence of nuclear weapons, and proposed to start negotiations on legally banning and eliminating nuclear weapons without delay. Let me present now some of the arguments:

A representative of the Irish Government said, “In such a world where the safety, security and existence of all humanity are at stake, there is no place for nuclear weapons. That is what we are here to discuss... In any other area of life, work or governance, if something wasn’t working for over twenty years, or indeed over seventy years, we would try to fix it. That is our agenda here in this OEWG.”

A representative of South Africa, the only country to have first developed and then voluntarily dismantled and destroyed its nuclear weapons capability, said;

“... Our experience illustrates that nuclear weapons do not guarantee security but rather undermine it... Today, the costs related to nuclear weapons amount to roughly more than double the development assistance provided to Africa. This state of affairs is clearly not acceptable...As long as nuclear weapons exist, vertical and horizontal proliferation will persist and the threat to humanity

will remain.”

At the OEWG session, a group of 10 countries, including Argentina, Indonesia, Malaysia and Mexico, presented a nuclear weapons-free zones’ viewpoint to argue for nuclear disarmament:

“... Although nuclear-armed states (NAS) bear the ultimate responsibility to completely eliminate their nuclear arsenals, it is a shared responsibility of all States to prevent the humanitarian impact and effects related to these weapons of mass destruction.” They thus proposed that the report of the session should include “convening a Conference in 2017... to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons.” If it is realized, a treaty to ban nuclear weapons will be discussed for the first time within the UN framework, an epoch-making progress.

The inhumanity of nuclear weapons, which the Hibakusha have kept alerting us to for more than a half century, is now a focus of international politics. Many countries are taking active part in discussions at OEWG sessions to start negotiations for nuclear disarmament. In this situation, what attitude are the nuclear powers and “nuclear umbrella” dependent countries taking? The nuclear powers boycotted OEWG, clinging to a narrow argument for security provided by “nuclear deterrence”. Of the countries that rely on the US “nuclear umbrella”, a Japanese Government representative said that legal measures are premature in the light of the current environment. Clinging to the “step-by-step” approach, which puts off a ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons, it is playing a role as spokesperson for the nuclear powers. We cannot repress our anger at the role played by the Japanese government to apply the brakes to the OEWG discussion on legally banning nuclear weapons. It is more important than ever before to put an end to the dependency of the Japanese Government on the “nuclear umbrella” and make it play a role befitting the only A-bombed country.

Let Us Build up the Anti-Nuclear Peace Movement and Public Support to Press for the Start of Negotiations for a Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons

With the outbreak of conflicts, terrorism and military interventions in many regions in the world, the danger of war is imminent. Given that nuclear powers and regions where nuclear weapons are deployed and involved, this situation is even charged with a danger of nuclear war. In East Asia around Japan, conflicts and tension continue, centering on the problem of nuclear development by North Korea, problems on territories and territorial waters, and on

understanding of history. The Japanese Government has neglected efforts to resolve these problems by peaceful means. It made a decision in July last year to approve the use of the right to collective self-defense, and then, the following September, railroaded the “War Laws” at the Diet. In April this year, the Cabinet adopted another dangerous interpretation of the Constitution as a response to the Diet deliberation that Article 9 of the Constitution does not necessarily ban Japan from possessing and using nuclear weapons.

Also on nuclear disarmament, the Japanese Government not only does not raise a total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons as the A-bombed country, but relies on the US “nuclear umbrella”, and is even expressing an attitude that it will approve the use of nuclear weapons in extreme circumstances based on the right of individual or collective self-defense. According to a recent report, the Japanese Government, in response to the Obama Administration’s move to consider a policy of no first use of nuclear weapons, solicited for a bilateral consultation with the US, in fear that such a policy change would undermine the credibility of deterrence under the “nuclear umbrella”. It is speculated that the policy examination in question might be shelved due to the reactions of Japan and other US allies who are under the US nuclear umbrella. As the government of the only country that has suffered attacks with nuclear weapons, is this attitude not a shame?

We witnessed, however, a popular movement, of a scale unprecedented in post WWII history, rose up in protest against the Japanese Government’s outrageous action last year. That development brought all opposition parties together to work for the abolition of the war laws. We find in it a new development of Japan’s democracy. Some years ago, Ambassador Sergio Duarte, when he was still High Representative of the UN, referred to the signatures collected by the civil society movement, saying, “Democracy is coming to disarmament”. Remembering this, I feel convinced that we can achieve a “nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world” by promoting this current of democracy in both Japan and the rest of the world.

The ongoing signature campaign in support of the “Appeal of the Hibakusha, the Atomic Bomb Survivors of Hiroshima & Nagasaki, for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”, and wide-ranging support and participation and cooperation in the Nationwide Peace March” are also generating new changes, and thus helping to heighten public opinion in favor of peace.

We do not yet know how proposals and

arguments from different viewpoints will be summarized in the final report of OEWG. But the 71st Session of the UN General Assembly will receive the final report of OEWG, and the question of whether or not it can take a step towards the start of negotiations on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons will certainly be its focal point. At the same time, diplomacy alone cannot easily attain the goal. As the UN and many governments' representatives have emphasized, the "role of civil society" on every important occasion, a groundswell of movements of people and public support for them in each country will be of the utmost importance. I conclude my Organizer's speech by expressing my hope that the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs now starting will become an epoch-making opportunity in defeating nuclear deterrence doctrine and in launching wide-ranging cooperation around concrete policies to achieve a total ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons and to put an end to any more nuclear damage.

Greetings on behalf of the Hibakusha:

Kido Sueichi

Assistant Secretary General

**Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb
Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)**

A nuclear weapon-free world through successful
International Signature Campaign in
Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the
Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak at this International Meeting.

In the 2011 International Meeting, I was a "younger Hibakusha" speaker. Five years have passed and I would no longer say I am the "younger" one. At age 76, I devote more time to pondering over what I should do in the rest of my limited life and to looking back on what I have been doing. I have arrived at the conclusion that I am someone who was born into this world and that I was exposed to atomic bomb radiation. That was where my life started.

On August 9, 1945, I heard a sonic boom. The moment I looked up at the sky, as the roar went off, I was struck by an intense flash and a big bang. I was blown more than 20 meters and fell unconscious on the street 2 km from ground zero. My mother had burns on her face and chest. I also had burns on half of my face. She took me to a bomb shelter half way up Mt. Inasa in Nagasaki and lay down. She seemed to be running

out of strength. I was standing there in utter amazement. Strange enough, I don't remember what she looked like at the time.

The next day we moved to Michinoo along the right bank of the Urakami River. I thought we had come to quite a distant place but actually we had walked only from 2 to 3.5 km from ground zero. My mother was carried on what had been a door and I was put in a basket used for carrying soil. I saw a city that had lost everything and a sea of dead bodies and people looking for water. It was something not of this world. It looked like the end of the world.

Hibakusha have since been forced to endure a life in which they constantly fear the destruction of their lives or of humanity because of physical and mental wounds left by the atomic bombing on that day. We will never be free from being Hibakusha.

The Hibakusha, who saw hell on earth, do not forgive the use of nuclear weapons. But nor do we seek to retaliate against the atomic bombing. We demand that nuclear weapons be eliminated. We want no one to share what the Hibakusha are experiencing.

On August 10, 1956, eleven years after the A-bombing, Hibakusha, who had been abandoned and forced to keep silent, assembled to establish the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, or Nihon Hidankyo. They stated, "Up until now, we have kept our silence, hid our faces, scattered ourselves and led our lives that were left to us, but now, unable to keep our mouths shut, we are rising up, joining our hands and convened here." This year marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of Hidankyo.

Since its founding, Hidankyo has used key occasions to conduct surveys regarding what the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki meant and what the atomic bomb has done to humanity. We have continued to try to unravel the whole picture of the enormous damage from the atomic bombings, which is not healed today, more than 70 years since the bombing. Hibakusha have constantly had to deal with the lingering fear and the psychological wounds in quest of the meaning of "the atomic bomb and humanity." We have overcome the crisis of human losses and paved the way for the survival of humanity that will not be beaten by nuclear weapons. We have elaborated the demand for no more Hibakusha and made efforts to realize the goal.

Hibakusha are calling for "No war and no nuclear weapons" and for "state compensation for damage from the atomic bombing."

The call of Hibakusha and their supporters to the world to stop nuclear war from breaking out has helped prevent a third nuclear war. We take

pride in this successful effort by Hibakusha and you all.

Nevertheless, there are stockpiles of more than 10,000 nuclear weapons around the world, and their destructive power and precision are being upgraded and strengthened. What's more, following the five nuclear powers—the United States, Russia, Britain, France, and China—countries such as, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea started to possess nuclear weapons. Some leaders among the nuclear powers even suggest the possible use of nuclear weapons. The critical situation still persists.

With a number of non-nuclear-weapon states leading the effort to condemn nuclear weapons on the grounds of their inhumanity and the inhuman nature of the damage done by nuclear weapons, movements are growing year by year to call for banning the use of nuclear weapons and eliminating them. The Second International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons held in Nayarit, Mexico, in February 2014 had an unusually long session on Hibakusha, where five Hibakusha and their supporters, including Tanaka Terumi, Secretary General of Nihon Hidankyo, and Fujimori Toshiki, Assistant Secretary General, made moving speeches, setting the keynote of the meeting. I keenly felt that this shows the significance of Hibakusha and our movement.

When the call for opposition to war, for the elimination of nuclear weapons, and for state compensation for damage from the atomic bombings is met, Hibakusha can live as a cornerstone of peace, and the fallen atomic bomb victims can at last rest in peace.

I believe that as their historic mission Hibakusha must build a foothold for humanity to avoid repeating the mistake. That's the only thing that Hibakusha can pass to the next generation.

“At present, humanity stands at the crossroads of whether to save our blue planet with all living things on it as it is, or to go along the road of self-destruction.....The average age of the Hibakusha now exceeds 80. Their strong desire is to achieve a nuclear weapon-free world in their lifetime so that future generations will not see hell on earth ever again. To achieve this aim, the Hibakusha have proposed an “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.”

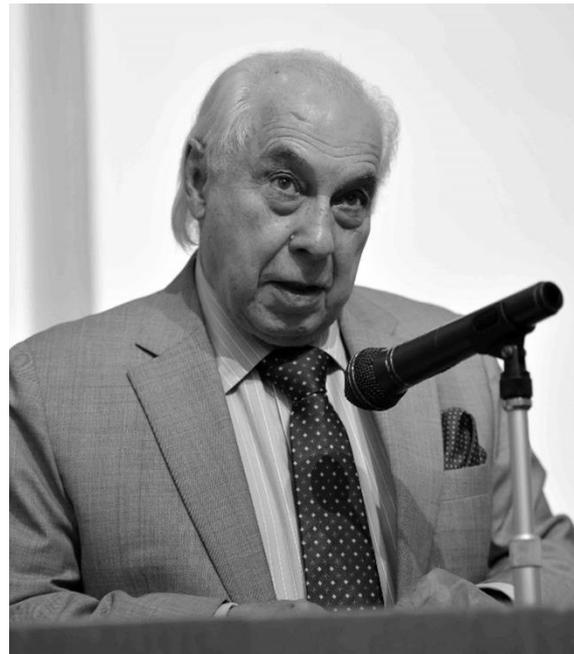
A large number of people in and outside Japan have been responding positively to the campaign as they can sign regardless of thought, creed or political views. It is important that people in the only A-bombed country Japan, people in nuclear

weapon countries clinging to nuclear deterrence theory, and people in all other countries join forces. Let us collect hundreds of millions of signatures to change nuclear policies and realize a world without nuclear weapons.

We want to do this with International Meeting participants and people around the world.

That is my appeal and that is my determination.

Special Report:



Sergio Duarte Former U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs/ Ambassador (Brazil)

A NUCLEAR WEAPON-FREE, PEACEFUL AND JUST WORLD

I have been associated with the work of the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs since 2003, when I began the preparation of the 2005 NPT Review Conference. Over the years I have attended some of your conferences and enjoyed your company and your hospitality. I am grateful for those opportunities to exchange views with you on the subject of the achievement of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Today once again I find myself here to remember the tens of thousands of men, women and children who perished in a flash on the morning of August 6, 1945 and the many more who suffered a slow death in the wake of destruction and fear. And on several other occasions I was also in Nagasaki to remember the people who died there three days later.

A few survived to tell their story and I pay my humble respects to the *hibakusha* who are here with us on this occasion. I admire their courage and determination that there should be no more Hiroshimas and Nagasakis. We are here, together with them, to say that we want a nuclear-weapon free, peaceful and just world.

Last month I put my own signature on the *Hibakusha Appeal* for the elimination of nuclear weapons. I know that the average age of the Hibakusha is now over 80 – and this is my age too. In 1945 I was nine years old – old enough to learn of the tragedy, even if I lived half a world away. I share the earnest desire of the *Hibakusha* to achieve a nuclear free world in their lifetime and in my own lifetime too.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In February 2011, when I was the United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, I sent a message to you on the occasion of the launching of a campaign in support of the negotiation of a Convention to ban nuclear weapons. I closed that message with the following words: “The will of the people can quite literally change history. A nuclear weapon free world would be the best possible gift we could pass along to future generations. It is not sufficient just to pass them the responsibility of achieving this goal. It is a cause worth of our best efforts just now.”

What you are doing today is just that: you are not shirking that responsibility. All of us who participate in this Conference, young and not so young, are here to say to the leaders of the world that the voice of the people must be heard and must be heeded.

The commitment of your organization to nuclear disarmament is well-known by all who care about the maintenance of peace and security and about the future of our planet. Please—all of you—accept my deep appreciation for your efforts and my commitment to work in partnership with you as we move forward in our dedicated effort to help achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Certainly this audience does not require any further persuasion that nuclear disarmament is both a morally justified objective and the most practical and effective way to ensure against the future use of nuclear weapons. The risk of use of such weapons derives from their very existence—whether we consider deliberate or unauthorized use, use through miscalculations, detonations resulting from accidents, along with threats of theft, terrorist attack, or sabotage, and other such dangers. The existence of nuclear weapons is the greatest threat to peace and security in the world.

These risks are well recognized. Reflecting such concerns, the States Parties to the NPT—in their consensus Final Documents at their Review Conferences in 2000 and 2010—were able to reach a consensus that “the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.”

Nuclear disarmament not only means reducing the numbers of weapons in national arsenals. It has to do with specific, concrete steps to achieve this goal, based on a firm resolve to achieve it. A serious commitment to nuclear disarmament would manifest itself in many ways – including in policy statements, in domestic laws and regulations, in national institutions dedicated to achieving that goal, in budget allocations, and in votes on disarmament initiatives in international arenas, including the UN General Assembly. This is what would give substance and credibility to the often-repeated cliché of “political will”.

Today, however, the world does not see much evidence that these steps are underway. What we see instead are long-term plans to retain or improve these weapons or their delivery vehicles, under the general euphemism of “modernization”. Much more is still being spent on nuclear weapons than on getting rid of them. We see nuclear weapons complexes, not institutional disarmament complexes. We see nuclear-weapon stewardship programs, but there are no comparable, elaborated operational plans for the stewardship and fulfilment of disarmament commitments. We see repeated public declarations of reductions in deployments of nuclear weapons, but such claims are difficult to assess given persisting problems of lack of transparency, verification, and proof that non-deployed weapons are being irreversibly destroyed.

Also, to the extent that reductions have occurred, they are rarely if ever explained as having been undertaken to comply with any treaty commitment. Reductions are surely welcome, but cuts only in deployments do not necessarily equate to progress in disarmament – as seen, for example, in the retirement of obsolete weapons to make way for newer models, or the movement of non-deployed warheads to reserve status.

We gladly acknowledge some limited progress in the right direction, that is, some actions that are consistent with the goal of disarmament. While these steps differ from one country to another, some or all nuclear weapon States have issued declarations of reduced deployments, avoided nuclear tests and shut down test sites, stopped production of fissile material for weapons, declared adherence to a no-first-use nuclear doctrine, reduced the level of readiness to launch

(often called “de-alerting”), eliminated certain types of delivery vehicles, and announced other actions that the world has also welcomed. This is commendable but it is not enough. The real question is to make sure that the progress achieved is sufficient to alleviate persisting concerns shared by many countries about intentions of the nuclear-weapon states to fulfil their disarmament commitments.

The case for a prohibition of nuclear weapons is self-evident, as the Secretary-General of the United Nations suggested in his 5-point proposal in 2008. This can only be achieved through serious negotiations. Last year the General Assembly established an open-ended Working Group to address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions, and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. The OEWG has met from 22-26 February 2016 and 2-13 May 2016. The Chair should present a draft report in a couple of days, on August 5, and a third round of discussions will take place on 16, 17, and 19 August 2016. Unfortunately, nuclear-weapon States chose not to participate in these discussions. Some of their allies who are participating, however, argue on their behalf that nuclear disarmament is “premature” and that nuclear weapons are needed to protect security. That would be a good argument in favor of all-out proliferation – but of course this view is obviously not shared by the majority of the international community.

127 states have signed the “Humanitarian Pledge” proposed by Austria in 2015. Many of these States have been actively promoting the negotiation of a Convention to ban nuclear weapons. The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States has submitted a proposal calling for the start of “a multilateral diplomatic process for the negotiation of a legally binding instrument for the prohibition of nuclear weapons”. Many calls have been made for the start of substantive discussions on what a nuclear-weapon Convention would have to contain. Some governments and non-governmental organizations have joined efforts to produce specific suggestions on what a Convention would look like.

Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, and Zambia sponsored a proposal to convene a negotiating conference in 2017 for a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons. Austria, Jamaica, and others indicated their endorsement of this recommendation. Five Pacific island states—Fiji, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, and Tuvalu—submitted a proposal setting out possible elements to be included in a treaty banning

nuclear weapons.

The world is at a juncture. One path leads to a future in which nuclear weapons are accepted as harsh realities in an anarchic world—a world in which such weapons are legal for any State to use—and a world in which more States seek such weapons as a vital and indispensable means of ensuring their security.

The other path leads toward universal recognition of nuclear weapons as an anathema—a unique type of weapon that cannot be used without egregious violations of the most fundamental tenets of international humanitarian law and the laws of war—a weapon that is completely useless in addressing pressing security challenges in today’s world, including dangers from terrorism, civil wars, and enormously complex challenges of ensuring human security.

As human beings, we prefer life over death. We are capable of weighing risks and benefits—of comparing the security challenges in a world free of nuclear weapons against those that would exist in a world full of such weapons. We understand that disarmament will require many things to be reliable and permanent, and that these requirements should be as binding as humanly possible, to increase confidence in their sustainability. Yet we are also experienced enough not to allow long lists of conditions or preconditions to serve as an excuse for never actually achieving disarmament goals. True and lasting security will only be achieved when nuclear weapons no longer exist anywhere on our planet.

So I will now conclude by urging you all to persist in your efforts on behalf of global nuclear disarmament. Work among yourselves and with other groups outside the nuclear field and in other countries. Cultivate allies in government who share your convictions. Dedicate yourselves to educating the public and to improving reporting by the news media. Challenge the views of those that rely on nuclear weapons for their own security.

The forthcoming Session of the General Assembly could be a decisive watershed. We will see then whether the mounting tide in support of a ban on the use of nuclear weapons as a first step to their complete prohibition can galvanize the community of nations.

There really is no choice—as Senator Douglas Roche of Canada has eloquently stated, “To be fully human is to be anti-nuclear weapons.”

Thank you very much for all you are doing for disarmament. We are all partners in a very good cause.

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

Michel Temer Vice-President, acting as the President Federative Republic of Brazil

It is an honor to address the 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

This initiative sends an important alert message to all peoples of the world about the dangers of the merely existence of atomic and hydrogen bombs, while it recounts the horror of the nuclear attacks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Brazil is engaged in the disarmament agenda with the authority of a country whose own Constitution enshrines the exclusively peaceful use of nuclear energy.

There are still thousands of nuclear weapons in the world. Arsenal reductions are slow and insufficient. At the same time, wide programs of nuclear armaments' modernization are in progress. This situation reveals the resistance of nuclear-armed countries in fulfilling their obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

For Brazil, the only guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of arsenals. We defend, in the United Nations, the adoption of a nuclear armaments prohibition treaty that establishes parameters to the further elimination of all existing arsenals, in a transparent and verifiable way and under effective international control. We are certain that, in this endeavor, we will continue to count with the engagement of important civil society organizations, like Gensuikyo.

Together, we will continue walking the path towards a world free of mass destruction weapons.

Michael D. Higgins President, Republic of Ireland

It is an honour and a privilege to once again add Ireland's support to the significant efforts of the Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

The scale of death and destruction wrought by nuclear weapons on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was utterly devastating. 71 years later,

the risks associated with these terrible weapons remain. While our understanding of the consequences of nuclear weapons has grown, so too has the shadow cast by continued modernization and proliferation. Ireland remains resolute in our commitment to a world free from nuclear weapons, and will continue to pursue proactive, collaborative and ethically grounded actions to further this objective.

In 2015, Ireland was proud to co-sponsor a United Nations Resolution establishing an Open-Ended Working Group on taking forward multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament. At this forum in Geneva, Ireland has continuously stressed the global need to renew, in a truly holistic and integrated way, our international commitment to a world without nuclear weapons. It is our hope that these discussions will strengthen the resolve of all nations to address the interconnected character of the challenges we face in the 21st century; challenges such as climate change, gender equality and migration, all of which demand solutions that transcend national borders.

The promise and obligations of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has been championed by Ireland since its inception in 1958, mean that it is incumbent on all states parties to live up to their responsibilities, to ensure that the treaty is fulfilled. The renewed focus on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, aided by the work of this Conference, and which Ireland has been proud to support, has made clearer than ever the devastation which would arise from even one accidental nuclear detonation. Indeed, the world's capacity to respond to a nuclear detonation is hopelessly inadequate, and the scale of the subsequent humanitarian disaster would be beyond the resources of all nations to alleviate.

I know that Hibakusha Ms Setsuko Thurlow carries with her a scroll listing the names of all three-hundred and fifty-one of her schoolmates and teachers who perished on the fateful day in Hiroshima, from which she survived to become a living testament. All of those lives, all that they might have created and thought, and all the other lives that they might have touched, are important. This year, in Ireland, we have been commemorating those lives lost, on all sides, at the

birth of our Republic 100 years ago in 1916. All lives lost in war are a tragedy, for someone and, by extension, for all of us. We are one global community and, never more so than now, we are all connected and we all share the same common desire for peace.

Our collective efforts to secure the fate of humanity are owed, not just to future generations, but out of respect to previous generations, whose courage, creativity and intellect developed the civilization we enjoy today and must strive to protect. The victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki deserve continued commemoration and respect. The victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki deserve continued commemoration and respect. Let us then ensure that their memory inspires us to persist in this most fundamental human challenge: to strive for the promise of non-proliferation, to realise the goal of nuclear disarmament, and to achieve a world free from nuclear weapons.

Bounnhang Vorachith
President, Lao People's Democratic
Republic

On behalf of the Government and people of the Lao PDR, I would like to convey my heartfelt congratulations to the organizing committee and delegations of the 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, which will be held on 2-9 August 2016 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki of Japan.

The 70th Anniversary of the Atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki held in Japan 2015 has raised more awareness to the world community on nuclear utilization, which seriously causes humanitarian impact and assert loss. I very much hope that the 2016 World Conference will play a significant role in mobilizing the solidarity of all peace-loving people against the production and the possession of weapons of mass destruction.

I believe that the unwavering efforts 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.

Once again, on behalf of the Government and people of the Lao PDR, I wish the 2016 World Conference against atomic and Hydrogen Bombs great success.

Enrique Peña Nieto
President, The United Mexican States

On the occasion of the 71st anniversary of the atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Mexico reiterates its firm rejection of the existence of nuclear weapons, for their serious humanitarian consequences.

My country will not stop until the prohibition and total elimination of nuclear weapons is achieved, in order to make our planet a safe world free of this threat.

By making wishes for the success of this important meeting, I reiterate the support of my government.

TRẦN ĐẠI QUANG
President, Socialist Republic of Vietnam

On behalf of the State leaders of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people, and in my own name, I would like to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to all participants in the 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs.

First of all, allow me to express my sympathy with all losses and sufferings of the victims of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction. With Japan in particular, the Vietnamese people share profound feelings over the heavy aftermath of atomic bombs, as we ourselves are still suffering from lingering consequences of Agent Orange on human beings and the environment. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to peace forces and organizations in Japan and across the world for their valuable sympathy and support reserved for the Vietnamese people during our past struggles for national independence and reunification as well as our present efforts in national construction and defense.

Seventy one years after the Hiroshima and Nagasaki massacres, we cannot help being deeply concerned over researches undertaken by certain nations for the development of such weapons of mass destruction. This move is really threatening the very existence of the human kind and world peace.

In such a context, we welcome the persistent efforts of the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo) in organizing annually since 1955 World Conferences against A & H Bombs. We highly appreciate Gensuikyo's initiative in launching annually global signature collecting campaigns against atomic weapons. I am also glad to note that the Vietnam Peace Committee and Vietnamese people's organizations

have actively participated in these meaningful campaigns.

I am confident that the 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs will offer an opportunity for peace forces and organizations of different countries to broaden their ranks and initiate new activities against nuclear weapons and all actions threatening peace, security and the people's peaceful life. I also believe that the Conference will reaffirm its solidarity with and support for all victims of A & H bombs, Agent Orange and other war crimes, for a future without any threat of nuclear weapons, for a world of peace, security, stability and prosperity.

May the Conference be a great success!

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

Amid today's increasingly fraught international climate, the alarming reality of nuclear weapons cannot be ignored.

I was in Japan last year and met *hibakusha*, whose lives were permanently shaped by the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Their experience, and those who have been affected by nuclear testing, are the living legacy of nuclear weapons. They are the reality of what these weapons do in human terms. Today, we know much more about the potential impact that nuclear weapons would have if they were ever used again. The consequences would be catastrophic with immediate and long-term implications for the health of current and future generations, the environment, global food production and economic and social development. We also know that there can be no adequate humanitarian response to such

a nightmare scenario. Although nuclear weapons have not been used in armed conflict for more than 70 years, the dangers they pose remain a current reality. Prominent security and military experts have warned that the risk of nuclear weapon use through accidents, conflict escalation or by intent has increased in recent years. Nuclear weapons are often presented as promoting security, particularly during times of international instability. But weapons that risk catastrophic and irreversible humanitarian consequences cannot seriously be viewed as protecting civilians or humanity as a whole.

As a humanitarian organization and as one that works to ensure the faithful application of international humanitarian law (IHL), the ICRC takes every opportunity to remind States of the horrific consequences and IHL implications of nuclear weapons. We equally urge them to ensure that such weapons are never again used and to begin negotiations to prohibit the use of and eliminate nuclear weapons, in accordance with their existing obligations.

The horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki hold powerful lessons that must never be forgotten. And although progress in prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons remains slow, the ICRC is driven by the experiences of these two cities to continue its efforts until these goals are achieved. In this we are pleased to work alongside the *hibakusha* and organizations like the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo).

On behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), I would like to commend the *hibakusha* for their tireless efforts and for the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo) for its support to the victims of the atomic bombings and its work to help advance the elimination of nuclear weapons.



Plenary Session I:

Damage and Suffering from A-Bombs in Hiroshima & Nagasaki; Inhuman Nature of Nuclear Weapons; Struggle of the Hibakusha (August 2)

Introductory Reports:

Yano Miyako **Hibakusha of Hiroshima**

I was born in 1931 in the southern Hiroshima town of Ujina, as the youngest of four girls. That year Japan engineered the Manchurian incident as an excuse to invade northeastern China. That was the start of Japan's 15-year war of aggression in China.

Military facilities were being built in areas that had mostly been farms or vacant land. Many soldiers and war-horses were sent to the continent of China and to the southern fronts from the local military port of Ujina. Not a day went by that I did not see soldiers in the town, which was used as a logistics base. Roaring tanks would crawl through the streets to the port late at night. I grew up as a devoted militarist daughter.

In 1944, I entered Hiroshima City Daiichi Girls' High School. Equipped with an anti-air raid hood and a first-aid bag, the students would carry a shovel or a hoe as well as a few study materials.

Senior students were sent to a munitions factory. Third-year students were assigned to sew shirts and underpants in a classroom which was turned into a military factory. Other people were not allowed to get close to the classroom on the grounds that military secrets could be leaked.

English classes were eliminated since it was regarded as the language of the enemy. We students were mostly engaged in cultivating vacant land or digging holes in the school yard to make an air-raid shelter. We were told that there would be no classes in principle for a year from April 1945. We worked at factories or on farms.

Many students were mobilized from various schools to help dismantle houses to create firebreaks.

In my school, first- and second-year students were ordered to help in the demolition of houses from August 5 in what is now Peace Park. The following day, all 542 students and their 7 teachers were killed while working there.

I survived because I was on leave of absence due to a stomachache.

That morning, I was downstairs in a wooden house 4 kilometers from the hypocenter with my aunt and four other family members. At 8:15 a.m. we saw a flash. We rushed to the air-raid shelter. But I failed to escape and, along with the *tatami* mats, was blown off my feet by the blast. When I landed, I found myself still standing, but beneath the floor. I rushed out to find my house completely destroyed, but without any signs of a bomb. Looking up at the sky in the north, I saw a fireball growing larger and rising. It soon became dark outside, making me wonder what had happened.

As time passed by, men and women with burnt skin hanging down came toward us. Their faces were swollen and they were without clothing. The shrine in our house became a temporary first-aid station.

In order to prevent people from dying in the building of the shrine and thus defiling the sacred place, people with serious injuries were moved to a kindergarten next-door. Only people who were relatively lightly injured were allowed to stay in the shrine. But the next morning, people who had been believed to be without injury were found dead.

Wounded people wanted water, but we knew that people with burns would die if they drink water. Without medicine to treat them, we had no means of helping them.

From August 7, I was tasked with keeping watch over the fire for cremation. At that time no one had knowledge of radiation. It was much later that we learned that people exposed to strong radiation would die or suffer from various health problems.

My school reopened in September and I went to school for the first time since the atomic bombing. In the second-year class, there were only two students besides me. Since we had been taught in militarism-led education that the greatest honor is to die for the country, I felt ashamed of having survived.

On October 30, a memorial service for the dead was held in the damaged school auditorium. The mother of a dead friend of mine said to me, "Honest students are dead and loafers have survived. I hate to see your faces." I thought I

should not have survived. I tried to die by throwing myself into a river, but I did not have the courage to do so.

In 1948, I began to feel fatigued and sluggish, and frequently fell down due to anemia. The doctor said nothing abnormal was detected in me, although he recognized symptoms of anemia and leukopenia. I thought the doctor was right, but when purple spots appeared on my skin, I began to suspect that they must have been caused by exposure to atomic bomb radiation.

During the year following graduation from high school, I was in low spirits. My mother said I was a lazy girl. I was in bed all the time in a dark room.

I gave birth to my first son at the age of 26. He suffered from severe anemia since babyhood, and I worried that he might have got the illness from me. But, reluctant to hear, see, or read anything about the atomic bomb, I withdrew into myself.

One day, I was invited by a friend of mine to attend a women's gathering. A thin booklet that I saw at the meeting changed my life. It contained notes by a woman survivor, who was two years older than I. She wrote about her younger sister: "That morning she was cheerful when she left home but later was found dead. She was crushed to death under a fallen wall of a temple blown down by the blast. People were burnt like fallen leaves."

The woman concluded her story by saying: "Who started this war? Who is seeking to start war again in spite of the tragic experience? Now is the time to take a hard look at this issue so that we can think about it without being misled. With this, I would like to convey to everyone my wish for peace."

Reading this, I thought I may have met the same fate as her younger sister if the atomic bomb had been dropped on the 5th, instead of the 6th, of August. I asked myself what I had been doing for 19 years. I was ashamed of my ignorance and my attitude of not trying to learn anything.

That was how I began interviewing Hibakusha. I had been thinking that I was not a Hibakusha because my doctor had told me that atomic bomb radiation effects are only seen within 2 kilometers from the hypocenter and that people who were in areas 4 kilometers from the hypocenter were not affected. Listening to Hibakusha's stories, I realized that their lingering health problems are similar to those of me and my family members.

Sixty years after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, I read a book entitled "Dangerous Effects of Internal Radiation Exposure" written by Dr. Hida Shuntaro. I came to suspect that the

fatigue or the so-called "bura-bura disease" I experienced for one year after graduating from high school may have been a radiation disorder caused by internal exposure to radiation.

I was convinced that I had suffered from possible damage caused by internal and low-dose radiation exposure when I took part in concerted Hibakusha lawsuits demanding that the national government recognize our illnesses as caused by exposure to atomic bomb radiation.

I never forget how happy I was when we had the new Constitution of Japan declaring the renunciation of war forever.

Prime Minister Abe Shinzo continues to believe in the doctrine of nuclear deterrence while talking about the need to get nuclear weapons abolished.

I would like to help spread the international signature campaign for the abolition of nuclear weapons and see a world without such weapons while Hibakusha are still alive.

Koo Jung Sung
Vice President, Korean Atomic Bomb
Casualty Association
Republic of Korea

Thank you for inviting me to the World Conference.

Allow me first to express my sincere hope that the World Conference against A & H Bombs will develop even further to help achieve a world without nuclear weapons ensuring that our descendants can live in peace without anxieties.

My name is Koo Jung Sung. I am vice president of the Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association.

In South Korea there are about 2,500 atomic bomb survivors. Following the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, the Japanese Home Ministry's police affairs bureau said the number of Koreans killed there ranged from 40,000 to 50,000. It is said that some 15,000 Koreans were killed in Nagasaki. But these are only estimated figures because neither Japan nor Korea has ever conducted an official survey. So, we have no choice but to depend on estimation. This is a reality. It is very disappointing and frustrating. The number of Korean survivors is said to be almost the same as that of Koreans who died in the two explosions. Of these Korean survivors, about 70,000 decided to stay in Japan and about 45,000 chose to go back to their home country. However, what awaited them in Korea were poverty and suffering from aftereffects of exposure to A-bomb radiation. More than half of them died within five years. At

present there are only 2,500 people surviving. It is a matter of deep regret and unbearable pain. It is said that the magnitude of damage to Japanese people is ten times that for Koreans. We are simply appalled by the horrible consequence of the use of nuclear weapons.

I would like to say something about what my family and I experienced in the aftermath of the atomic bombing. I am 73 years old, relatively young compared to most of the other Korean Hibakusha. The atomic bomb was dropped when I was only two years old. Actually, I have no real memory of the bombing. As I grew older, I heard horrible stories of the atomic bombing from my parents, relatives in Japan, an uncle in a village, and my brothers. I learned that the atomic bomb is a dreadful weapon capable of killing tens of millions of people in an instant.

My father was a cargo handling worker at Hiroshima Station. My mother worked hard to support the family's well-being. I was one of four sons. My family was a poor but ordinary family living in harmony. My older brother was a second grader at Onaga Elementary School, but I hear that he could not study at all due to frequent air raids. Then came the day: August 6, 1945. It was in the morning. The sound of a huge explosion was immediately followed by a blast destroying our wooden house. We found ourselves in hell. Fortunately, thanks to my parents' quick action and our neighbors' help, all our family members survived. But my older brother was wounded and has carried a leg injury all his life. My heart aches when I think of my brother's suffering. He is now living out his old age in the Hapcheon Welfare Center for Atomic Bomb Victims. My heart aches when I think of his lonely life.

In the wake of the bombing, my family moved to Funairi in order to return to my parents' hometown in Korea. My parents once told me what they had witnessed on the way. I never recall their story without a shudder. In Funairi, my parents obtained a temporary house to live and gave their injured son medical treatment. It was around that time that the chance came. They successfully boarded a smuggler boat and left Funairi for Korea. They managed to reach their hometown via Busan. However, their poverty did not change much even there. The only change they had was the birth of a son and a daughter. My father died in 1982 after a long battle with liver cancer amid poverty. My mother died of stomach cancer in 1995. My younger brother died in 2012 of larynx cancer. Two years later, my younger sister died of stomach cancer.

This is a sad history of an unfortunate family.

I think the loss of loved ones is the most tragic thing the nuclear weapon left to me.

Because of the tragedy caused by the atomic bombing, my brother and I are the only surviving family members. Whenever I wish I could see my dead parents and brothers, I always blame nuclear weapons and hate nuclear powers.

Nevertheless, time goes by like a stream. This is the 71st year since the A-bombings. Yet, we Hibakusha are forced to endure the pain caused by the aftereffects of exposure to atomic bomb radiation. We must understand that nuclear weapons bring about miserable consequences and that we are called upon to maintain the historical view that no more tragedies of nuclear war must be allowed to happen. I hope all people in the world will share this sense.

The thing that worries me a lot is the existence of countries that cling to nuclear weapons or seek to develop such arms. To help achieve a nuclear-free world, I will devote the rest of my life to the cause of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Nakagawa Shigenori Lawyer/ National Counsel for No More Hibakushas Lawsuit

Inhuman Nature of Nuclear Weapons and Japanese and U.S. Governments

1. Introduction

In August 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan carried on a war of aggression despite its isolation from the international community. This became the cause of the first nuclear attack in human history, which opened the door to the nuclear age.

Once they are used, nuclear weapons bring about catastrophic humanitarian consequences. This is why any use of nuclear weapon is considered a violation of international humanitarian law, which stays the hands of nuclear possessing countries and of those that rely on such weapons. The increasing number of voices calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons has become a major trend in the international community.

On the other hand, in 2003 Hibakusha or survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings began filing collective lawsuits against the state for the recognition of their diseases as caused by exposure to atomic bomb radiation.

In court, Hibakusha exposed the realities of the damage and aftereffects of the atomic bombings. In this statement I will give you their arguments to explain the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and

that of the Japanese and US governments which cling to such weapons.

2. Detonation of atomic bomb

Let us look at the actual use of atomic bombs to annihilate Hiroshima and Nagasaki. An NHK TV special program entitled “Ten Second Impact of the Atomic Bombing” was aired in 1998.

Chain reactions of nuclear fission began at 600 or 500 meters above ground and generated plasma (a high energy state of matter where electrons are separated from nuclei) of a million degrees centigrade and an atmospheric pressure of several million hectopascals, forming a giant fireball that could easily be described as an artificial sun. It had a radius of up to 300 meters. Its surface temperature reached 7000 degrees centigrade (the surface temperature of the sun is about 6000 degrees centigrade). Heat rays burned deep into people’s skin, peeling it off, and set fire to all objects on the ground.

The bulging fireball created a wall of air or shock waves that moved faster than the speed of sound. It then caused a blast that instantly leveled down or leveled buildings and other objects. Humans were also blown down and thrown down against the ground. Their eyeballs popped out of their eye-sockets and their intestines came out of their bellies. All this happened in less than 10 seconds after the bomb detonation.

Then people were exposed to radiation. The fission of Uranium-235 takes only a hundred millionth of second. In a millionth of second, over 80 generations of nuclear fission chain reactions occurred, releasing massive amounts of neutrons that irradiated people. They also turned the substances in the air and on the ground into radioactive materials.

The mushroom cloud contained various substances, including nuclear fission substances, radioactive substances created by neutron collision and many other radioactive substances in massive amounts including uranium and plutonium gases that did not disintegrate. First being carried into the sky, they then showered down on people under the mushroom cloud in the form of black rain or soot of radioactive particles.

3. Hell

The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki swarmed everywhere with dead bodies. Here is the testimony of a Hibakusha of Nagasaki who, on the day following the atomic bombing, went into the city searching for his uncle:

“I saw innumerable bodies: dead horses with swollen bellies, human bodies burned black, a man dead face up with a bed quilt around his

arm that he may have carried with him as he entered an air-raid shelter. I saw nothing but horrors everywhere. So I kept walking feeling as if I were in a nightmare”.

It is said that 27% of people who died on the day of the bombing were teenagers. This is partly because a large number of school children were mobilized in Hiroshima to demolish buildings and houses to make fire lanes.

There are also many people who went missing after losing contact with their families and whose deaths have still not been confirmed.

Iwasa Mikiso, who was in the Fujimicho area in Hiroshima on that day, was thrown to the ground after he had felt the flash. When he regained consciousness, he found his house crushed flat and his mother trapped under it. He tried to rescue her by removing the fallen mud wall with his hands, but the fire was getting closer and his mother told him to run away. Iwasa did as he was told leaving behind his mother reciting the Buddhist Wisdom Sutra.

In court, he testified: “My mother did not die as a human being. She was burned like an object and killed by the bomb. A 16-year-old boy on his own had to incinerate the body of his mother whom he had left behind. Can you imagine how I felt then?” In 2004, Iwasa saw Hiroshima after the destruction in a dream. He said he cried, “This time around, I will save my mother at any cost”. An estimated 100,000 people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were burned alive and died like Iwasa’s mother.

People who could escape death had to walk around for a safe place like ghosts as their clothes were burned, their skin peeling off and hanging from their bodies. Those who become unable to walk fell down and died there. Many of those who successfully reached a first-aid shelter also died later without giving their names and without leaving any clue for their families to know how they died.

Among the people who had survived that day died one after another during the following weeks and months, first due to severe burns and later from radiation disorders.

By the end of 1945, about 140,000 people died in Hiroshima and about 70,000 in Nagasaki due to the atomic bombings. (In addition to these figures, there were tens of thousands of people from the Korean Peninsula, who had settled in Japan or been drafted to work here).

4. Atomic bomb continued to cause people to suffer even after war

(1) Hardships of life due to atomic bombing

Watanabe Aiko (Ms.), one of the plaintiffs of

the collective lawsuit mentioned above, was 9 months-pregnant and in the Inasa district of Nagasaki, 2.2 km from ground zero. Her house was seriously damaged and her husband and father-in-law died. Unable to rely on her own parents, she delivered her baby at a cheap lodging house and moved from place to place looking for jobs: she ran an open-air bar stall in Tokyo's Ikebukuro and rented a narrow 2-tatami-room in a shared house where she lived with her child. She was at the same time suffering from many different diseases including myoma of the uterus (also known as a fibroid tumor), chronic hepatic cirrhosis, anemia, thyroid deficiency, etc. In the lawsuit, judges questioned her at the bedside as she was unable to appear in court.

(2) Poor health: A-bomb *burabura* disease

Many Hibakusha began suffering from a variety of physical conditions whose cause was unknown and people began to call that particular condition specific to Hibakusha "a-bomb as *burabura* disease". Hibakusha with the disease were frustrated. One Hibakusha said, "I wanted to find a job and work but my poor health condition did not allow me to do so. People criticized me for being 'lazy'. Who should be held accountable for the deterioration of my health condition?" Their families were also tormented in many ways.

(3) Hardships experienced by children

Kosugi Masanori, another plaintiff, was 11 years old and a Fukuromachi elementary school student at the time of the atomic bombing, but he had already been evacuated to Uesugi Village. His mother, his 3-year-old brother and his grandparents lived in his house in Hiroshima. On August 11, he went with his uncle where his house had been, about 500m from the hypocenter, but what he saw was a wide stretch of burned ruins. He and his uncle took turns to dig the ground where they believed his house had stood. They spent two days for digging but found no body. After the war's end, many of his classmates went back to Hiroshima with their parents. Kosugi waited for his parents to come and take him back to Hiroshima, but they did not show up. The following year, he learned that his father, who had been sent on an expedition to New Guinea, was already dead. He moved from one relative's house to another but he was not welcome anywhere. In 1954, he went to Tokyo and has struggled hard to survive ever since.

(4) Discrimination, mental scars

One Hibakusha testified, "Seeing in the new school that other Hibakusha children were harassed or bullied by classmates, I decided not to tell them that I am a Hibakusha". Another

Hibakusha said, "I have faced discrimination in marriage and looking for a job. In addition, the parents of my daughter's fiancé said they would not agree to their son's marriage with a Hibakusha's child". Another one confessed, "I cannot tell even my own sister that our mother happened to be at Kamiyacho when the bomb fell and died there because she was on the way back home from where she had gone to get medicine for me as I was sick in bed". Another Hibakusha spoke about his moral suffering for not being able to tell his own wife for 60 years until he testified in court about the pain he still feels in his heart when he thinks of the moment he turned his back on a voice begging him to help save a child as he was walking through Hiroshima covered with ruins and corpses.

5. Systematic U.S. cover-up of A-bomb damage

Damage caused by atomic bombings was brought to the knowledge of the world by foreign reporters such as Leslie Nakashima and Wilfred Burchett, who were among the first ones to enter the A-bomb devastated Japanese cities.

Burchett's article, which appeared in the September 5 issue of the British "Daily Express" starts with "I write this as a warning to the world." He said that "in Hiroshima 30 days after, people continue to die. Those who were intact are dying from some unknown causes".

Nevertheless, the U.S. totally covered up the actual damage.

During the month that followed the atomic bombing, the U.S. army sent a survey team to investigate the effects of the bombings. Deputy Commanding General Thomas F. Farrell, one of the responsible members of the Manhattan Project and who came to Japan as a member of that team, told foreign correspondents at a meeting in the Imperial Hotel on September 6 that there was no evidence of continuing radioactivity in the blasted area. He said, "In Hiroshima and Nagasaki, here at the beginning of September, anyone liable to die has already died and no one is suffering from atomic radiation."

In addition, the Civil Censorship Detachment under the GHQ/SCAP on September 10 began implementing prior censorship of radio programs and post-fact censorship of newspapers that soon spread throughout most regions of Japan. On September 18, the Asahi Shimbun was punished with 3 days of suspension of publication for having issued an article about Hatoyama Ichiro condemning the atomic bombings as a "violation of international law and a war crime". This had a chilling effect on the media.

On September 19, the so-called press code on

newspapers, officially named as “SCAPIN-33: Press Code for Japan,” was issued. It provided that “Nothing shall be printed which might, directly or by inference,” would make “destructive criticism of the Allied Powers” or “might invite mistrust or resentment of those troops.” It was followed by another notice that extended the application of the press code to all other publications.

“The City of Corpses” written by Ota Yoko, which was ordered to delete some parts, was not allowed to be published in full until 1948.

Professor Tsuzuki Masao of Tokyo Imperial University, based on the findings of his survey in Hiroshima, found out by observing the symptoms presented by Hibakusha that the A-bomb damage was not only caused by heat rays, the blast and radiation but also by radioactive gases. In November of 1945, he produced 30 copies of a booklet with that information and distributed them to well-known doctors in different regions. It was the first time that the difference between residual radiation and direct A-bomb radiation was found in their respective effects on human body. The occupation forces however banned in late November any research on the atomic bombs, including medical research and publications. They also ordered Prof. Tsuzuki to collect all copies he had distributed and translate the booklet into English for foreign distribution after removing the term “radioactive poisonous gases”. Tsuzuki refused to do so and did not accept any attempt of persuasion. He was eventually expelled from the university. The results of research Tsuzuki and other Japanese scientists conducted were all confiscated and taken to the U.S. by the American survey team in late December.

As for images and films, shooting by the movie team led by the producer Kano Ryuichi was initially banned, but the U.S. forces later decided to use footage shot by that team for their own survey team on strategic bombing. The survey team is said to have confiscated all the films footage by Kano’s team, even negative fragments.

Concerning the rescue operations by the Swiss doctor Marcel Junot, who was the Representative of the Red Cross International Committee in Japan, the occupation forces in September sent him some medicines but refused to provide further assistance. In 1948, the ABCC (Atomic Bomb Casualties Commission) was established in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but as you probably know, that institution was criticized by Hibakusha because while it did conduct a survey, it did not provide any care to them.

6. Lawsuit and decision over the illegality of atomic bombing and nuclear weapons in light of international law

(1) Shimoda Case ruling

There was a lawsuit that questioned the legal responsibility of the U.S. government for A-bomb damage. It is called Shimoda Case, filed by Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki against the Japanese government.

The plaintiffs claimed that dropping the atomic bomb was an act contrary to international law and the U.S. government should have been held responsible for compensation, but as the Japanese government by signing the San Francisco Peace Treaty had renounced the right to make a claim, they therefore decided that it was the Japanese government that was responsible for compensation.

The Tokyo District Court on December 7, 1963 handed down a landmark ruling stating that dropping the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki constituted a violation of both wartime international law and International humanitarian law.

In the trial, the Japanese government claimed that the use of atomic bombs was not prohibited by international law because there was neither an international customary law nor international treaty that prohibited the use of atomic bombs. The Tokyo District Court ruling, insisting that even in the absence of an international legal instrument that explicitly prohibits the use of atomic bombs, said it must be considered as prohibited by international law as by interpreting or inferring existing international laws and regulations, their use can naturally be considered as prohibited. The above-mentioned conclusion of the ruling was derived from the following two arguments:

(a) Military target argument

The ruling argues: “The international law in effect at that time allowed the attack with atomic bombs only on military targets except for cases in which a city is threatened to be occupied. However, given the power of atomic bomb to inflict damage and destruction that can destroy a medium-sized city completely, even if the atomic attack is aimed at a military target alone, it could be regarded as illegal act of combat”.

(b) Ban on weapons that give unnecessary suffering

The ruling, noting the existence of international laws and regulations that prohibit the use of poisons and toxic gases, states that besides poisons and poisonous gases that are explicitly banned, any means to damage the enemy that gives suffering comparable or

greater than poisons or poisonous gases are considered to be prohibited by international laws and regulations. Dropping the atomic bombs constitutes a violation of the rule of unnecessary suffering, because it took the lives of a large number of citizens and those who escaped death 18 years after are still threatened by the effects of A-bomb radiation, which is a very regrettable situation.

The Shimoda ruling is the judgment of a Japanese local tribunal. However, its significance must not be underestimated. Arguments were exchanged at a Japanese local court between Hibakusha and the state over the illegality of the act of dropping the atomic bombs. In addition, it concluded that the dropping of atomic bombs was illegal in light of the positive law. Even more important was the fact the tribunal squarely looked at and adopted as the basis of its conclusion, the power of atomic bombing to inflict damage and devastation as well as the extreme gravity of the damage and sufferings incurred. The ruling is a precious legal precedent for us when we want to use the legal framework for banning nuclear weapons. Indeed, it is our common treasure.

(2) Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice

On July 8, 1996, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) gave its conclusion on whether the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons were against international law.

The ICJ decision in its principal text (para. 2E) states that the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons generally contradicts the rules of international law applied to armed conflicts, especially the principles and rules of international humanitarian law. It continues, however, that “considering the current state of international law and the facts verified by the Court, the Court cannot make a definitive conclusion whether the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons are legal or illegal in an extreme circumstance of self-defense where the survival of a state is at stake”.

This decision was adopted by a close vote of 8 against 7. It leaves something to be desired in that it fails to affirm that the use of nuclear weapons is illegal in any circumstances. However, there is no doubt that the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was not done in an extreme circumstance of self-defense. The Japanese government pursues its reliance policy on the U.S. nuclear umbrella, claiming that “the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons are contrary to the humanitarian spirit that underlies the international humanitarian law but they do not constitute a violation of international law”. The

ICJ advisory opinion has a positive significance for countering such a claim.

7. Japanese government’s response to concerted A-bomb lawsuit -- From A-bomb disease victims’ collective lawsuits to the new “No More Hibakushas Lawsuit”

(1) Why did the Hibakusha take legal action?

There is a law that sets in place a mechanism that accords the Hibakusha who are recognized as A-bomb survivors by the Minister of Health and are given “Hibakusha Health Book” which provides some entitlements, such as free health care and some special allowances when they fall ill. To be recognized as an A-Bomb Disease Patient and qualify for this entitlement (i) a Hibakusha must prove that his or her illness or injury is due to exposure to A-bomb radiation or his/her healing capacity was affected by radiation (causality of radiation); (ii) the Hibakusha’s disease or injury must require medical treatment (need for medical treatment). The state applies an extremely narrow interpretation to the requirement of radiation causality and has systematically turned down the application for the “Hibakusha Health Handbook” from those who were beyond 500 meters or 1km from the hypocenter.

In addition, the state excluded from the list of diseases attributable to radiation, cancers that developed in certain regions claiming that their “causality relation with radiation has not been medically confirmed”. It also excluded from that list all non-cancer diseases such as impaired liver function or myocardial infarction.

As a result, as of March 2003, while there were 279,714 Hibakusha Health Handbook holders, only 2,172 of them, accounting less than 1 percent, were recognized as A-bomb Disease Patients.

Before that, those Hibakusha who could not accept this had filed lawsuits individually against the state and won some successes. In April 2003, Hibakusha in different cities around the country decided to sue the state collectively and simultaneously to make their case known to the wider public.

(2) State’s arguments in court

What awaited aging Hibakusha plaintiffs was the merciless attitude of the state that denied the A-bomb damage in the name of “scientific knowledge”.

The criteria of recognition adopted by the state consisted of evaluating the radiation dose each Hibakusha was exposed to and use it to determine the probability of causation of the disease in question, i.e. the possibility that the disease is caused by radiation exposure. The probabilities were calculated by simulation on the basis of

“DS86”, sets of data collected from nuclear tests. “DS86” however only took into account the radiation released directly by the explosion and ignored almost completely the contribution of residual radiation created by radioactive products that filled the air under the mushroom cloud.

In addition, the epidemiological survey conducted by the Radiation Effects Research Fund (RERF) had a structural defect of including those who were exposed to massive amounts of radiation in the non-exposed group, which led to underestimate the risk of diseases.

For example, the state claimed that “probability of causation” was 5 % for a plaintiff with cancer in his left kidney although he was only at 1.8 km from the hypocenter when the bomb fell and was later showered with black rain while engaged in rescue operations and removing corpses. The state also argued that thyroid dysfunction and impaired liver function were diseases whose causality with radiation had not been identified.

(3) What the legal action has brought to light

Hibakusha depicted the realities of the atomic bombing to explain the invasive, long-lasting and profound effects of A-bomb radiation on human body and systematically put into question the “recognition criteria”.

(a) In addition to their own deposition and many personal accounts, Hibakusha tried to submit as many facts as possible including “Collection of A-Bomb Damage Survey Reports” and medical records compiled by Dr. Jinpo Gensaku, to show that acute symptoms were observed in the people exposed to the bomb within 2 km or 3 km from the ground zero as well as those who entered the city after the bombing.

(b) Sawada Shoji demonstrated that the Atomic Mushroom was almost 20 kilometer high and spread 20 km wide and its feet was filled with massive radioactive particles (nuclear fission products, irradiated A-bombing equipment, non-disintegrated uranium and plutonium). People who were under the Mushroom were irradiated even if they were not showered with black rain.

(c) In addition to Sawada, Ichikawa Sadao and Yagasaki Katsuma proved that internal radiation exposure bears specific risks and that contribution of low-dose radiation exposure could not be neglected.

(d) The medical group worked jointly and systematically to analyze the findings of studies conducted by the RERF, finding that cancers, regardless of the region of body where they developed, correlated with radiation doses and were thus not limited to high level exposure.

They also showed that statistically significant differences in the incidence of various non-cancer diseases were found in low-level exposure zones. They medically elucidated the fact that A-bomb radiation continues to affect the human body in various ways even several decades later.

What was disputed in the trial was the contribution of residual radiation. Hibakusha had to convince the court of the existence of residual radiation and its effect. What eventually convinced the judges was, in addition to scientific evidences, the testimonies given by the Hibakusha.

Saito Yasuko who took her case to a court in 2003 with other Hibakusha, had seen her condition deteriorate and appeared in the court in a wheelchair on the last day of the trial. She was 4 years old at the time of the atomic bombing and narrowly escaped direct damage as she was in a relative’s house outside Hiroshima. On August 11, she went with her mother to the place where their house had been, located at 1.4 km from ground zero. She was affected by radiation while she stayed there until August 16, digging ground or drinking water. The district court took these facts seriously and recognized that Yasuko was irradiated significantly, but the State appealed. In the appeal, the defendant insisted that Yasuko’s entry into Hiroshima was in mid-September, according to the ABCC record, attempting to throw into question the reliability of her claim. Yasuko killed herself earlier in February 2007, shortly before the district court ruling, leaving a brief note to her mother, “Sorry to leave you behind”. Her 96-year-old mother, Tomoya Iku, was the only person who could testify at the high court. Iku told the court that Yasuko and other children had helped her to dig out valuables and food from the ground where their house had used to stand. She also explained that they had gone as far as Hacchobori to look for their relatives, and since then, her daughters had been repeatedly suffering from high fever and diarrhea. She stated that she regretted a great deal for having taken them there. She was very clear when accounting her story and answering questions by the defendant’s lawyers.

(4) Review of the recognition criteria and signing of conclusion document

In 2006, after an intense battle before the tribunal, the Hibakusha plaintiffs won in Osaka and Hiroshima. They were followed by a number of other district court rulings condemning the unfair recognition criteria imposed by the State. The Hibakusha repeatedly carried out sit-ins in front of the Ministry of Health building. A non-partisan group of members of parliament supported them in exerting pressure on the state.

As a result, in April 2008, the state made public new recognition criteria.

On August 6, 2009, a “Document of confirmation on the basic policy regarding the termination of the collective lawsuits on A-Bomb Disease Recognition” was signed between the then Prime Minister Aso and Nihon Hidankyo. Kawamura Takeo, Chief Cabinet Secretary, made public his statement saying that the government took very seriously the fact that “the courts have handed down 19 times severe rulings concerning the A-bomb disease recognition criteria adopted by the state” and that the “government offer an apology for that”. The document of confirmation said that the solution would be sought through regular consultations between the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare and Nihon Hidankyo to improve the recognition mechanism, putting an end to Hibakusha’s collective lawsuits.

(5) Health Ministry resistance and new “No More Hibakushas Lawsuits”

Despite of this, the Ministry of Health and Labor later narrowed the application of the criteria for recognition it developed itself in 2013, in particular, non-cancer diseases such as myocardial infarction. Therefore, Hibakusha were again forced to take their cases to district courts around the country. A total of 119 plaintiffs filed lawsuits in 7 district courts (Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka, Okayama, Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Kumamoto). These lawsuits are called “No More Hibakushas Lawsuits” (cases are pending currently in 5 district courts with 54 plaintiffs, 2 high courts with 14 plaintiffs and in the Supreme Court with 2 plaintiffs).

In these trials, the state seems to have forgotten the conclusion document it signed and repeats that radiation level was close to zero as one gets farther from ground zero and the contribution of residual radiation is valid only in very limited areas. Especially since the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident, it has submitted to the courts an opinion signed by 35 experts that is in line with the Ministry’s intention. They also claim that the application for recognition must be rejected for any circulatory disease whose cause may not be radiation but high blood pressure. They are trying to change the courts’ position about the recognition criteria by any and all means.

The Hibakusha continue year by year to gather scientific knowledge about the effects of radiation exposure on human body and residual radiation and submit it to the courts. In addition, aged Hibakusha, despite their poor health, attend the hearings as much as they can to make known the real consequences of the atomic bombings.

As a result of these efforts, while we lost some

ground in a few cases, all the plaintiffs won victories in a row in October 2015 and in June 2016 at the Tokyo District Court.

8. Conclusion

The attitude of the state, which does not hesitate to force aging Hibakusha to fight in court, is unacceptable. The governments of Japan and the U.S. hold the common intention to cover-up or try to minimize the A-bomb damage. Because of this attitude, many Hibakusha have gone without any assistance and been abandoned to their fate, and they have been forced to struggle to bring the state to justice. These are additional agony to them who experienced catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons.

I am confident that the Hibakusha’s action to make known to the world the real damage of atomic bombings has contributed to preventing nuclear war and influencing Japanese courts as well as the International Court of Justice. With the Hibakusha, let’s work together for a world free of nuclear weapons.

**Abacca Anjain Maddison
Former Senator/ Iju in Ean Club, People
of Rongelap
Marshall Islands**

“A Nuclear Weapons Free, Peaceful and Just World”

As I was thinking about what I wanted to say this year at this very important conference, the face of my father appeared in my mind very clearly. It was the face I remember exactly how he looked so seriously as he pleaded to make me promise to carry on the work he started. He said, “Abacca, you MUST do it for the people we must keep their stories alive”. Several weeks from that time, he passed on from cancer diseases.

Twenty three years ago today, I am feeling blessed and so honored to carry on the legacy of my father Jeton Anjain, the late senator who fought for the lives of the people of Rongelap especially the children and future generations to come, and at the same time to make known to the world nuclear bombs indiscriminately destroys humankind and our planet earth. This is the reason why we are here today in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to keep the spirit alive and to continue to spread the word of peace campaigning for abolition of nuclear weapons even if the road is a blur and our minds clouded with discouragements and we are weary.

My name is Abacca Anjain-Maddison, I represent the women of Rongelap Atoll through

the Iju in Ean women's club. It is good to see friends from all over the world. Thank you Gensuikyo for the invitation.

The Marshall Islands were administered by the United States as a United Nations Trust Territory from 1947 until 1986 when the Republic of the Marshall Islands was established as a sovereign nation in the free association with the United States. Previous to those years, the Marshall Islands was administered by Japan under a League of Nations mandate, and was the site of many important battles of the Pacific during World War II. After World War II, the United States established the Pacific Proving Grounds for testing nuclear weapons. From 1946 through 1958, 67 nuclear weapons tests, in seven series, were carried out by the United States at Bikini and Enewetak Atolls located at the northwestern end of the archipelago that makes up the Marshall Islands. The location from military standpoint is strategically suitable and important as it's the gateway to the Americas in the North and gateway to the Pacific and Asia.

The Marshall Islands has a unique and devastating history with nuclear weapons. While it was designated as a Trust Territory by the United Nations, no fewer than 67 atomic and thermonuclear weapons were deliberately exploded as 'tests' in the Marshalls Islands, by the United States. As a result of the tests, several islands in my country were vaporized and gone from the face of the earth and others became uninhabitable for thousands of years. Many, many Marshallese have died, have suffered from birth defects which are never before seen and battled cancers caused by the contamination. Tragically the Marshall Islands thus bears eye-witness to the horrific and indiscriminate lethal capacity of these weapons, and the inter-generational and continuing effects that they perpetuate even 60 years later". This was extracted from Former Minister Tony deBrum's testimony in The Hague, the International Court of Justice.

Of the special significance was the largest test conducted code-named Castle Bravo, a 15-megaton thermonuclear device tested on March 1st, 1954 on Bikini Atoll 1,000 times greater than Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

Even if the true extent of the bombs remain classified and we are told our islands are safe to return, and that it is normal to contract cancer illnesses, we will remain vigilant on the fact that we are being used and taken advantage of and we'll never trust. There are just so many incidents occurred not only within the exposed population of Rongelap community but people are suffering and

dying of cancer throughout the Marshall Islands and now, almost every day we hear about children suffering from cancer. Nuclear weapons must be abolished, we must continue to push for peace resolution and made awareness of what radiation from nuclear weapons does to human being and the environment.

Lately with best foot forward and little resources the Marshallese people and Government have done so much in fighting against injustices and made aware worldwide of the problems the country is facing today. At the community level more and more non-government organizations are established speaking about Marshall Island's nuclear legacy in public and mass media, more schools are teaching about nuclear impacts and so forth. The new RMI Government administration under President Hilda Heine committed to include nuclear issues agenda as RMI appeared in front of the Human Rights Court in Hague and endorsed the United National Sustainable Development Goals and last week called for consultations in Majuro to integrate and localize the SDGs into our National Strategic Plan to address nuclear issues, climate change and eradicate poverty as top priorities of the Government.

In a public statement by Minister of Foreign Affairs, John Silk in 2010, he said, "There is no question that the U.S. Government's detonation of sixty-seven atmospheric nuclear weapons in our country created profound disruptions to human health, the environment, as well as our economy, culture, political system, and virtually every aspect of life".

I wish to extend an invitation to anyone to join us next year for the Bikini Day commemoration on March 1st, 2017 on Ebeye. This will be the first time if this is ever held there, so it's important and meaningful to have overseas participants. Kwajalein islet is home of a military base called the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missiles installation. It has the most sophisticated radar in the world and the latest missiles are tested and launched periodically out of Vandenberg, California and intercepted in Kwajalein lagoon. The pressing issue today aside from the all the problems arising from living outside the fence, our food security is threatened: The fish are poisoned from PCB, lead and other type of deadly materials as the report was made public late last year by the US Military Commander on Kwajalein. The IAEA is helping RMI Government to make an assessment and advice on remedies and response. However, it would be very much appreciated if we could get any help from experts in the audience or offer recommendations on other experts you may know to assist to resolve this issue. Fish is Marshallese main food of

survival.

I realize more and more over the years as I am involved in the movement at home, the region and international arenas. It makes sense and is crucial to our survival. When my father asked me to carry on the work he left behind, this is exactly what he was talking about and more so it's because when we speak about people of Rongelap, Utirik, Bikini, Enewetak, Kwajalein and so forth, they are not just numbers, we are talking about our own flesh and blood they are our aunts, uncles, cousins, sisters, brothers, mother and father, grandpas and grandmamas. How I just refuse or give up?

I had the opportunity to work closely with uncle John and Nelson Anjain and with Lemeyo Abon, Lijohn Eknilang and Betty Edmond, etc. through Gensuikyo and Japanese Hibakusha. Thank you for making my family the symbol of solidarity between the people of Japan and Marshall Islands. Let us keep the spirit alive and take our cooperation and friendship in solidarity to a higher level. No More Hiroshima, No More Nagasaki No More Bikini....We Shall Overcome!

Oleg Bodrov
Filmmaker/ President, Green World
Russia

RUSSIAN NUCLEAR VICTIMS:
YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

Dear participants of the conference! Together with you I bow my head and mourn the hundreds of thousands of lives in Hiroshima and Nagasaki that instantly disappeared from our planet 71 years ago.

Unfortunately the victims of atomic bombs were not only in Japan!

I come from a country, which while competing with the United States created its own nuclear weapons. Fortunately those weapons were not exploded on the territory of other countries. But the paradox is that the creation and testing of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union gave rise to a number of victims, which is comparable to the number of victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki!

Weapons-grade plutonium for the first bomb was produced in Russia in the mid-1940s. For this, the production center Mayak was built in the town of Ozersk in the Urals region. These works were carried out in conditions of total secrecy, with neglect of health and human lives. Liquid radioactive waste was discharged into the Techa River.

Many thousands people lived along the shores of the river. They farmed, grazed cattle, and were

unaware of the fatal danger. These were the first victims of the not yet completed Soviet atomic bomb!

At a secret plant there were accidents. As a result, a large amount of radioactive substances were released into the environment. Information about them is considered a state secret.

The largest accident happened on September 29, 1957. At the production plant of Mayak, tanks for storage of liquid high-level waste exploded. 20 million Curies of radioactivity were thrown into the atmosphere. As a result, more than 20 thousand square kilometers were contaminated. Now it is called the "Kyshtym catastrophe." Soldiers and even schoolchildren participated in the cleanup of pollution after the accident. Safety standards were not observed. Many received lethal doses of radiation.

After the accident some 250 settlements were relocated. The total number of officially registered affected civilians is more than 500,000 people, not including the military-liquidators of the catastrophe.

After the invention of the bomb, there were numerous tests of nuclear weapons. One of them took place on September 14, 1954 with the participation of 45,000 soldiers and 10,000 local residents. A plane dropped a nuclear bomb capacity of 40 kilotons over Russian territory. Many became victims of these tests. Moreover, health problems continued into the next generation of victims of these tests.

Over the past 70 years, 20 nuclear single-industry towns were built and continue to function. Half of them are mainly related to nuclear weapons, the other half with operating nuclear power plants. One and a half million people currently live in these nuclear towns. This is 1% of the Russian population. This "Rosatom Country" is like a small secret "nuclear matryoshka" within the Russian Federation.

Residents of the "Rosatom Country" live under special laws. The liquid radioactive waste is allowed to be discharged into natural water bodies or pumped underground. For example, the Mayak facility in the nuclear city of Ozersk annually discharges into the Techa River 600,000 cubic meters of liquid radioactive waste. This is the result of the processing of 100 tons of spent nuclear fuel from Russian nuclear submarines and nuclear power plants.

Russian citizens today continue to live on the banks of the radioactive Techa River, just as it was 70 years ago. They are in fact living in a radioactive waste site. These are the modern victims of the "Country of Rosatom". They are the grandchildren of the victims of the first atomic

bomb. It is a violation of the Russian Constitution, which guarantees the right to a safe environment.

Those who try to protect the civil rights of these people are under pressure from the authorities and the nuclear lobby. Nadezhda Kutepova, head of the NGO "Planet of Hopes" from the nuclear town Ozersk, was forced to flee with her three children from prosecution in Russia in last year. She and her children have received political asylum in France.

About 100 anti-nuclear, environmental and human rights Russian NGOs have been treated as "foreign agents."

They are black listed. This means, in the understanding of the authorities that such an NGO is working against Russian interests. The movement for a nuclear-free future is in this way widely characterized by the authorities as being anti-Russian.

"Rosatom Country" is a territory without freedom. It is non-transparent, undemocratic and corrupt. Russian citizens cannot do an independent and transparent monitoring on the environment and people's health conditions in "Rosatom Country." Its authority says "No environmental information means no problem."

"Rosatom Country" started the aggressive promotion of the business of nuclear electricity export and the building of the nuclear power plants in other countries. This business is based on the nuclear infrastructure of the Cold War time.

Spent nuclear fuel from Russian nuclear power plants and from plants outside of Russia is planned to be reprocessed in those closed nuclear towns. Fresh fuel for nuclear power plants is planned to be produced from the uranium, extracted from the spent nuclear rods. Plutonium-239, produced as a result of such processing, can be used to make new bombs, similar to that dropped on Nagasaki.

Emissions and discharges of radioactivity into the nature, including the injection of liquid radioactive waste into the ground, in the closed nuclear Russian single-industry towns is a threat not only to Russia. Russian nuclear technologies, including the processing of spent nuclear fuel, are located on the shores of the largest Eurasian rivers - the Ob and the Yenisei.

These rivers move radionuclides toward the Arctic Ocean. This means that radioactive seafood may be found on the table of future generations of the people of Europe and other continents.

Dear participants of the conference, colleagues. There can be no separation of nuclear technology between "dangerous military" and "secure peaceful" spheres.

I was with a research mission in the zone of the Chernobyl just after the accident. This is a tragedy

comparable to Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Fukushima.

And in Japan and Russia, there are hundreds of thousands of victims of these technologies. We do not need new victims!

We must be together for our peaceful future without nuclear weapons and without nuclear power!

Gediminas Rimdeika **The Green Policy Institute/ Lithuanian** **Green Party** **Lithuania**

Starting my speech, I want to inform you that in May 2016, an international conference devoted to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant disaster was held at the Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania. The resolution (appendix No. 1) adopted by the Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania drew attention to the fact that the participants in the conference approved of the initiative of the residents of Japan to reduce the number of nuclear weapons and supported their aspiration to give up nuclear weapons in the world; that schools should devote more attention to educational programmes and events related to nuclear safety, that the youth should be encouraged to take a keener interest in the activities directed against nuclear weapons; the issues of environmental protection, prospects of the development of renewable energy resources, as well as the issue of Astravas nuclear power plant being built on the Lithuanian-Belarus border, which poses a great danger to Lithuania, were also highlighted in the resolution.

These are the issues of fundamental importance today, the problems that we should not forget; these are the answers that the leaders and the governments of the world states should provide. Their actions should be oriented towards the wellbeing of the people, and they have to be open and fair with respect to their citizens.

The decision on ending the war at the expense of peaceful people by dropping the nuclear bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki taken 71 years ago by the authorities of the USA was condemned by the people of the world. The current President of the United States Barack Obama's visit to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park several months ago and his bowing to HIBAKUSHAS (atomic bomb survivors) were an indirect-silent apology for the global error committed by his predecessors, a deep understanding of the former senseless step, or, perhaps it was a firm step

towards “the world without nuclear weapons”.

We want to appeal to the heads of the Great Powers: Sirs, heads of the powerful states, that possess the nuclear weapon – all of you have to visit the Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorials; this would help you better understand the senselessness of the existence of nuclear weapons, you have to bend in memory of the Hibakushas and say to yourselves the following – NO TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, our country will not have this weapon, we shall invest these funds into building kindergartens and schools.

Unfortunately, the events of the last spring in North Korea say to us that we have to concentrate all progressive forces and work hard in this sphere.

Is and can atom be peaceful? Are nuclear power plants really reliable and safe, and are they really the source of cheap energy? In the middle of the twentieth century, with the need for energy growing, nuclear energy became as though a variant of solving all these problems, most probably even a means of reducing climate change. The Three Mile Island accident in 1979, the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in 2011 and many more minor accidents in nuclear power plants showed that this is not cheap energy; this is energy with long-term investments and long-term economic and ecological consequences. Is it really an irreplaceable source of energy? Here are some examples for you: Portugal lived for five days using only solar energy, nuclear power in Germany accounts for as little as 10 per cent today, in some countries it amounts to only one per cent of all energy produced.

The greatest challenge and problem today is climate change, which can cause catastrophic, irreparable consequences, the global sea level rise, flooded islands and coastal zones, which would make entire nations and large crowds of people look for new places of residence and water, and climate extremities would bring about destructions and cause an enormous material damage. Seeking to avoid global warming by more than 2 degrees centigrade it is necessary to carry out Paris COP 21 agreement using as many sources of renewable energy instead of fossil fuels as possible to produce heat and energy.

Nuclear energy is not the solution: neither because of its extremely dangerous technological nature nor because of the unsolved problem of the utilization of radioactive wastes, nor because of the way of concentrating the same nuclear fuel (uranium), which requires a lot of electricity that is often produced in electric power stations run on coal (for example, the USA, Australia, Russia). If we investigated the whole nuclear energy supply

chain, we would see that it is not clean technology.

Technologies of renewable energy are already here and now: for the production of solar, wind, hydro and geothermal-electricity, for providing the way of solving the ecological problems of biomass of energy-heat and electricity, as well as biogases, which can serve the needs of heat, electricity and transport.

Following a successful example of your organization involving the youth into a fight against nuclear and hydrogen weapons, meetings with school children have been organized for several years already at schools in Lithuania. On the first of March this year and this is a symbolic date - the 62nd anniversary of the explosion of the first hydrogen bomb in the world - with the help of Gensuikyo organization, we started the educational Lithuanian-Japanese project-exhibition *Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Atomic Bomb and Humanity*. The exhibition encourages the school children and members of the society to draw attention to the global problems of the world that pose a threat to the existence of humanity and humanism. At the present time this exhibition is being exposed in Lithuanian schools and organizations. During the conference it was displayed at the Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania.

The future belongs to the younger generation. This is not a hackneyed phrase. Having become acquainted with the short-sightedness and senselessness of the armaments race and having understood it well, the younger generation is going to continue the march *The World without the Nuclear Weapons* that we have staged today with full responsibility. Such people as Putin, Merkel, Obama or Kim Jong-un cannot impose their viewpoints and positions on the world and cannot dictate it. We shall try to achieve that in the future the countries should start competing for the number of modern kindergartens and schools, institutions of higher education, for the best social guarantees, for the highest standard of living and for the elimination of the stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

In May 2016, during the international conference held in Lithuania, where the thirtieth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster was commemorated, the residents of Chernobyl who reside in Lithuania awarded the Japanese organisation *Gensuikyo* and its Executive Director Hiroshi Takakusaki with the gold medal *For Public Interest*. This is our very modest contribution to the mighty work, which you perform for the sake of humanity. Your nation and your organisation has set an example to us in seeking for the common goal –*THE WORLD WITHOUT THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS*.

<Appendix No.1>

**THE PARLIAMENT OF LITHUANIA
RESOLUTION
FOR THE ISSUES RAISED AT THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE
30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISASTER IN
CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
No. XIIP-4434(2)
25th May, 2016 No.
Vilnius**

The Parliament of Lithuania,

regarding to the fact that, on May 6th, 2016 in the Parliament of Lithuania, Lithuanian Parliament Energy Commission and charitable foundation "Our Coast" organized an international conference on the 30th anniversary of Chernobyl catastrophe;

noting, that this international conference was to discuss the nuclear accidents, occurred at Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear power plants, causes and consequences to the environment and public health, political and economic development of nuclear energy and radiation safety aspects, issues, related with environmental protection operation of the nuclear power, renewable energy resource development perspective, Lithuanian representatives participated in the liquidation of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident, the legal status of Chernobyl workers and their children's inappropriate medical care, legal and social security of clean-up workers, living in other countries, emergency preparation and response to nuclear and radiological accidents strengthening necessity, services, which respond to the events of the first (fire protection, ambulance, etc.), preparation and training of employees, conservation and other issues of memorial monument „Chernobyl's mother“, dedicated to Chernobyl catastrophe victims;

drawing attention to the fact that the participants of this conference signed the international petition, in support of Japanese people, survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombing, a request for refusal of nuclear weapon;

regarding to the lessons, learnt after Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombing and explosion of hydrogen bomb in Bikini atoll, and also after a nuclear power plant accident in Chernobyl and Fukushima,

supports the international initiative to reduce the amount of nuclear weapons and expansion of individual regions in continents, where there are no nuclear weapons;

encourages the Lithuanian Ministry of Health to ensure:

1) proper health care of Lithuanian representatives, participated in the liquidation of the

Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident, and their children, sustainable health monitoring database performance, consistent and clear Specialists Commission diseases interface with participation in liquidation of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident to identify activities, publicity and cooperation with the public representatives;

2) statistical data collection and full responsibility and accountability to Chernobyl workers' and their children's health care and prevention issues to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;

stresses the need for Lithuanian Chernobyl workers' and their children's legal and social guarantees;

encourages Vilnius city municipality to take measures to protect the monument „Chernobyl's mother“, dedicated to the victims of the Chernobyl disaster;

suggests taking all possible legal measures to Astravo nuclear power plant in Belarus to be constructed in accordance with adequate safety instructions of the international organizations;

calls to strengthen the emergency preparation of Lithuanian authorities, updating legislation, in state, municipal level – the action of radiation emergency plans, providing the appropriate measures (early warning stations, shelters to residents, evacuation, stable iodine prevention application and etc.) with the help to protect the health of residents of Lithuania from harmful effects of ionizing radiation;

stresses the need to strengthen the preparation of the institutions of the Republic of Lithuania to fight terrorism, including the illegal usage of radioactive materials, distribution, or usage and ability to detect illegal nuclear or radioactive materials;

encourages the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science:

1) to pay more attention to educational programs and events related with nuclear security in Lithuanian schools, as well as to encourage the youth to take an active interest against nuclear weapons oriented activities and put forward by it; to integrate nuclear accidents prevention topics;

2) to strengthen the Lithuanian schools cooperation with the victims of nuclear weapons, also the active fight against nuclear weapons in schools, in order to ensure objective information about nuclear weapons and the spread of its usage.

Chairman of Parliament of Lithuania
Provides:

Ričardas Sargūnas
Kęstutis Daukšys

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

**Liquidators of the Chernobyl NPP Accident:
Thirty Years of Suffering from Radiation**

1. I visited Lithuania and Latvia in May 2016 as a member of the Gensuikyo delegation. I took part in the International Conference held in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania to commemorate the 30th year since the Chernobyl NPP accident. After the conference, we exchanged views and shared information with government officials, “liquidators” (those people engaged in the clean-up work of the crippled NPP) and many others from the two Baltic countries.

This statement is about damage sustained by the liquidators from radiation exposure 30 years after the Chernobyl NPP accident and about the present state of support given to them in the two countries.

2. Liquidators are those who have been involved in the decontamination of radioactive substances in areas, including the 30 km zone, the halting of operations at the remaining reactors, dosimetry, dam construction, and other related work. They are said to have been exposed to a total of 120 mSv on average from radiation sources outside the body. About 85% of the workers were exposed to radiation in the region of 20 mSv and 500 mSv. During the period between 1986 and 1988, about 7,000 people were sent to Chernobyl from Lithuania, and 6,000 from Latvia.

- Total number of Liquidators= 600,000 from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and the three Baltic states (including 7,000 from Lithuania and 6,000 from Latvia)
 - Between 1986 and 1987: 240,000 people worked in the area, including the 30km zone
 - Dosage (External exposure)
 - Between 1986 and 1987: the average effective dose = 120 mSv
 - Dosage to which 85% of the liquidators were exposed: between 20 mSv and 500 mSv
 - Exposure mode: Chronic exposure to low-level radiation
- (2011WP RIHSS, Working Party on Research Implications on Health and Safety Standard)

The latent health injury which visited many liquidators is believed to have been triggered by physical fatigue, mental stress, unbalanced diet or exposure to chemicals, mainly due to the constant inflammatory conditions caused by radiation as the

basic condition. Today, 30 years after the accident, it is known that, in addition to increasing cases of malignant tumors of the thyroid, prostate, stomach, lung, and urinary bladder, disorders are developing in liquidators’ circulatory systems, digestive systems, endocrine systems, sensory systems, nervous systems, and immune systems. (Data were provided by Prof. Maija Eglite of the Pauls Stradins Clinical University, Latvia).

The notion of contemporary medicine is that in principle, a disease develops in one organ and ends by treating that organ, but the cases mentioned above suggest that this no longer works.

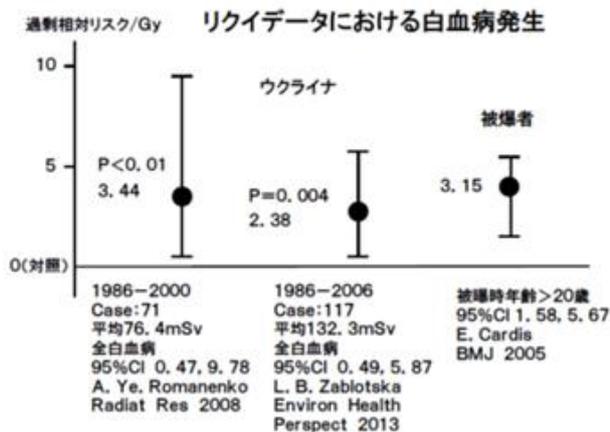
In fact, clinical conditions that produce such complex clinical symptoms in various systems resemble to the diencephalic syndrome [rare disorder caused by a tumor that is usually located in the diencephalon] which Dr. Konuma Masuho, psychiatrist and professor at Hiroshima University at the time, observed in 1953, several years after the A-bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (Japan Medical Journal No. 1547 issued in 1953).

The clinical condition includes fatigue, forgetfulness, giddiness and headaches. The sufferer is likely to contract other diseases and have difficulty adapting to changing temperatures and other environmental conditions. They are also unable to maintain the ability to work regularly.

While such symptoms were ignored in the early stages by mainstream researchers in the historical study on delayed effects of radiation, they are now being found again in liquidators’ clinical conditions. This teaches us that because humans live in the real world, radiation effects on human health can take complex forms, combined with environmental factors surrounding individual humans.

It is now a well-established fact that the incidence of leukemia is rising conspicuously among the liquidators. According to the studies by A.Y. Romanenko et al. and L.B. Zablotska et al. of Ukraine, the excess relative risk (ERR) of total leukemia among the liquidators is 3.44 per Gy and 2.38 per Gy, respectively, both of which are similar to the value shown by the A-bomb sufferers.

(Diagram on page 30 on the incidence of leukemia vs. excess relative risk is drawn by Saito; The relative risk = 1 + excessive relative risk). This approximation reinforces the suggestion that the liquidators’ leukemia was caused by radiation. As is the case with A-bomb survivors, the liquidators need to be placed under long term health surveillance focusing on malignant tumors as well as other diseases. It is an established fact that radiation affects a person over a long period of time, as shown to date over the entire life span of the Hibakusha. It is also one of the grounds on



which the Hibakusha are calling for no more nuclear damage to future generations.

3. The Lithuanian movement to support the liquidators was prepared in the process of Lithuania's independence in 1990 from the former Soviet Union. The liquidators' exposure to radiation actually means the suffering of Lithuanian workers, soldiers and scientists. The relief of the liquidators was an integral part of the task for Lithuania to achieve democracy and independence. Dr. Gediminas Rimdeika, who is with us in this session, has long served as president of Sapiiega Hospital, the main medical center for the liquidators. He is playing a key role in supporting the liquidators.

The report Dr. Rimdeika delivered at the International Conference in May on the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl Accident came as a shock. It said that the Chernobyl Medical Center, which was founded at Sapiiega Hospital shortly after the declaration of independence, was closed by the government in 2010. What was going on? In Latvia, on the other hand, assistance to the liquidators is still continuing, and medical care and research for the liquidators are well coordinated at the Pauls Stradins Clinical University. Why are these two countries different? We cannot find reasons for this difference in the clinical condition of the liquidators. The reason may be found in the difference in the underlying politics.

Looking back on what my country has been doing, you will find that our effort to relieve the A-bomb sufferers has bumped against multi-layered walls of government bureaucracy. The government has always tried to respond to the issue with a limited understanding of the ideas behind the relief law, often neglecting to implement it. The Hibakusha have demanded improvement and expansion of the relief measures in their court struggles that have continued since 1969. This shows how the government is persistent in resisting their demands and, at the

same time, how firmly the Hibakusha are determined to end the government's reluctance to squarely face the issues.

Let me take up the case of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident in 2011. The very root cause of the torment that people have been suffering from for the past five years because of the accident lies in the refusal of Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) and the national government to accept legal responsibility. However, a court last year supported a causal relationship between suicides committed by two residents on different occasions and the nuclear accident. For some 90,000 people who are still forced to live under evacuation, the ruling was a small but encouraging step forward. In the recent Upper House election in July, Fukushima voters chose to act to ensure that an incumbent minister running in the single-seat constituency lost his seat. I want to report to you that the people's struggles on the political and judicial stages, which reveals the many absurdities facing this country, are continuing without pause.

In terms of the liquidators, the international community is well aware of the enormity of the Chernobyl accident. Liquidators know that the accident was brought under control thanks to their own self-sacrificing effort. This is what I learned again from them. I believe that they will not fail to overcome the difficulties facing them, based on the lessons they have drawn from their extraordinary experiences.

In July 2016, news came that NATO leaders had agreed to deploy military forces to Poland and the three Baltic States. The Japanese people are also standing at a crossroads over their country's future. I conclude my report by expressing my hope for the people's struggle in Lithuania and the other Baltic States to further advance the struggle to support the liquidators, to defend peace by ending military confrontations, and to contribute to the elimination of nuclear weapons.



Statements:

Cha Moo Nam Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association Republic of Korea

Dear friends who are here to attend the International Meeting of the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs, in particular overseas delegates.

My name is Cha Moo Nam. I'm a Korean Hibakusha and I'm honored to have been invited to the conference.

I was born in Tokyo's Tama district. My family moved to Hiroshima's Eba Town at the suggestion of my father's friend, who said Hiroshima was a good place to live. That was three months before the city was destroyed by the atomic bomb. Working at construction sites or at a local diner, my parents did their utmost to make ends meet, hoping that they would be better off.

On the morning of the day the atomic bomb was dropped, my parents were about to leave home for work after breakfast. Our house suddenly collapsed with a big bang and we were thrown into a living hell. All four family members had bloodied faces and bodies, covered with dust. They were dumfounded for a while. Hearing people screaming and buzzing outside, we managed to get out of the collapsed house. We joined a crowd of people taking shelter in a safe place in a firing range located at the foot of a nearby mountain. That was the beginning of hardships. Initially, we were getting along with other evacuees. As time went by, people began to do things separately on their own, and my family decided to go to stay with relatives in Tokyo. After three months in Tokyo, we returned to our hometown, Hapcheon, in South Korea. I later learned that what awaited us were poverty, hunger and glacial looks from others.

As there were few medical facilities to treat A-bomb survivors, many Hibakusha died one after another after suffering from various aftereffects. My father died at the age of 65 after a long battle with cancer. My mother also passed away due to skin and biliary tract cancers.

It was a more heart-wrenching fact that we were isolated from society by local people due to being Hibakusha. The harsh reality was that we were unable to live a normal life as members of society. It is also a major source of concern that the Japanese government has yet to recognize the possibility that the aftereffects of atomic bombings affected children as well. I believe that the Japanese and South Korean governments should take a close look at the aftereffects of atomic bomb

radiation exposure and take the necessary measures to treat them. Korean Hibakusha sustained horrendous damage in Japan all through the war as well as due to the atomic bomb. However, they have been discriminated against by the Japanese government. They have been denied adequate compensation due to the South Korean government's indifference.

It is estimated that tens of thousands of Korean people in Japan were exposed to atomic bomb radiation. Many of them are now dead and there are about 2,400 Korean survivors of the atomic bombing, the average age being 82. Most of them are struggling with poverty and various diseases. The good news is that the current upper limit on medical benefits paid to Hibakusha who live in foreign countries is likely to be removed based on a 2015 court ruling after a four-year court battle. If the ceiling is removed, it will be of great help to Hibakusha.

Friends, in the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, North Korea has conducted several nuclear tests, threatening South Korea and the rest of the world. We Hibakusha are living witnesses of the atomic bombing and know how horrible nuclear weapons are.

Nuclear weapons must not be produced. The nuclear powers should abandon all their nuclear arsenals. The nuclear tragedy should never be repeated. All of us here at the conference should take a lead in the international anti-nuke movement. Let us join forces to create a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

I would like to conclude my speech by praying those killed in the A-bomb attacks may rest in peace and wish all Hibakusha good health. I also wish you a successful World Conference and good health.



Plenary Session II:
***International Treaty for the Prohibition and Elimination of
Nuclear Weapons; A World without Nuclear Weapons; Role of Peace
Movement and Civil Society***
(August 2)

Introductory Reports:

Joseph Gerson
Disarmament Coordinator
American Friends Service Committee
U.S.A.

Preaching Nuclear Temperance from a
Bar Stool & the Imperative of
Popular Action for Human Survival

Friends, it is a privilege to return to Hiroshima and the World Conference, to be reunited with inspiring activist friends from across Japan and around the world. Through our experiences here – especially with the Hibakusha - we deepen our commitments to work for a nuclear weapons, bases and war-free world. It is also a special pleasure to be joined this year by my friend and organizing partner Paul Kawika Martin and by Haleigh Copley a rising star and future leader in our movement.

As I begin, let me say that I was deeply impressed by the petition and campaigns to defend the peace constitution and those of us in the U.S. movement will do what we can to support your efforts to preserve Article 9.

Increasingly dangerous tensions between the U.S. and China and with Russia have reached the point that former US Secretary of Defense Perry, the most senior U.S. war planner in Bill Clinton's administration, is warning that "the danger of some sort of nuclear catastrophe is greater than it was during the Cold War."ⁱ While NATO's expansion to Russia's borders and its overwhelming superiority in conventional, high-tech and space weapons have been the driving forces in these tensions, Russia's increased reliance on its nuclear arsenal and nuclear saber rattling are dangerous and unacceptable.ⁱⁱ In addition the renewed nuclear arms races between the great powers and in South Asia, we are also confronted by provocative military exercises – including by Japan - which, through miscalculation, accident or intent could trigger nuclear cataclysm.

Hillary Clinton has been described as the

military-industrial complex's candidate,ⁱⁱⁱ as well as Wall Street's. She was the Secretary of State who followed President Obama's inspiring speech in Prague, by saying that nuclear weapons could be abolished "in some century", not this one, and her Vice-Presidential running mate is a man who has advocated full funding for the \$1 trillion triad. The white supremacist Donald Trump has spoken out of all sides of his mouth, and there is concern – even among Republicans – about someone with his emotional instability have having their finger on the nuclear button. But, even though he has repeatedly asked why we can't use our nuclear weapons, like Hillary, his approach to nuclear weapons would probably be largely determined by what we term the "Deep State," the so-called national security bureaucracy. So, I thought it might be helpful to share with you that establishment's approach to nuclear weapons and nuclear war.

Near the pinnacle of that power elite is Brad Roberts, one of Hilary's senior advisory and the author of *The Case for U.S. Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century*.^{iv} He was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policies during the first Obama Administration – which may help to explain why Obama failed to take meaningful steps to implement his promise in Prague to work for a nuclear weapons-free world.

Roberts is a Cold Warrior and writes that "As nuclear weapons played so central a role in the main international conflicts of the second half of the 20th century....it is difficult to imagine that they will not play some role in the main conflicts in the 21st century."

To ensure that North Korea, Russia and China cannot coerce or blackmail Washington, Roberts cites "U.S. nuclear declaratory policy [which] states that the United States will consider the use of nuclear weapons in extreme circumstances to defend its vital interests or those of its allies and partners, **whether those extreme circumstances are created by nuclear attack or others means.**" He also argues that "it is necessary to be prepared to actually employ nuclear weapons if

the red lines in U.S. nuclear declaratory policies are crossed in ways consistent with U.S. political objectives.” [emphasis added.] This is consistent with the W. Bush Doctrine for Joint Nuclear Operations that stressed that “the focus of US deterrence efforts is...to influence potential adversaries to withhold actions intended to harm US’ national interests.”^v This could include defending so-called U.S. vital interests in the South China Sea, preserving the Western-oriented oligarchy in Ukraine, or “our oil” under Saudi sands.

Roberts then names what he describes as the “irreplaceable functions” of the U.S. nuclear arsenal:

“1. To cast a shadow of unacceptable cost and/or incalculable risk over an adversary’s decision about whether to put in jeopardy a vital interest of the United States and/or an ally or partner.” (Again, think in terms of the South China Sea, Ukraine and the Middle East.) “2. To signal the resolve of the United States...” “3. To demonstrate U.S. capacity to respond to any level of nuclear escalation by an adversary...” “4. To reassure U.S. allies that U.S. commitments to them are credible” “5. To ensure a balance of power with both Russia and China ...” “6. To assure the U.S. that the risks associated with its national strategy of international engagement and power projection are manageable”, i.e. reinforcing its global empire.

Roberts fails to name the seventh irreplaceable function of the U.S. nuclear arsenal: serving as a frictionless conveyor belt for the corporate super-profits harvested by maintaining the nuclear arsenal and the \$1 trillion to be spent for the new generation of U.S. nuclear weapons.

The international humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons movement, our movement, has put the nuclearists on the defensive. His cold blooded response is that there are moral considerations that can necessitate attacks with nuclear weapons that, as we know, would inflict Hell on earth. Roberts “moral” arguments for nuclear war fighting include preventing “damage to the vital national interests” of the U.S., its allies or partners, preventing conventional wars “or stopping the escalation of nuclear conflict from small scale to large.” This is insanity.

This also helps to explain why, even with Obama’s trip to Hiroshima, word in the White House is that they can and should disregard the campaign to negotiate the so-called “Ban” treaty. They have the weapons, and in their view the demands from a number of non-nuclear weapons states -- even a majority of the world’s nations -- should be experienced as water rolling off a duck’s

back. Such is the nature of imperial power and arrogance.

Nevertheless, one positive element of Robert’s thinking is worth taking seriously, and it is implicit in Article VI of the NPT. It is that if we are to make progress toward nuclear disarmament, we must create conditions that facilitate it. This I believe means pursuing Common Security diplomacy among the Great Powers. Some of the limited steps are listed in the recommendations in the Deep Cuts Commission’s *Back from the Brink* report.^{vi} They would still leave us far from the nuclear weapons-free world essential to human survival, but they could prevent nuclear catastrophe in the near to mid-term.^{vii}

Remembering the consequences of an assassin’s gun in Sarajevo 100 years ago and the Marco Polo Bridge Incident in 1931, we have reason to worry about what might happen in a crisis if a frightened or overly aggressive U.S., Russian or Chinese soldier, in anger or by accident, fires the missile that brings down a U.S., Japanese or another Chinese or Russian warplane. As the Deep Cuts Commission concluded “Against this background, any military incidents at sea or in the air resulting from increasingly provocative military activities raise growing concerns that they will lead to unintended escalation.” People are human. Accidents happen. There are rogue military and political actors. And systems are built to respond – sometimes automatically.

Then there is the matter of Obama’s legacy, how to fill the yawning chasm between his Prague pledge and how little he has accomplished. He “has reduced the U.S. stockpile less than any other post-Cold War president[.]”^{viii} Myth making and preparing the way for what are likely to be very limited changes in U.S. nuclear war preparations and doctrine may help to explain the timing of his visit here.

Polls indicated that 98% of Japanese were happy with Obama’s visit. Thus his detour to Hiroshima certainly served the purpose of building support for the U.S.-Japanese alliance to contain China. I agree with the disappointment expressed by Tanaka Terumi and Taniguchi Sumiteru of Nihon Hidankyo (Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) that Obama failed to use his Hiroshima visit to announce significant steps toward nuclear weapons abolition.

Obama spoke about the need for a moral revolution, but as Senator Markey noted, “The U.S. cannot preach nuclear temperance from a bar stool.”^{ix}

The statement AFSC helped to initiate, signed by 75 prominent scholars and activists, urged Obama to meet with all Hibakusha who were able

to attend, to announce an end to spending for the \$1 trillion nuclear triad, to reinvigorate nuclear disarmament diplomacy by following the example of the first President Bush and announcing the unilateral reduction of 500 U.S. deployed nuclear weapons to reinvigorate disarmament diplomacy, to challenge Putin to join the U.S. in convening the “good faith negotiations” for a nuclear weapons abolition convention as required by the NPT, and to reconsider his decision not to apologize for the A-bombings.^x

Many of us were horrified to learn that Obama traveled to Hiroshima with the “nuclear football.” We were also upset that the reason Obama and Abe presented their flowers at the Cenotaph sequentially was to ensure that the world didn’t notice that he did not bow as deeply as Abe. The reason: to avoid any appearance of an apology for what was one of the worst crimes against humanity.

But the question of Obama’s legacy remains. Benjamin Rhodes, Obama’s Deputy National Security Advisor, tells us that Obama “is continuing to review a number of ways he can advance the Prague agenda over the course of the next seven months.” Word leaking from the White House is that President Obama believes that spending for nuclear weapons “modernization” – sometimes referred to as a financial “bow wave” that could sink the Pentagon’s other spending priorities - has gone far beyond what was anticipated when Obama succumbed to Republican demands to spend \$185 billion for new nuclear weapons in order to win votes for New START Treaty ratification.

The Obama administration has been weighing the possibility of renouncing the nation’s first strike doctrine, an action opposed by the Abe government and by senior figures in Obama’s cabinet. There is also discussion of the creation of a blue ribbon committee, opposed by leading Republicans, as a means of reducing spending for the trillion-dollar triad – especially blocking the new and destabilizing long range standoff air-launched cruise missile and a new generation of ground-based ICBMs. Both measures would be helpful arms control steps, but they are far from real progress toward a nuclear weapons-free world and could easily be overturned by Obama’s successor.

We know from experience, and recall U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon reminding us that governments will not deliver us a nuclear-weapons free world. It will not be won without powerful pressure from below. Just as we forced President Reagan to begin the disarmament negotiations with Mikhail Gorbachev that had been long

resisted and which ended the Cold War, our job is to force our governments to begin negotiating a nuclear weapons abolition convention.

At AFSC, we work with many partners on a host of initiatives, including the statement urging Obama not to come to Hiroshima empty handed. Paul Kawika Martin delivered the statement to a senior figure in the White House. Its reverberations across the Japanese media certainly reached Ambassador Kennedy. And its publication in the U.S. and in Japan provided framing and encouragement to thousands of grassroots activists.

Working with the Future of Life Institute, Don’t Bank on the Bomb and Massachusetts Peace Action, we won a unanimous decision by the Cambridge City Council to divest pension and other funds from all financial institutions involved in the production of nuclear weapons. This was cited as a model for other cities in a resolution that was recently adopted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It also serves as an inspiration for similar resolutions from other cities, universities and religious denominations. The campaign won’t bankrupt nuclear weapons producers, but it is a great tool for popular education and helps to stigmatize nuclear weapons.

In Iowa and New Hampshire, where the first presidential caucus and primary are held, AFSC led the “Governing Under the Influence” campaign focused on the corrupting influences of the military-industrial complex and other big money on our political system. We trained hundreds of local activists to seek out aspiring presidential candidates and to ask challenging questions that educated the audience, the candidate and the media. A central element of this campaign was our challenge to the funding of the trillion-dollar triad, and our campaign contributed to the Democratic Party adopting a platform that calls for reduction in nuclear weapons spending.^{xi}

The Peace and Planet Network, which organized the international mobilization on the eve of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, is promoting the “Chain Reaction” events across the world between now the International Peace Bureau’s “Disarm! For a Climate of Peace” Congress in Berlin. With panels at the Left Forum in New York City, we raised the alarm about the increasing dangers of nuclear war, the urgent need for nuclear weapons abolition, as well as the need to oppose NATO’s provocative build up and actions across Europe. Next week, we’ll be leading a nuclear weapons abolition events at the World Social Forum in Montreal.

In closing, let me say a few words about the petition campaign launched this spring by Nihon

Hidankyo. As those of you who witnessed the presentation of nearly seven million petition signatures to the NPT Review Conference, your signature solicitations for nuclear weapons abolition have an enormous international impact. NPT Review President Ambassador Feroukhi instructed the Review Conference that your petitions and our actions reflected the expectations and demands of international civil society. The current petition campaign is critically important, and we will promote it at the World Social Forum and with Gensuikyo at the International Peace Bureau's Congress in Berlin.

Please appreciate that your petitions have served to contain those in the Japanese military and the Abe cabinet who assert that despite Article 9 Japan has the right to possess nuclear weapons. Vice-President Biden was correct when he warned that Japan has the technologies and resources to become a nuclear power "overnight." With Donald Trump's stupid assertion that Japan and South Korea should become nuclear weapons states, we understand anew both our responsibilities in the United States, and the critical importance of your petition campaign.

Friends, we have much to do. I look forward to our discussions in the coming days as we work for a world with No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis! No More Hibakusha! No More Foreign Military Bases! And No More War!

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Carol Turner National Council Member Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament U.K.

Good afternoon everyone. I bring greetings from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament UK, and thank our hosts, the World Conference Against A and H Bombs for the opportunity to address you.

You will know 2016 is an important year for us in Britain – the year in which the government will finalise its plans to upgrade Trident, Britain's nuclear weapons system, based in Scotland.

- **Trident is a weapons of indiscriminate mass destruction.** It includes an estimated 220 warheads – each of which has an explosive power 8 times that of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. There can be no conceivable use for such a weapon.
- **Trident is not independent.** Britain rents its missile system from the United States and builds warhead to US designs. This dependency has bred unacknowledged support for American foreign and military policies.
- **Trident does not protect Britain** from the security threats we're facing. As recently as last November, the government published a security risk assessment which made this plain.
 - What good are nuclear weapons against terrorism or cyber-attack?
 - How can they protect us from natural disasters or health pandemics?
 - How can nuclear weapons stop the activities of transnational criminal organisations such as people trafficking and drug dealing?
- **Trident is unaffordable.** CND calculates the lifetime costs will amount to an eye-watering £205 billion at current prices.

I'd like to take a few moments to describe CND's approach. The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was launched in February 1958, three years after the founding of the Japan Council Against A and H Bombs. Nowadays our membership numbers in the region of 35,000 people – national members of CND and of the many local groups around Britain. I am chair of London Region CND, where about 20% of our members are based.

CND walks on two feet. We lobby decision-makers, and we organise mass action on the streets – from national demonstrations to local street stalls. What our members do – week to week and month to month, in towns and cities all over

Britain – is indispensable. It keeps us in touch and focussed.

And CND has a number of important affiliates and partner organisations we work with on a regular basis, like Stop the War Coalition.

This year CND UK has:

- held a Stop Trident national demonstration – the biggest nuclear disarmament protest in a generation supported by dozens of partner organisations;
- called a mass lobby of parliament, attended by hundreds of people who travelled to Westminster to talk to their Member of Parliament; and
- when the government called a vote on Trident with only one week's notice, that day we took a petition signed by over 40,000 people to the Ministry of Defence, organised a gathering of anti-Trident MPs, and held an emergency protest outside parliament.

It was widely anticipated that the government would win the vote. But there was significant opposition: 458 MPs voted for Trident replacement; 117 voted against; and 52 abstained. More than one-third of MPs did not support the government.

Most notably all 56 Scottish National Party MPs voted against. The SNP has a No Trident platform, as do the Labour Party in Scotland and the Scottish trades union confederation.

The Green Party organises across Britain, and also opposes all nuclear weapons. The Greens are a growing force in British politics, Their representative in Westminster, Caroline Lucas, is leader of the Parliamentary CND group of MPs.

Opposition to Trident is far from exhausted. Successive opinion polls throughout the British mainland show a majority of people against.

Let me draw to a close with a thumb-nail sketch of the political conditions in which we're working. A new mood is sweeping Britain, as it is elsewhere in Europe and North America. One manifestation is the rise of anti-establishment political figures such as Jeremy Corbyn in Britain and Bernie Sanders in the United States.

As many of you will know, Jeremy Corbyn is a life-long member of CND. When he became leader of the British Labour Party last September, he was our Vice Chair – actively engaged in the day to day running of CND. After his election he announced on TV he would never press the nuclear button if he were prime minister – a statement that sent Westminster into a frenzy!

Jeremy stood as the outsider candidate with no hope of victory.... or so we thought! He was elected by 59.95%, the biggest vote of any

leadership candidate ever. His 251,417 votes amounted to two-thirds more than the entire membership of the Conservative Party.

Jeremy's campaign was three-pronged:

- against austerity
- against war, and
- against nuclear weapons.

All of these have a popular resonance with the people whose living standards are being driven down by a harsh neo-liberal economic regime, and who despair of grey-suited establishment politicians.

I don't mean to imply that everything's going well in British politics of course. Far from it. We are also seeing the rise of xenophobic, reactionary forces – represented by figures such as Nigel Farage who leads the UK Independence Party.

Racism and opposition to immigration played an important part in the recent European Union referendum. The timing of the Trident vote, by the way, is largely the result of the government trying to unite a bruised and divided Conservatives Party around its traditional 'strong defence' stance.

The disorientation caused by the leave vote, also provided an opening for Jeremy's opponents in the Parliamentary Labour Party to trigger another leadership challenge – an attempt to drive nuclear disarmament and other progressive policies out of the political mainstream. This is resisted by ordinary people. The current challenge to his leadership brought 184,000 new supporters on board in under a week. Labour's membership is now bigger than ever before in its history.

These uncertain times, and it's impossible to predict what happens next. Nuclear disarmament goes deep to the heart of the British state, and the political establishment is conducting a relentless war of attrition against Corbyn who has played such an important part in keeping Trident at the forefront of public attention.

Even if Jeremy survives – and he's odd-on favourite to do so – CND still faces a tremendous fight. We pledge to conduct the campaign for nuclear disarmament in Britain to the best of our ability:

For an end to all nuclear weapons!

For a more just, peaceful and secure world!



Selma van Oostwaard
Program Officer, Humanitarian
Disarmament Team, PAX
The Netherlands

It is a great honour for me to be invited to speak to you here today.

It is special moment for me to stand here in Hiroshima again. Last year I had the honour to visit this city for the first time. Together with a group of other young nuclear disarmament campaigners from all over the world we listened to the story of Ms. Toshiko Tanaka, who was 6 years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, her home town. Ms. Tanaka shared that it was never easy for her to go back to that day and it took many years before she could even begin to talk about what happened. Ms. Tanaka was 70 years old when she started talking. “To re-live the pain and horror is too much for anyone to bear... the scars may have faded away but the bad memories still remain”, she stated. Then, something happened and when I think about this moment, this still gives me goose bumps. She stood up with a bag of iron marbles. We didn’t understand why. She poured hundreds of them in a metal container. For minutes a defining noise filled the room. We had to cover our ears, but we kept on staring to the falling marbles. When the last marble fell into the metal container, Ms. Tanaka said: “If this is the noise of tiny innocent marbles falling, can you imagine what one single nuclear weapon can cause? This bag of marbles is a symbol for all the nuclear weapons we still allow to exist in this world today”. Then I understood what she was doing: this was her way of protesting against today’s total number of nuclear weapons in the world.

Like Ms. Tanaka, I cannot believe why we, in the year 2016, still allow only 9 countries to possess together more than 15,000 nuclear weapons. These weapons of mass destruction cannot distinguish between military and civilian targets. As Hiroshima and Nagasaki had to experience in one of the greatest tragedy of war, most of the casualties of a nuclear attack would be civilians. The disproportionate and indiscriminate destructiveness of nuclear weapons is a violation of international humanitarian law.

Today I am asked to elaborate on the national campaigning work of PAX, the organization I represent. Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction that have not yet been prohibited by an international treaty, therefore PAX is working towards a ban on nuclear weapons. We do so through public campaigning (as proud member of ICAN, the International Campaign to

Abolish Nuclear Weapons), political lobbying and publications, including the annual Don't Bank on the Bomb global study on investments in nuclear weapons producers.

PAX is based in the Netherlands. The Netherlands is state party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT) and has signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Although the Netherlands does not possess nuclear weapons itself, my country participates in the NATO nuclear weapons sharing agreements and hosts about 20 U.S. non-strategic gravity B-61 warheads at the Volkel Air Base – which is one of the worst kept secrets in NATO and Europe.

When the Humanitarian Initiative evolved within the framework of the NPT in 2013, we decided that it was time to scale up our national campaign work. Because suddenly we had a majority of the world's governments (159 states) saying loud and clear that nuclear weapons should never be used again, under any circumstances. Unfortunately, the Netherlands was not one of them.

We had a majority of the world's governments (127 states) pledging to negotiate a new treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. And unfortunately, the Netherlands is not one of them.

Due to these developments at international level, we decided to run a big nuclear disarmament campaign in the Netherlands, to get nuclear disarmament, and especially a ban treaty on the political agenda. There is large public support for the removal of the nuclear weapons from Dutch and European soil, but we needed to bring all efforts together to communicate this, together with the need for a ban treaty, loud and clear to our politicians. We used a Dutch political campaigning tool which is called a ‘citizen’s initiative’: if you gather more than 40.000 signatures for a proposal on a topic that hasn’t been discussed in Dutch Parliament in the last two years, the Parliament is obliged to talk about your proposal. We wrote a proposal on a national ban on nuclear weapons and went out on the streets to get the signatures.

The citizen’s initiative got the support from religious leaders, Dutch celebrities, a long list of mayors from various political parties and political youth wings. Our main partners were the Dutch Red Cross and one of the largest ethical banks in the Netherlands. Over 45.000 Dutch citizens have signed the petition to support a ban and wanted to show their support at Parliament.

In April, this year, our proposal was discussed in Parliament. In her speech my colleague Krista van Velzen, who was a Dutch member of

parliament and was the driving force of the ban on cluster munitions, stated that the time has come for the Dutch government to make a decision: either the Netherlands are in favour of nuclear disarmament or they will hold on to nuclear weapons as long as they exist. A clear majority in the world want to negotiate a ban. If the government doesn't take a decision, it will be isolated in the world.

Several motions were put forward by parliamentarians during the April debate, and four received majority support during the voting session. The most important motion adopted by a large majority is the motion that calls upon the Dutch government to actively work on the start of negotiations on an international treaty banning nuclear weapons. The parliament also endorsed the proposal to disclose the secret treaties on the basis of which nuclear weapons were placed in the Netherlands. Members of Parliament also supported the request to use the unwanted modernization of nuclear weapons in Europe to boost global nuclear disarmament. Lastly, the House called upon the Dutch government to cumulatively reject its nuclear task in consultation with the United States.

Due to the citizen's initiative nuclear disarmament is high on the political agenda. Not only the public, but now also Dutch politicians have a clear and urgent message for the Dutch Government: end the Dutch nuclear task and start negotiations for an international ban treaty.

Unfortunately the Dutch government still hasn't take the step we want: call for the start of negotiations. However, they can't deny anymore that they have to move forward. This year, at the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on nuclear disarmament, an overwhelming majority of participating countries supported the call to start international negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, during this meeting the Netherlands did not show their support for the start of these negotiations. As has been said at the Parliamentary debate: if our government doesn't take a decision now, it will be isolated from a majority who is ready to ban the most destructive weapon in the world. We have a majority of Dutch citizen's calling for a ban on nuclear weapons, we have a parliament calling upon the government to actively participate in the international negotiations on a ban treaty, we have a clear majority of UN member states calling to start these negotiations, and there is even a proposal for negotiations in the year 2017 on the table.

States choosing to stall nuclear disarmament processes are gambling with our families, our lives

and our futures. And I, as a young person, as a Dutch citizen, European citizen and global citizen, I urge them not to squander, but use this opportunity, to move forward and start negotiations. And to all of you here I would like to say: thank you for your great efforts and dedication, together we can make a difference, and together we can achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Yasui Masakazu
Secretary General
Japan Council against A and H Bombs

**For Achieving a Treaty to Prohibit
Nuclear Weapons:
Role of the A-Bombed Country's Movement**

First, I would like to welcome you all gathering here today -- Hibakusha, overseas delegates and grass-roots activists from around the country.

We in Japan have undergone dramatic changes since last year's World Conference. A people's movement has grown on an unprecedented scale to repeal the security-related laws, or War Laws, allowing Japan to use forces in foreign lands and to restore Japanese politics to constitutionalism.

High school and college students, academics, cultural figures, lawyers, workers and others spontaneously joined rallies and demonstrations. Several groups emerged in opposition to the War Laws, including SEALDs (Students Emergency Action for Liberal Democracy), the Association of Scholars Opposed to the Security-related Laws and Mothers against War. These movements joined together to form the Civil Alliance for Peace and Constitutionalism, calling for the government to repeal the War Laws, restore constitutionalism, and defend the dignity of individuals.

In addition, a broad range of labor and other organizations launched the All-out Action Committee to Stop the War and Defend Article 9 and a 20-million signature campaign to scrap War Laws in all 47 prefectures. They have already collected more than 13 million signatures.

This is the background against which the House of Councilors election was held in early July. The citizens' movement and four opposition parties put up their joint candidates in all 32 single-seat constituencies demanding the repeal of the War Laws and the restoration of constitutionalism and won in 11 of those constituencies. In Okinawa, the joint candidate defeated the incumbent State Minister for Okinawa Affairs, Shimajiri Aiko, by a large margin of

100,000 votes. The opposition victories in these ruling party-dominated single-seat constituencies are very important. If we can further develop the joint efforts of the citizens' movement and opposition parties, it is possible to significantly change the power dynamics in Japan.

We have witnessed similarly important moves in the field of nuclear disarmament. The inhuman nature of nuclear weapons, which the Hibakusha have constantly emphasized, is now a focus of debate in international politics. Voices in favor of their prohibition and elimination have managed to achieve broader public awareness, and the current seeking realization of a nuclear weapons-free world through legal measures, such as a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, is growing. This testifies to the importance of the role of our movement, which has called for starting negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention and submitted more than 6.3 million signatures to this effect to the NPT Review Conference of 2015.

Following the resolution adopted in the 70th U.N. General Assembly Session, the U.N. Open-ended Working Group met in Geneva in February and May to discuss "legal measures" to prohibit nuclear weapons. It is the first time that a real debate is being held within the framework of the U.N.

The third session of this Working Group will start on August 5, where the Chair's summary, including recommendations to the General Assembly, will be proposed. In the Working Group sessions, an overwhelming majority of States insisted that, due to risks arising from the humanitarian consequences from nuclear explosions and the existence of nuclear weapons, the elimination of nuclear weapons is an urgent task and that negotiations on the legal prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons should be commenced without delay. Substantial discussion is already starting, as seen in the recommendation made by 10 member states of the nuclear weapon-free zone treaties, calling to convene a Conference in 2017 to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons.

As the Former U.N. High Representative Ambassador Sergio Duarte stated, the forthcoming Session of the General Assembly could be a decisive watershed for securing the start of negotiations on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.

What is being called into question is the attitude of nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states. So, what about Japan?

While talking about Japan being "the only A-bombed country in wartime" in the U.N. General Assembly, the government of Japan

continues its abstention on resolutions for the prohibition of nuclear weapons. In the recent Open-ended Working Group session, it turned its back on the start of treaty negotiations on account of "consideration on security", shamelessly acting as a spokesperson of the nuclear-armed states.

What's more, on July 10, the Washington Post reported that the Obama Administration was considering changing its nuclear policy, including the renunciation of the first-use of nuclear weapons. This was immediately responded to with the news that the Japanese government sought to have talks with the U.S., out of the concern that the U.S. move would undermine the "nuclear umbrella" provided to Japan.

The use of nuclear weapons would cause catastrophic consequences that are unacceptable from a humanitarian point of view. The surest way to prevent it would be the abolition of nuclear weapons. This is a recognition shared by most countries in the international community. The Japanese government's attitude to keep the nuclear option is regarded as integral to the Abe government's attempt to turn Japan into a country that proactively assists in a U.S.-led war by itself waging war.

The task is for the Japanese peace movement to force the government to play a befitting role as the world's only A-bombed country. We are determined to enhance our activities across the country to change the course of Japan. This A-bombed country must break away from the "nuclear umbrella" and work to totally ban and eliminate nuclear weapons, based on Article 9 of its constitution and the anti-nuclear wishes of its people.

In April this year, the "International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha of Hiroshima & Nagasaki for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (Hibakusha International Signature Campaign)" was initiated by nine Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. "Earnestly desiring the elimination of nuclear weapons without delay, we Hibakusha call on all State Governments to conclude a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons", it says, calling for several hundred millions of signatures by 2020.

This signature campaign will be decisive for achieving a nuclear weapon-free world, surrounding and isolating the Japanese government. It is a crucial campaign to bring down the "nuclear umbrella" i.e., the nuclear deterrence myth.

We have already received the signature of Ms. Angela Kane, the Former U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. The International Peace Bureau issued a statement of its Co-Presidents and Secretary General in support

of the Hibakusha International Signature Campaign. The French Peace Movement carried it on its website and started collecting online signatures. Just 4 days ago, we had great news from Vietnam that already 80,000 signatures have been collected there.

In Japan, on July 13, a Liaison Committee to Promote the Hibakusha International Signature Campaign was formed, with the initiative of Nihon Hidankyo. Not only Gensuikyo but other citizens' organizations that have been historically involved with the anti-nuclear movement, including the National Federation of Regional Women's Organizations, the Japan Seinendan Council and the Japan Congress against A and H Bombs, Peace Boat and the Japan Committee of the World Conference on Religion and Peace are also taking part in this platform.

In Hiroshima and Nagasaki, all the Hibakusha organizations in their respective prefectures got together for the first time to jointly launch the signature campaign. Concerted efforts are developing to involve the federation of consumers' cooperative, Gensuikyo, Gensuikin and other groups at the prefectural level. In many parts of the country, a broader range of joint undertakings beyond traditional organizational lines is about to launch. During the Nationwide Peace March, almost no official figures in prefectural and municipal governments refused to give their signatures to this Appeal launched by the Hibakusha. We see a great possibility of making this signature campaign a truly national undertaking.

I would like to conclude my remarks by expressing my determination to build on the success of this Conference and drastically expand the "Hibakusha International Signature Campaign" to open a new path for the development of nationwide joint efforts and the movement against A and H Bombs.



Statements:

Ogata Yasuo Committee of Chairpersons, Organizing Committee of World Conference/ Japanese Communist Party

February 22nd, 2016 was a historic day. It was the first day of the first session of the U.N. Open-ended Working group on nuclear disarmament (OEWG) which is looking into the legal steps needed for the elimination of nuclear weapons. In a conference room of the U.N. Office at Geneva, the voice of Toshiki Fujimori, Assistant Secretary General of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations was heard saying, "The only assurance against the risk of using nuclear weapons is the total elimination of nuclear weapons." Following him, on May 4th, Masako Wada, another Assistant Secretary General of the Confederation, said, "I call on every state to conclude a treaty which bans and eliminates nuclear weapons." Her appeal was welcomed with a resounding round of applause.

The OEWG which was set up by a U.N. resolution adopted in December 2015 is aimed to "substantively address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons." Appeals made by Mr. Fujimori and Ms. Wada there symbolized the new heights of achievements reached by anti-nuclear-weapon movements organized by NGOs and efforts made by governments around the world.

Through the international conferences on the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons which were held three times and the 2015 NPT Review Conference, the majority opinion can be summarized in one sentence: the international community must take legal steps as "effective measures" required by Article VI of the NPT based on deep recognition of the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. Although the 2015 RevCon failed to adopt its final documents because of disagreement over the issue of the creation of a WMD-Free Zone in the Middle East, the draft of the final documents reflected the majority opinion to a large degree.

These achievements follow the direction of progress that this world conference has long been calling on the world to make. At last, we are seeing the formal beginning of U.N.-led discussions towards creation of a treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons. What underlies international cooperation and efforts in this regard is the deep awareness of "the inhumane nature of

nuclear weapons” which the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki revealed. Contributions to this newly raised awareness made by this world conference and the testimonies of individual A-bomb sufferers cannot be overstated. The OEWG will submit a report to the U.N. General Assembly this fall.

The political battle map over the issue of elimination of nuclear weapons has become increasingly clearer. 70% of all NPT member states stand for efforts to create a legal framework aiming for the ban and elimination of nuclear weapons by emphasizing the inhumane nature of the weapons. On the other hand, the Permanent Five (P-5) member states which have an exclusive “right” to possess nuclear weapons, namely China, France, Russia, the U.K, and the U.S., are working together to block and suppress the global effort towards elimination of the weapons.

The P-5 states opposed the establishment of the OEWG under the U.N. authority. They argue, “[A] step-by-step approach is the only practical option for making progress towards nuclear disarmament”. They also insist, “[A]ddressing further prospects for nuclear disarmament would require taking into account all factors that could affect global strategic stability.” This kind of argument means that they just want to postpone the total elimination of nuclear weapons to an indefinite future. In practice, they are against the total abolishment of nuclear weapons.

The P-5 states, which have become very active and unified as a group under the NPT regime since 2009, intimidates governments and anti-nuclear-weapon movements supporting the cause of the OEWG by saying, “[A] ban without the support and participation of the nuclear-weapon states would not eliminate nuclear weapons, but would rather undermine the NPT regime.”

Visits to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to deepen the recognition of the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons are of special importance. This is why the visit by U.S president Barak Obama to Hiroshima was welcomed. Yet, some strongly oppose visits to Hiroshima and Nagasaki by world political leaders because they believe Japan was the wartime aggressor and should not be treated as if it were a victim. However, those who lost their lives in the atomic bombings were neither aggressors nor militarist rulers. They were ordinary unarmed civilian men, women and children. Because the use of atomic bombs was unprecedented catastrophe in human history, I believe that it is of great importance for us to urge world leaders to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to ask them to pledge not to allow such catastrophic mistakes to ever be

repeated.

The Japanese government abstained from voting for the establishment of the OEWG, but attended the sessions. However, the government just spoke on behalf of the P-5 states and argued that “[T]o attain real progress in nuclear disarmament, it is essential to ensure the united actions of the entire community, including the nuclear-weapon states.” It also stated, “[We need] a focus on not just humanitarian but also security considerations.” It advocates an “incremental approach to nuclear disarmament” which is based on the P-5’s “step-by-step approach” and plays the role of blocking constructive discussions at the OEWG. Japan is now acting as if it were the “Trojan Horse” fielded by the P-5 states and is strongly criticized for the shameful role it is playing. We need to politically challenge the Japanese government role with much more criticism to force it to change its stance.

The new security legislation which the Abe government and its ruling coalition enacted by destroying Japan’s constitutionalism could lead Japan to even more dependence on the supposed “nuclear umbrella” of the U.S. The Abe administration even argues that Japan’s possession of nuclear weapons would not be unconstitutional. This is a very dangerous argument.

In order to make progress towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons by overcoming these hostile obstructions, we must increase more rapidly and strongly public support for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons by strenuously conducting international signature campaigns initiated by the Hidankyo and this conference. The need for a strongly invigorated campaign with full public support is especially significant. I renew my commitment to this cause and call on everyone concerned to work together to achieve our aim..

Yoneyama Atsuko
Vice President
New Japan Women’s Association
(Shinfujin)

71 years have passed since the atomic bombing and the end of the war, in Japan and world over, women and citizens are uniting and strengthening solidarity in their demands and in the movement. Rejecting to live in a society where people live with fear of terrorism, war and poverty, they call for a nuclear-free, peaceful and just society where people respect each other and are living in harmony.

Over the year, the growing civil movement has driven the Abe government’s high-handed reckless

politics into corner, offering perspectives for change.

First, the struggle to scrap the war legislation that mounted on an unprecedented scale brought citizens and opposition parties together to form a coalition. The power of making this possible gave many of us hope that “we can make a difference in politics,” leading to the putting up of unified candidates in the House of Councilors and in the Tokyo Gubernatorial election last July. The New Japan Women’s Association (Shinfujin) made an overall effort for the victory of these candidates with a call: “Vote for Change!” In the Tokyo Gubernatorial election, we supported opposition parties’ joint candidate, who upheld campaign pledges of abolition of nuclear weapons, no nuclear power plants and nuclear-free declared Tokyo, running against the “pro-nuclear armed Tokyo” candidate backed up entirely by the ruling coalition government under Prime Minister Abe Shinzo. Being afraid of the unity of citizens and opposition parties growing like never before, the Abe government has launched a full-scale attack against them, mobilizing the media.

Second, people and women, who are suffering from the effect of Abe government’s attempt to make Japan a “war-waging” and to pursue neo-liberal policies, have started to raise their voices and organize themselves. In particular, as poverty is increasing among women, many women are now speaking out, saying, “My child was denied admission to a day care center,” “My company is black (sweatshop),” “My pension benefits are decreasing,” “My wish is to defend peace,” or “Tax should be used for people’s living.” Becoming aware that their demands are political, more women are joining the struggle to change politics, creating a major trend in society.

All these developments also provide a bright vision to the movement for the abolition of nuclear weapons. The International Signature Campaign in Support of the “Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons” is now gaining support from a wide-ranging organizations and individuals, and cooperation of historic importance is now developing in the promotion of the campaign.

Taking the Hibakusha’s appeal to their hearts, Shinfujin members start from reading out the petition text together and take to street to collect signatures using the catchwords, “Together with the Hibakusha” and “Together with the Next Generation.” We set the target of collecting 2 million signatures.

Shinfujin has been trying hard to send as many young members as possible to this World Conference. In Kyoto, Shinfujin members held a

gathering for young generation to hear the stories of Hibakusha and then organized a street drive for collecting signatures with the Hibakusha. Inspired by these experiences, young members became eager to come to Hiroshima to learn what they can do, and to be able to speak to others about the Hibakusha’s suffering and about nuclear weapons. 9 young members decided to attend the World Conference in Hiroshima with their children. In Miyagi Prefecture, members in their thirties raising children are visiting Shinfujin’s parent-kid rhythmic exercises circles in different communities with A-bomb photo panels to hold “Young Members Gathering for Peace,” where they learn and talk together. Through these initiatives, young members have decided to join the World Conference with children, hoping that they can learn the way to carry on the peace movement the senior members have fostered.

The women’s movement in Japan has been striving to preserve war-renouncing Article 9 and to eliminate nuclear weapons together with the Hibakusha. The struggle for abolishing nuclear weapons is the one to defend people’s dignity. And this struggle is deeply linked with the endeavor to defend our livelihood. Shinfujin is resolved to develop further the movement to achieve a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, poverty or inequality, upholding the banner: “We are the one to change politics.”

Roland Gardien
President, French Peace Committee/
French Peace Movement
France

First of all, let me thank our friends of the Gensuikyo for inviting our delegation to this international meeting - once again. This is my first participation and my emotion is great. All these meetings with each of you strengthen our determination to act toward eliminating nuclear weapons and building a world free from the atomic threat.

In 2005, our peace movement organized a large delegation composed of 130 people including many young people. Since then, we have decided to organize delegations each year. Numbers will vary a great deal, but each time, back in their local Committee each delegate is better able to explain and to develop actions for the elimination of nuclear weapons. I think that the Japanese peace committees hold similar views when they participate in events related to the NPT.

As citizens of a nuclear power, we have a special responsibility. However, it is not so easy

because the subject is not in the public debate in France.

In recent months, France was brutally attacked by terrorists. Then François Hollande spoke of war against terrorism and deployed a nuclear submarine as well as its aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle in the Mediterranean. We believe this is a real provocation at a time when the international community is facing the risk of proliferation.

How much longer will France and other nuclear powers continue to flout international law with impunity? How can these States be credible to all countries of the threshold, i.e. who have the technical capabilities to develop atomic weapons? How can they call for disarmament while not respecting their commitments?

In June, an official document called "white paper of defense and security" was published, to serve as support for the French official doctrine. It confirms that the exclusively military concept of security in France is still there, even more so after the terrorist attacks. What the national and international press retained was that France will not reduce its military capabilities. In the "white paper", nuclear deterrence remains the basis of the French doctrine. But there is no such thing as deterrence. Weapons are bound to be used sooner or later. The world is not safe from nuclear disaster. On the contrary, the danger has increased.

Unfortunately, France's plans are not heading towards disarmament. It is true that the France has made great efforts after the end of the tests at Mururoa. This was true in the years 1996-1997, but this is no longer the case today. For 20 years, France has been modernizing its facilities with new missiles, new submarines, new nuclear warheads, a whole program of test simulation. The French policy is to reduce the number of military personnel for the benefit of information materials and targeted intervention of troops.

We demand the French government that they suspend the M51 missile program whose reach is approaching 10,000 km, which is the ability to reach China. We ask them to comply with the commitments of the NPT, and in particular article 6, and that they support the type of convention for the elimination of nuclear weapons submitted to the United Nations.

This is the objective pursued by our Movement for Peace, which supports and develops actions in favor of the international campaign «ICAN» in France. Many partners of our social movements are now acting toward nuclear disarmament. However we believe that we are only at the beginning of this new mobilization. We need a wide rally of forces to get our Government to change its policy and choose the path of nuclear

disarmament. For example, we constantly ask from the French government that they support the model convention for the elimination of nuclear weapons of the United Nations. We plan to develop many other actions from now to the review conference in 2020. All thru this year's electoral campaign, the local committees of the peace movement have addressed all candidates to invite them to join the "mayors for peace" network. In the same way, for several months, the Movement for Peace has been bringing its full support to the creation of a new branch of the PNND (the network of parliamentarians for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament) in France.

The idea of an international action was suggested again, in the form of a flame of disarmament which would tour the world, much in the same way as the Olympic flame. This could start in New York, to return in 2020, on the occasion of the review conference. This action must be achieved in partnership with the «ICAN» campaign. We believe that an international campaign with a common objective is likely to give people confidence in their ability to reach our goal. We hope that this campaign will expand worldwide to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons. The nuclear powers must understand that their arrogance is no longer acceptable. The trip to Hiroshima the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, was a good thing. However concrete action must follow. And we call on all the heads of State of NWS (nuclear weapon States) to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki and take concrete action.

As you know, France has decided to wage armed conflict with the Islamic State, and shows great willingness to reintegrate into NATO's military command. For several months, our peace movement has developed actions to oppose these two projects. A few months ago, Barack Obama insisted that European countries, including France, increase significantly its budget allocated to defense. Is the European Union ready to accept the domination of the United States or do we want an active European Union for peace and disarmament? The future of Europe is without nuclear weapons. Our continent must become a new nuclear-free zone. We also need to get rid of US nuclear weapons present in the bases of NATO in Europe. Europe has no need for nuclear weapons, either French or British, or NATO's.

We think the two tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were really abominable crimes in that the killing, not of soldiers, but of thousands of innocent men, women, children, and babies was useless, deliberate and premeditated. And yet there may be even worse to come. The greatest crime of

them all, the greatest folly of them all, is to consider the killing of billions as an option, and the crime begins in the preparation and modernization of tools to reach this insane goal. To speak in religious terms, it is the greatest sin of all, to work toward the destruction of God's creation and design. Another of those crimes is to teach children and weak-minded adults that great achievements can only be made through violence, and not through negotiations and understanding.

And so to conclude, I would like to emphasize again that, contrary to the common saying, "If you want peace, you must prepare for peace not war" and "If you prepare for war, you'll get war." Claiming the abolition of nuclear weapons may be regarded as a utopia but this is the only credible way. We have a duty to make this credible utopia become reality so as to ensure future generations the right to live. For this we need a convention for the elimination of nuclear weapons and we need to develop the unity of pacifist movements around the world to achieve this.

No Hiroshima, ever again, No Nagasaki, ever again, no Hibakusha, ever again, and let us eliminate nuclear weapons once and for all.

Bui Lien Huong
Executive Secretary
Vietnam Peace Committee
Vietnam

It's my honor to attend the World Conference against A and H Bombs for the 2nd time. Also I am very happy to see old friends again and meet new ones. I would like to convey to all of you the warmest greetings and best wishes from the Vietnam Peace Committee and the millions of Vietnamese working for peace and friendship.

I would like in particular to extend our congratulations to the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (GENSUIKYO) on its 71st foundation anniversary, and our profound thanks to all Japanese friends for their enormous efforts in organizing this Conference, and for the heartfelt hospitality provided to overseas participants, including us Vietnamese. Friends,

Although 71 years have passed since the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hundreds of thousands of Japanese are still suffering from never-ending pains. The situation is similar in Vietnam, where, millions of victims of Agent Orange, including those of the 2nd, 3rd and even 4th generations, are still living in agony.

We are aware that great efforts have been made by governments, people's organizations and peace

movements in different countries for a world free from nuclear and other weapons of mass destructions. But, despite such efforts, lethal weapons are still being developed, tested, produced, used and proliferated by many governments. In addition, increasing military spendings, expanding military bases, terrorism, and growing tensions resulting from sovereignty disputes over sea and land between nations are threatening peace, security and stability in the region and heavily impacting people's life.

In such a context, I highly appreciate Gensuikyo's efforts to hold annually the World Conference against A and H Bombs since 1955. I am strongly confident that the Conference will continue to be a platform for peace organizations and activists around the world to unite and struggle for a peaceful world without nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction, where all conflicts and disputes are settled peacefully in accordance with international law.

The Vietnam Peace Committee has joined hands with peace workers throughout the globe in the struggle for a peaceful world. In response to the International Signature Campaign for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, we have collected millions of signatures from people's organizations across the country in several recent years. And this year we participated in the signature campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha. So far we got over 80 thousand signatures in two months.

Once more, I would like to thank you for giving me the chance to speak at one of the world's largest peace conferences, a significant experience for a member of the younger generation.

May I wish for a successful conference, for a beautiful world free from nuclear weapons, and for the good health and happiness of all of you here present. No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more Agent Orange/dioxin! Justice for Hibakushas! Justice for Vietnamese Agent Orange/dioxin victims!

Raymond Vincent Lujan
Guahan Coalition for Peace and Justice/
International Youth Relay Marcher 2016
Guam

Hafa adai! My name is Raymond Lujan, a CHamoru, and I'm a senior at the University of Guam majoring in social work and minoring in Chamorro Studies. I am humbled and honored to represent the Guahan Coalition for peace and Justice.

What drew me to social work is the same force that has drawn me to participate as a peace marcher this June, of which I am extremely honored and appreciative for. Since a young age I had always known I wanted to help people; however, I was unsure of the platform and medium of doing so. I realized a little while ago that I am very much inspired by social injustice.

With that being said, Guam and Micronesia as a whole, are no strangers to militarization, war and nuclear weapons. Growing up, I was very much aware of Guam's role in the Second World War and the injustices the CHamoru people faced; however, it wasn't until I began to develop an independent mind that I began to see how much of what I was aware of was purposefully perpetuated from a particular perspective. I find myself in a very unique position. I am CHamoru whose home is an American territory, but I will be afforded the opportunity to see the damage and effects from the perspective of the Japanese people, of whom has been conveniently left out of my history teachings.

Upon learning how the land of the CHamoru people was instrumental and used nonconsensually to the U.S. dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I would like to extend my deepest and sincerest apologies to the people of Japan. The Peace March is not only a necessary tool of solace for the Japanese people, but also serves as a reminder to the world of the atrocities and insidiousness of nuclear weapons. Through the abolition of nuclear weapons, we could move from a space in which international boundaries are set through militarization and perpetuating fear of annihilation to one that involves diplomacy,

communication and respect for all of the world's people. It is through this that the world may know peace.

Guam's tumultuous history has been one that knows death, blood and oppression all too well. The CHamoru people have long been casualties of war with many failing to recognize it. We were, after all, acquired by war with the sole purpose of strategic geo-political placement in the case of future war, while simultaneously led unto believe we are a part of a nation founded upon freedom and will. It is because of our 'purpose' for militarization that our administering power has made decolonization extremely difficult and complex. And I genuinely believe that failing to decolonize makes Guam an accomplice to the U.S.'s war.

I am not only eager to stand in solidarity with the Japanese peace marchers, but I am just as eager to learn more of the history and experiences of those affected and those who continue to be affected of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As much as I empathize for those who have died and those who have survived, my empathies do not and will never truly and genuinely encapsulate the struggles and experiences faced by the Japanese people. There has been much debate on whether the bombs were 'necessary' or not, but regardless of those debates the use of nuclear bombs is never justifiable. It is for those reasons that I stand and march in solidarity with Japan, Guam and the world to work for a future world of peace; no wars and no nuclear weapons.



Plenary Session III:

Working Together for a World without Nuclear Weapons; Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Nuclear Power Plants; Safe and Secure Life and Environment (August 3)

Introductory Reports:

Paul Kawika Martin
Senior Director, Policy and Political
Affairs, Peace Action
U.S.A.

Peace Action's Use of Grassroots for Peace and Nuclear Abolition

Let me first thank everyone at Gensuikyo for your invitation and hospitality. I am honored to be here for my fifth trip to Hiroshima and Nagasaki and on behalf of many American brother and sisters, we want to show our gratitude for your important work towards nuclear weapons abolition and peace. Additionally, I would like to give special appreciation to the Hibakusha. You play an immeasurable role reminding humanity of the horrors of nuclear weapons. I feel inspired that despite what the U.S. Government did to you, you continue to strive for peace.

Second, I want to apologize that my Government dropped immoral nuclear weapons on this country. On behalf of Peace Action's 150,000 supporters and the more than 80% of Americans who believe we should abolish nuclear weapons, we apologize for the horrors caused to the people of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Japan.

As you know, I am the senior director for policy and political affairs for Peace Action. Peace Action is the United States' largest peace and disarmament organization with 100 chapters nationwide. Our current campaigns include bringing our troops home from Afghanistan, non-military solutions to the conflicts in Syria, Iraq and with ISIS, urging diplomacy with Iran and supporting the nuclear agreement reached by the P5+1, supporting a Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, reducing the U.S. military budget and lastly, the issue we were founded on nearly sixty years ago, abolishing nuclear weapons.

In this talk, I will explain how my organization uses the grassroots to influence the U.S. Government towards nuclear abolition. I will

conclude by suggesting some ways that you, too, can shape American policies.

Influencing the U.S. government is about political power. Political power is the ability to affect elections. You can affect elections by influencing voters. If you have many voters as supporters of your organization, then you can use them to impact lawmakers. You can also influence voters via the media which I will discuss later.

Grassroots are everyday people that care about an issue and are willing to take actions including giving money. Peace Action's grassroots represents about 150-200,000 people.

Our grassroots have the ability to show lawmakers that many voters want action on nuclear abolition. We hold lobby meetings with Members of Congress to discuss nuclear weapons and other issues. In these meetings, we bring influential members of society from their district or state. People who have the ability to influence the actions of voters or political contributions. People like business leaders, religious leaders and civic leaders. These lobby visits are meant to show that voters expect action from lawmakers.

As another grassroots effort, we generate as many constituent contacts as possible so that elected officials feel that many voters care about nuclear weapons issues. We do this by generating calls, emails, letters and questions at public events. Politicians assume that for every letter or contact they receive; several hundred voters feel the same way but won't bother to contact them.

Additionally, the media can influence voters, public opinion and policy makers. Our grassroots can generate letters to the editor which are read by politicians and considered a way to measure the pulse of the electorate. Also, the grassroots can hold protests, rallies and events that garner favorable media coverage. The grassroots can be used to raise money to purchase advertising such as TV and radio commercials and newspaper ads that will sway voters. Lastly, the strength of our grassroots lends us name recognition allowing our experts to publish opinion editorials that can impact the electorate and policy makers.

Our grassroots can affect elections. By making sure they vote, volunteer and give money to the right candidates, we can elect Members of Congress and Presidents who are more likely to work on nuclear disarmament. Also, by asking questions and briefing candidates we can not only affect election outcomes but what issues are debated and discussed.

While our grassroots hold a certain amount of political power. Joining them with other organizations and movements in a coalition working together strategically can wield significant political power to leverage Congress, the Administration or both to take action.

For example, the Peace and Planet Network, which we helped form with our friend Joseph Gerson of American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), organized the international mobilization on the eve of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Another example is our Move the Money campaign that works with a coalition of groups to reduce Pentagon spending including nuclear weapons. These groups are not only peace and disarmament organizations but human needs groups that realize that we cannot afford to spend \$1 trillion dollars on nuclear weapons over the next 30 years and have sufficient funds for the poor, job creation and environmental needs.

Obviously, the grassroots represent political power and we continually work to increase this power by growing our membership and supporters. By increasing our grassroots, we can increase our budget, our staff, and funds for advertisements and to give to candidates. This increases our ability to change nuclear weapons policy.

Let me provide you with the example of President Obama's visit to Hiroshima. Since he took office we have been pressuring the Administration on nuclear weapons issues. We worked with them to get the New START Treaty negotiated and ratified. Before he made his decision to come, we wrote opinion editorials and had our grassroots write letters to the editor, send thousands of emails and signed thousands of petitions. Additionally, we pressured Congress to support his decision and urge him privately and publically to come to Hiroshima. Finally, we met with the White House delivering several boxes of petitions and providing advice about why it was important to visit Hiroshima and meet with Hibakusha. This was a culmination of years of pressure and concerted, coalition efforts directed at the U.S. Government. It was a victory. And while we wanted the President to mention some concrete next steps during his visit, it is clear he will likely announce something soon.

You don't have to be in the U.S. to change American policy. You, too, can affect U.S. policy makers in three ways: via the media, government to government communication and support of U.S. NGOs. I encourage your leaders to write letters to the editors or submit opinion editorials on nuclear weapons issues to major U.S. newspapers like the New York Times and the Washington Post. I encourage you to pressure your government to contact our government on these issues. Especially right now as Obama reconsiders no first use policy. These communications can be administration to administration or Diet to Congress. Lastly, I would humbly request you support U.S. NGOs who work on nuclear weapon issues. Almost all of them do not get any governmental funding and their size is much smaller than other advocacy organizations like environmental, labor or human rights. For example, our budget is around \$4 million whereas the Humane Society, the largest animal welfare organization in the states has a budget of \$130 million. You can support by sending staff, volunteers or interns to work with groups in the United States or by supporting financially.

As you can see, the grassroots work that we and you do will ultimately bring us to our goals. And, we will be able to get there quicker in collaboration.

So again, I want to thank you for the continued friendship between Gensuikyo and Peace Action and know that our work together will one day bring about a world free of nuclear weapons. We need to continue our dialogue together. Please stay in touch with me through Twitter. My Twitter handle is @PaulKawika. Because as the Kenyan proverb wisely points out, "sticks in a bundle are unbreakable."

Park Jung Eun
Deputy Secretary General, People's
Solidarity for Participatory Democracy
Republic of Korea

**A vicious circle of the security dilemma:
Nuclear Threats and MD introduction on the
Korean Peninsula**

71 years ago, the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki brought catastrophic humanitarian consequences, not only to the Japanese people, but also around 70,000 Korean workers who had been forcibly taken to Japan. As a result of the Cold War, the Korean Peninsula was divided and finally torn apart by the Korean War. Under the unstable armistice system, the Korean

Peninsula has become the powder keg of East Asia, with the world's most concentrated accumulation of weapons, including nuclear weapons. The fear of nuclear war continues.

An unrealistic resolution like hostility and containment ended in Failure.

This year, the North has carried out its fourth nuclear tests. North Korea clearly expressed its will to keep the regime with human extinction weapons. It is very sad and miserable that North Korea relies on threatening not only the Korean Peninsula but also international society. No state has the right to possess and test such inhuman and mass destructive weapons. As seen in the nuclear history, its development in the name of nuclear deterrence simply has accelerated nuclear race and endangered the peace and security of human race. Without exception, nuclear tests of North Korea put the region in jeopardy.

The nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula has been aggravated because of accumulated distrust between the US and North Korea, North Korea and South Korea, and neighboring countries and North Korea. The hostile US policies against North Korea, such as pressure and containment, the reinforced nuclear umbrella for South Korea and conventional weapons have proved ineffective in the effort to resolve North Korean nuclear issues.

The South Korean government has failed to suggest a realistic measure to stop it. It has insisted that hostile disregard, sanctions and oppressions could deter but they haven't worked out.

The history of North Korea's nuclear program demonstrates that when dialogue and negotiations were pursued, Pyongyang suspended its nuclear program. The reverse was the case when the North saw itself as the target of pressure in the name of "hostile neglect" or "strategic patience." In those conditions North Korea intensified its nuclear program activities and developed long-range missile capabilities. The situation has become worse whenever the policy has been to halt dialogue, in the vain hope that regime collapse or transition was imminent. Demanding North Korea's dismantling its nuclear program as a prerequisite to any dialogue, automatically perpetuates the long-standing deadlock. This attitude does nothing to help solve problems.

Moreover, the already-dangerous situation in the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia is becoming even more unpredictable.

There were series of shocking agreement and measures by the South Korean government.

The first is an agreement regarding sexual slaves for Japanese soldiers between the South and

Japan last December. They said it's "final and irreversible" resolution. But the agreement hardly reflected the wishes of the victims, nor did the process involve any participation by the victims. It's a measure of removing an obstacle for strengthening military cooperation between ROK-Japan and US.

The second is that last February the South Korean government announced the closure of Kaesong Industrial Complex, citing North Korea's 4th nuclear test and launching of a long-range rocket as reasons. The government argues that approximately 120 million USD paid to the workers at Kaesong Industrial Complex has been used in development of nuclear weapons and missiles without any grounds.

The Third, last month the South Korean government and the US announced that they would deploy THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense System) to South Korea in Seongju, North Gyeongsang Province. The South Korean government, behind the curtains, decided to follow the request of the US. But there is no such an "adequate" location to place THAAD in our country.

There are many reasons the decision of South Korea and the US to place THAAD in Seongju must be rescinded. THAAD is not a weapons system for the residents of the Korean Peninsula. THAAD is essentially a part of the US Missile Defense System (MD). Deployment of THAAD to South Korea signifies that South Korea will be sucked into the US-Japan MD, which targets not only North Korea but also China and that the Korea-US-Japan military cooperation system will become official. MD is an aggressive weapons system which aims to incapacitate the missile attacks of the countries against the US and enable the US to launch missiles whenever they want to. The detectable range of the radar on THAAD theoretically reaches at most a few thousand kilometers. It's the US military that will be running THAAD in Korea.

THAAD deployment is militarily and diplomatically a self-destructive measure. It is obvious that this will also negatively affect the international cooperation to solve the nuclear problem in the Korean Peninsula. This is why THAAD can never be a tool to protect the safety of South Korean citizens and peace in the Korean Peninsula. The decision to place THAAD is the "real danger," which brings threats and conflicts.

The non-democratic and non-transparent decision process is also problematic. Before announcing THAAD deployment, there were not any discussions, and any evaluations of its use, effects, and military/diplomatic significance. The

South Korean government skipped all these procedures and controlled all information. There was not enough discussion even within government. The South Korean national assembly never received any substantial reports. In the case of Seongju, which was decided as the location for THAAD deployment, the residents were only notified by news without any explanation. They were not notified of the negative effects on the environment surrounding the THAAD base and radar.

But the government is insisting that this does not require the agreement of the National Assembly. THAAD deployment is directly related to the lives and the safety of South Korean citizens and will influence the friendly cooperative relationship with neighboring countries. It may also cost an astronomical amount of money. Therefore, this matter cannot be solely decided by the administrative body. It needs the agreement of the National Assembly and they must stop the one-sided push of THAAD deployment.

Facing the serious situation of nuclear threats and THAAD deployment, we need to discuss and apply new perspectives and methods even if it is difficult.

We have declared and proposed a fundamental and comprehensive resolution of military tensions and the nuclear crisis around the Korean Peninsula. It's a transition from the current armistice system to a peace system on the Korean Peninsula.

The first step is to start talks among the states concerned to conclude a peace treaty and to start bilateral talks to normalize relations between North Korea and the US, and between North Korea and Japan, based on six-party agreement on a joint statement.

Second, we should go beyond Korean denuclearization and seek a more comprehensive solution that would definitively eliminate all the nuclear threats facing Northeast Asian countries. Resolving the Korean Peninsula nuclear crisis is not an end in itself, but a necessary component of dealing with the Northeast Asian and global nuclear crises. The most effective way to eliminate nuclear threats on the Korean Peninsula and in the larger Northeast Asian region is to establish a nuclear-free zone in Northeast Asia, not only on the Korean Peninsula.

Third, we should make an effort in order to change the various disputes and military conflicts on the Korean Peninsula into reciprocal, cooperative relationships. Allowing Japan to exercise its right to collective self-defense, and reinforcing US-Japan-ROK military cooperation using the justification of nuclear and missile threats

from North Korea, will intensify the already extreme military tension and accelerate the vicious cycle of the regional arms race. Key elements in creating an East Asian peace and cooperation system are the preservation of Japan's peace constitution and the conclusion of a Korean Peninsula peace treaty.

We, Korean people don't want Korean Peninsula to be a powder keg competing hegemony and arms race. We hope the Korean Peninsula will transform as the stepping stone of Northeast Asian peace and cooperation.

For this, we are going to form solidarity to facilitate the reconciliation and the cooperation of North and South Korea and to form a peaceful system. We are going to actively spread civil resistance and actions for the withdrawal of the decision to place THAAD and for peace in the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia. We are going to form solidarity to prevent Seongju from becoming another victim of state violence, like Pyeongtaek Deachuri or Jeju Gangjeong village.

Above all, we believe that it's time to challenge and stop militarism which has been supported and justified in the name of national security. It only brings another military posture and development of fatal weapons. It only sacrifices the citizen's safety and other social investment. It only satisfies the defense industry. Those are truth that we have learned from the conflicts so long time. It's time to stop repeating such stupid policies and start to discuss socially and globally how to overcome militarism we're facing now.

**Jordi Calvo Rufanges
Board Member, International Peace
Bureau/ Centre Delàs for Peace Studies,
Spain**

**Move from Nuclear Security Unitary Thought
to Human Security**

Dear friends and colleagues, I'm delighted to be here in the World Conference against A and H Bombs. Thanks to Gensuikyo and Hibakushas for their visit to Spain last year, spreading the needed voice of nuclear disarmament in a country without nuclear weapons but supporting its military allies from NATO and their positions in favor of what we can call *nuclear security unitary thought*, a very dangerous and risky paradigm for the World Security.

I will divide my intervention in three main points: what nuclear security unitary thought means, differences between military security and

human security and the IPB proposal of disarmament for development.

Nuclear security unitary thought

Unitary thought is a concept related to the fall of Berlin Wall, on 1989, when the disintegration of USSR gave as a political result a new trend based in Fukuyama's End of History. He proposed that capitalism has not alternative once communism felt down. Thus it was only one alternative, getting deeper in capitalist system, through globalization on its neoliberal aspect. In fact this is the current situation of economy, based in this Unitary thought, without alternative. My analysis is not related to economy but to peace and security.

Regarding Security and Defense, there is another Unitary Thought which is not coming from the fall of Berlin Wall but long before. It's widely spread the idea that more security is equal to more security forces, more arms; therefore more security means more armies with more weapons, and very often it means more bombing and military fighting. This doctrine of security and defense is what is hegemonic nowadays, mainly after 11-S. His approach is based on War on Terror of George W. Bush trying to fight Al Qaeda first and ISIS now under the false assumption of preemptive war. The result is well known by all of you: more terrorism, more insecurity than the day after 11-S.

Security doctrine since 11-S and long before is a militaristic security and defense policy that we can call *Unitary Security Thought*. Related to nuclear weapons this *Unitary Security Thought* prioritizes nuclear deterrence as one of the main strategies for security in the world, and for the nuclear weapon-possessing states.

Nuclear weapons are another tool of this strategy to generate fear in the enemy, becoming a preemptive threat. Nevertheless, as we have seen, it has not prevented the terrorist attacks on major military powers in the world. Why? Because security is not achieved by weapons and military power it needs other kinds of actions.

Fortunately, in century XXI, there is no possibility to have a military invasion in Japan, in Spain or in any other state from another country. International Relations are played now in a different way and the military option is not accepted anymore. The only one doing that in the near past has been USA and NATO in Middle East, and Russia in their area of influence. It is obvious that ISIS is a cause and a result of the invasion of Iraq.

Military security or Human security?

Military security is based in armies and weapons; this traditional approach to security is

based in the existence of the enemy. Threats are created by enemies and we need to defeat them. How? Attacking, bombing, fighting. Is the "an eye for an eye" strategy. If we continue like this, as Gandhi said: we'll finish all blind.

Security and defense doctrines in the entire world consider as threats to our security: terrorism, economic volatility, climate change, energy insecurity, cyber security, organized crime and many others related to internal security. Because we need to remind that being attack by another state has become unlikely for most of the countries in the world.

But in fact, the threats to our security are rather those from the UN definition of Human Security, that is based on Economic security (poverty, unemployment...); Food security (hunger, famine...); Health security (diseases, malnutrition, lack of access to health care...); Environmental security (natural disasters, pollution...); Personal security (physical violence, crime, domestic violence, child labor...); Community security (religious and ethnic tensions...); and Political security (repression, human rights abuses...).

The best deterrence doctrine is the one that eliminates and reduce real threats to our security as a whole, to Human Security.

Reducing threats to our security means reducing and abolishing nuclear weapons. Because they are a real threat to our security for different reasons:

- Likely to be used by irresponsible governments or armed groups
- Accident on their facilities
- Pollution during thousands of years
- Attacked by terrorist groups

Last three are also applicable to nuclear plants as you sadly know very well.

Disarmament for development as an alternative

Why do we have arms in the world, why do we have people ready to use them? Because we have resources to do it. Military budget or military expenditure is the beginning of the armaments cycle. Without military spending there is no possibility to pay armies, buying arms or developing new weapons. Global military expenditure in 2015 was \$1.7 trillion, 2.3% of the world's total Gross Domestic Product (source: SIPRI). IPB promotes together with many other peace organizations in the world the Global Campaign on Military Spending, which propose to change this Security Unitary Thought to a Human Security Thought, using military resources to cover human needs, which as a result achieve greater security.

There are different ways to calculate how military expenditure could help to get more security not based in military security approach. One of them is what compares military expenditure with UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). How far would this money go towards achieving the SDG's? (based on article by Sam Perlo Freeman from SIPRI)

- 2015 OECD report on climate finance says that \$100 billion a year by 2020 would be suitable to fund green technology and to fight climate change.
- A 2015 report from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization calculates in \$265 billion a year eliminating extreme poverty and hunger sustainably by 2030.
- The 2015 Education for All Global Monitoring Report found that providing universal primary and early secondary education by 2030 would require \$239 billion a year.
- A 2015 report by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network states that with about half of world military spending in 2015 (between \$760-\$885) we could achieve most of SDGs (health, education, agriculture, food security, access to energy, water and sanitation, telecommunications and transport, ecosystems, emergency, climate change mitigation).

Besides that, nuclear weapons maintenance and developing have an extraordinary cost in the world every year. As we can see in the book *Risks and threats of nuclear arsenal*, from Centre Delàs for Peace Studies: Russia and the USA have expensive nuclear modernization programs planned for the future. USA plans to spend in 30 years around 1 trillion of dollars only modernizing nuclear weapons. How much other nuclear possessing states are going to spend to maintain and improve their nuclear arsenals? What are the opportunity costs of military and nuclear spending, what could we do with 1 trillion dollars during the next 15 years? Could this trillion be used to reach SDGs?

Moreover, it's important to consider other resources related to nuclear weapons expenditure. Financing nuclear arms producers is one of the main activities that divest resources from real economy to war and defense economics. Debt ratio of military companies shows that 3 out of 4 weapons wouldn't exist without banks support. This fact could be even higher on nuclear weapons companies' case, because their production is expensive and highly based in technology. Without aid from banks, most of nuclear weapons wouldn't be viable.

From the report from PAX: *Don't bank on the bomb 2015* there are 26 companies involved in the production, maintenance, and modernization of

nuclear weapons. Those 26 are based in France, India, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. It also shows that 382 banks, insurance companies, pension funds and asset managers from 27 countries invest significantly in the nuclear weapon industry (59 are based in Asia-Pacific). In total, more than USD 493 billion was made available to the nuclear weapon producing companies. In Asia-Pacific, the biggest investors are Mitsubishi UFJ Financial (Japan), Life Insurance Corporation of India, and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial (Japan).

Disarmament, reducing military expenditure and eliminating nuclear weapons would allow humanity to have enormous resources to improve our security (human security) and getting peace. It could be done if we move from the *Security Unitary Thought or Military Security Approach to a Human Security* which implies the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Senaga Misao Member of Okinawa Prefectural Assembly

I extend my respects and greetings of solidarity to you all, who are committed to a nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world. My heartfelt thanks for your support and solidarity with the struggle in Okinawa against the construction of a new base in Henoko, Nago City, and against the construction of Osprey helipads in Takae, Higashi Village. At this moment, the situation in Okinawa is growing tense due to the planned construction of a new U.S. base. In the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly election last June, the ruling coalition backing anti-base Governor Onaga Takeshi increased its seats. In the House of Councilors election in July, Iha Yoichi won with a wide margin of over 106,000 votes, defeating Abe Cabinet's Minister for Okinawa affairs. With this loss, the Liberal Democratic Party has no Diet member elected from Okinawa Prefecture. Okinawans demonstrated their unwavering will to prevent the construction of a new base in Henoko.

Early on the morning of July 11, one day after the House of Councilors election, the Okinawa Defense Bureau started bringing in materials and equipment for building of helipads in Takae, Higashi Village. On July 21, about 1,600 people rallied in front of the N1 zone gate of the US military's Northern Training Area to protest against the resumed construction, while the Prefectural Assembly adopted a statement demanding the cancellation of the helipad

construction. Early in the following morning, July 22, the government sent 500-strong riot police from all over Japan and removed protestors violently, along with their tents and vehicles, to clear the area in order to resume construction. On the same day, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism filed another lawsuit against Okinawa over the construction of a new base in Henoko. Is Japan really a democracy? The government's high-handedness, overriding the people's will as expressed in the elections, and the exercise of ultimate authority in disregard of the law is only fueling the anger of Okinawan people. The government's attempt to push ahead with the base construction, without providing legal grounds and skipping all required legal procedures, is exactly the kind of the situation that is likely to arise if a "state of emergency" is proclaimed as stipulated in the LPD draft constitution. I want to raise the alarm for you all.

The government claims that the helipads will "reduce the burden on Okinawa because a large part of the Northern Training Site will be returned." However, using the two helipads already completed, Ospreys are flying till late at night with roaring sound, making it difficult for children to get to sleep or to attend classes. Some local people have even evacuated from their homes. Obviously, bases' functions are being reinforced. Fifteen helipads already exist in the area which will not be returned. There is no reason whatsoever to make the construction of new helipads as a precondition for returning the land. The US military authorities admit that they are going to return the land that is "not convenient" for use. They therefore should return the land without precondition. It is very likely that riot police will rush again and again to Takae to brutally disperse local people who are continuing sit-in protests. In Takae, protest rallies are planned for August 5th and 6th and the tension is heightening there.

The anti-base struggle in Okinawa has been carried out in different forms. One is the political battle through election campaigns and local assemblies. Another is the court struggle against the State. There is also people's struggle at community level like the one in Henoko and lastly the struggle of a mass movement. On August 5, in the first oral argument in the trial, Governor Onaga will squarely argue for the legality of his decision to withdraw the approval for landfill work in the Henoko district. He will also speak of the hardships Okinawan people have been enduring because of the excessive US military presence over the last 71 years. Thirty "Shimagurumi Kaigi", the local people's associations opposing the base construction, have been formed in different

communities in Okinawa. In December 2015, the All Okinawa Council was inaugurated with the participation of business organizations. It has been actively supporting the local struggle and organizing rallies and meetings. The "Henoko Fund" has raised 578 million yen as a fund to sustain the struggle. I want to take this opportunity to thank people all over Japan for their contributions. This year marks the 71st year from the end of the war and the 44th year from Okinawa's reversion to Japan achieved by the struggle of the Okinawan people. They fought for a nuclear-free and base-free peaceful Okinawa, placing their hope in the Peace Constitution that stipulates "renunciation of war". The All-Okinawa struggle is rooted in the commitment of the Okinawan people to peace. They are resolved not to repeat the tragic Battle of Okinawa that killed one in every four people in the prefecture. It takes root also in the people's growing awareness that they do not need bases anymore because the bases threaten human rights and democracy, and because they are an obstacle to economic development.

In April this year, a former US marine killed a twenty-year old woman and abandoned her in the mountains. The All Okinawa Council organized a big rally to mourn her death and protest the outrage. 65,000 people gathered to call for the withdrawal of US Marines from Okinawa. The victimized woman was born 20 years ago, the year when 85,000 people rallied in protest against the gang rape of a school girl by US marines. The loss of her life reminded Okinawans that things have not changed a bit concerning the US military presence even 71 years after the end of the war. Okinawans are gripped by uncontrollable anger and deep sadness for not having been able to save the life and dignity of a young woman. They are resolved not to allow another tragedy of this kind to recur. The government, however, continues to refuse to revise the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement. Even after the sad incident, there have been drunk-driving accidents involving US military personnel. People have grown even more angry over the way the government and U.S. military are dealing with the case.

Okinawa will fight through to victory for the sake of its pride and dignity. The struggle of All Okinawa has developed into a united effort of citizens and opposition parties calling for the repeal of the war legislation. In the recent House of Councilors election, opposition parties jointly fielded candidates in all 32 single-seat constituencies and won 11 of them. In the US, Berkeley City Council adopted a resolution against

the construction of a new base in Henoko. Okinawans are inspired by the spreading support for their struggle all over Japan and throughout the world. In order to hand over the world's most beautiful natural environment to our children, let us strengthen our solidarity to move forward towards a peaceful and just world without nuclear weapons.

Statements:

Corazon Fabros Secretary General Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition The Philippines

Some thoughts on what's new in the Philippines:

The Permanent Court of Arbitration on July 12, 2016 released its 501-page award favoring the Philippines in its maritime dispute against China.

A summary of key points of the judgment of the Permanent Court of Arbitration:

- rendered null and void China's Nine-Dash-Line claim to some 90 per cent of the South China Sea
- rejected China's claim that the land formations and waters in the area have historically fallen exclusively under the ambit of the Chinese state
- dismissed the view that the terrestrial formations in the area are habitable islands, which could generate 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) for their claimants
- faulted China for violating the fishing rights of Filipino fisherfolks in Scarborough Shoal
- criticized China for causing severe damage to the fragile environment of the area with its land reclamation and dredging activities

Chito Sta. Romana, former ABC News Beijing Bureau Chief, believes that the Arbitral Tribunal's ruling is both a challenge and an opportunity for the Philippines.

A challenge is how to convert the legal document into a reality. A challenge in the sense that the Philippine government will have to find a way to make China comply with the decision. And the opportunity lies in the new Duterte government's signal of a less adversarial and more conciliatory approach with China. That may work in our favor but as expected, China's hardline position with regards the court's proceedings and the decision can be summed up as "non-acceptance, no participation, no recognition and no

implementation." China declared the ruling as null and void and has no binding force. China has gone on a media barrage. An understandable position given that the Chinese government has framed this particular issue on the South China Sea/West Philippine Sea as a sovereignty issue, a defense of their sovereignty to unify the Chinese people. For the Communist Party to stay in power. It will take a while before the Chinese will accept the decision and find some ways to save face.

Will our new government genuinely take a conciliatory approach, not to taunt the Chinese, not to flaunt victory on the case and remain humble in the face of victory as this will help in terms of renewing our ties with China. The Philippines have very abnormal ties with China. We need to pursue normal relationship, to be able to talk with each other, to be able to exchange ideas, to be able to talk differences and try to get along. But will the Philippines be able to do this balancing act in the face of strong U.S. military presence both in terms of troops and military facilities in the Philippines and in the face of the implementation of the latest agreement between the Philippines and the United States?

This brings me to the second point: The Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement. Now declared constitutional by our Supreme Court recently before the arrival of the U.S. Secretary of State Kerry. Signed on the eve of U.S. President Obama's visit to the Philippines in 2014 providing for return of the use of the Philippines as U.S. staging ground. I will not go into details about that now, maybe in one of the Workshops on August 5, I could talk about it in depth. For now, I would just like to say that under EDCA, there are at least seven (7) agreed locations for U.S. military forces to use and this includes the former U.S. Airbase in Clark and Camp Aguinaldo, the headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines no less. The Philippines has also committed under EDCA to build facilities for the exclusive use of the U.S. and its allies including Japan, Korea, Australia, etc.

Third: We had our national election last May that ushered in a new government led by Rodrigo Duterte as president, who won by big margin over the candidate of the ruling party. He won under platform of genuine change which translates to solving the drug problem in the country, reforming the police, stopping corruption in government and alleviation of poverty. The magic platform that responds to the need of the people. By the way, he believes in summary killings, wants the death penalty back, and wants emergency powers to be able to do his job well and quick. He curses a lot and demeans women. But I also believe he means business (but he likes to do things quick like

summary killings of drug addicts, pushers, dealers, except the drug lords who would have to go through some special procedures. He also agrees to the burial of the former dictator Marcos in the special cemetery for fallen heroes and patriots with military honors. It's a shock for many of us. A situation we have not anticipated would ever happen. Already as of yesterday – there are over 500 summary killings mostly drug related or drug suspects and over 70,000 surrendered. What is really shocking is that, the general public welcome this as the real change that they have been waiting for.

Anyway, where does this find us? We are slowly gaining our composure, putting our heads, hearts and our experience together to achieve our unities and solidarity and hopefully find ourselves identifying the real enemy and go back to organizing, coalition building and the real hard stuff that we need to do (informing, organizing, conscientizing – because there is no shortcut).

I think, I will end with that note and to just say that we continue to be vigilant and committed to opposing the militarization of the Philippines and of the region, push for an independent foreign policy for the Philippines, lobby for a peaceful solution to the problem with China, uphold the nuclear weapons-free and bases-free provision of our constitution, support the peace negotiation with the Moro rebels and the National Democratic Front and the Communist Party of the Philippines & other armed rebels so that peace may prevail in our country.

Guerrero (AG) Saño Teach Peace, Build Peace Movement The Philippines

Peace March Proposal

It has been a year after I joined the 70th commemoration of the bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima and I can still remember vividly the images of horror from the pictures that were shown to me by the Hibakushas.

The past year I have been giving talks about peace in my homeland with the inspiration and hope that I gained from my walk in Japan last year.

Today I continue to walk in solidarity with the Japanese people and in accordance to my belief that peace should always be the utmost priority of all nations.

This message was solidified in my heart and mind because of the lessons I learned from the international youth relay for the peace march.

It was Malaya Fabros, a college schoolmate,

peace and environment advocate from the Philippines, who introduced me to the peace march and invited me to join in 2015.

She can't be here with us today but I'd like to share a message from her:

"This early, we are proposing the continuation of the International Youth Relay Peace March. The mechanics are still the same as the past years where the marchers will cover their own air fare to and from Japan; that Gensuikyo will host the marchers accommodation and food while in the march and that Gensuikyo will take care of the airport transfer to and from the localities. Also from the previous years, the marcher must give to Gensuikyo the funds raised while in the march – this is part of the fund raising for the marcher's expenses. Experiences of the marchers will then be shared through social media – at least in Facebook and the www.heiwakoshindesu.wordpress.com blog.

As early as now, we are starting this proposal to help identify marchers and prepare earlier. We from the Philippines are pledging to send at least two marchers. One marcher can walk through Tokyo and Kanagawa to make a head start. I also recommend to reserve the latter prefectures – i.e. Okayama and Hiroshima to the farther countries like the US to give them longer lead time to prepare for airfare (as it is more expensive) and to ensure that they can also join the World Conference.

One of the targets for next year is to publish a book with the compilation of insights from the marchers themselves since 2013. I believe the time is ripe and we have collected enough insights to compile. Proceeds of this book are intended to help raise funds for the marchers both inside Japan and in our respective countries. Details of this can be discussed further.

If you would allow, we would also like to take the opportunity to invite organizations and youth marchers while in the World Conference.

Thank you very much for your continuous support. Though I cannot attend this year's World Conference, my commitment to the peace movement and my dedication to the Peace March remains. I hope to see you all again. Warm hugs to everyone."

And with that I say: Let Peace prevail over anything that goes against it.

Mercedes Llarinas Angeles
Executive Director
Peace Women Partners

**Statement of Solidarity of the Peace Women
Partners:**
WOMEN WEAVING PEACE

The Peace Women Partners is an organization of women in Asia Pacific and Africa who share the VISION of a WORLD WITHOUT WAR. We held our International Conference on Women, Peace and Security with the theme: Women Leaders in Peace Building and Rebuilding Lives in Pangasinan, Philippines this February 2016. Our participants numbering around 200 from the Philippines, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Fiji, Cook Islands and Australia united to call for a Nuclear Weapon-free, Peaceful and Just World.

Peace Women Partners calls for recognition that world wars have continued unabated since 1945. There have been no 'Victory' days for the peoples of the Asia Pacific regions. Our communities have borne the effects of military hostilities for more than half a century as the interests of western power and domination, through the military industrial complex, have waged their wars on our doorsteps, in our bedrooms, in the very cells of our unborn children. Today with the US pivot to Asia, we are witnessing a US military buildup that escalates tensions and may provoke war among Asian countries.

- We deplore the continuous operation of military bases throughout the Asia Pacific region, and the building of new bases despite people's opposition, such as what is happening in Henoko, Okinawa.
- We call for a halt in the construction of helipads in the U.S. Marines' training center in Takae, northern Okinawa to preserve the lives of Takae residents and protect the biodiversity of the surrounding area.
- We join the call of the villagers of Gangjeong in Jeju Island, South Korea, who struggle peacefully to stop the operation of the Naval Base which will allow the US to launch its US Aegis missile destroyers, aircraft carriers, and nuclear submarines to make war against any part of the world.
- We support the fight of the people of Seongju in North Gyeongsang Province of South Korea to oppose the Terminal High Altitude Defense (THAAD) missile defense system in their hometown, which they are forced to pay for, while risking

the adverse environmental effects and the increased threat of war.

- We support the freedom-loving Filipinos, who urge their government to repeal the Enhanced Defense Agreement Cooperation (EDCA) that allows the re-establishment of US military bases in the country,
- We declare solidarity with the Japanese people who are campaigning for the abolition of war laws and keeping Article 9 in their Peace Constitution.

Wars and militarization have untold negative impact on women and children:

- The presence of foreign troops and bases are magnets for prostitution, pornography and the rape of women in the host communities.
- Toxic substances and nuclear materials from docking warships, and kept in base facilities poison not only women's bodies, causing birth-defects such as 'jelly-babies' and other life-threatening and debilitating conditions. The poisons also pollute the land and waters from which we feed our children, and shall become our legacy to them, such as what happened in Subic Naval Base in Olongapo, and other abandoned US bases in the Philippines.
- War leaves women to care for their families alone, and women from both sides of the fighting are widowed.

Peace Women Partners supports the call of the World Conference organizers for Life, Peace and Justice for women and men of Asia and the world!

Shreedhar Gautam
C.C. Member, Afro-Asian Peoples'
Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) of
Nepal

Support and Solidarity for World Peace and
Nuclear Weapons Free World

I am Shreedhar Gautam, member of central committee of Nepal AAPSO. It gives me great honor to attend "2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs" and pay homage to the thousands of Japanese women, men and children who were victims of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I have had the pleasure of attending 2013 conference in this very city. I had gone back to Nepal with a greater sense of responsibility and I delivered the message of the conference to my students in Nepal's University in particular and to all people of Nepal

in general. My coming to Hiroshima second time is just and another pilgrimage to this great city.

Greetings from nuclear free Nepal to this most major NGO conference held in our world for the total abolition of nuclear weapons from this earth to secure future for humanity and all life that there would not remain the grave real threats from the existence of these weapons. The world is a different place from when the UN was established and the aims and objectives of that body have been deeply compromised, but this World Conference will deal with these issues and will as in decades past revitalize the peace actions around the world.

It is really heartening to note that, you friends in Japan, are steadfastly conducting a campaign, year after year, for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Holding such annual conferences against A and H bombs is certainly having a far reaching impact in creating awareness among the people who are living in other parts of the world, to stand up for the total abolition of nuclear arsenals from the world.

Almost eight decades after the end of the Second World War, the images of those bombings still haunt the conscience of humanity. The unspeakable suffering of thousands of civilians and the physical and psychological wounds that many still bear continue to remind us of the horrific consequences from a nuclear detonation. Today, as we remember the victims, we call on the international community to urgently recommit itself to achieving a world free from nuclear weapons.

Nepal AAPSO, remains deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any possible use of nuclear weapons. So, Nepal is always advocating for the total ban of nuclear weapons. Moreover, Nuclear disarmament is not only an international legal obligation. It is also a moral imperative. In spite of the growing international consensus regarding the illegitimacy of the use of nuclear weapons, an estimated 20,000 nuclear devices still exist. This is mainly due to the notorious resistance of nuclear-weapons States (NWS) to agree to multilaterally negotiated commitments, in line with their obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), with a view to a gradual reduction and a complete elimination of their nuclear arsenals, according to clear and binding timelines and under an effective and transparent verification regime.

The only guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used, under any circumstances, is their complete elimination. As long as they continue to exist, the world will never be completely free from the risk of a nuclear detonation, be it intentional or accidental. It is the responsibility of the

international community to prevent, at all costs, the risk of civilization being wiped off the face of the Earth. This is a commitment that must be urgently defended.

The mere existence of nuclear arsenals constitutes a destabilizing element of international peace and security. As long as a limited group of countries consider themselves entitled to possess nuclear weapons, there will be a risk that non-nuclear weapon states or non-state actors may also want them. Moreover, the preservation and further development of nuclear arsenals undermine disarmament and non-proliferation efforts, and can also encourage an arms race of potentially devastating efforts.

The multinational corporations in the US and Western Imperialist countries gain super profits by manufacturing equipments for nuclear power plants and dump them on the third world countries. They keep on propagating that the electricity generated in nuclear power plants are cheap, clean and also safe. But the tragedies that have taken place in Chernobyl and Fukushima should serve as eye opener for the entire mankind. Hence, a total ban on nuclear power plants is very much required.

Nepal AAPSO has a staunch and longstanding commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Nepal AAPSO always stands ready to contribute to further efforts at the international level in order to achieve universal, transparent and irreversible disarmament.

Last year, Nepal AAPSO organized an international conference in Kathmandu to commemorate the 60th anniversary Bandung Conference. Many participants and paper writers focused on the need of building world peace by way of eliminating nuclear weapons from each and every part of the world. Nepal AAPSO organizes a seminar to highlight danger posed by nuclear weapons around the world and to pay homage to the millions of innocent people who got perished in Hiroshima and Nagasaki for their no crime. Nepal AAPSO organizes monthly programme to create public awareness in favor of world peace and against the war mongering policies of the western imperialist countries. Nepal though a non-nuclear country is in the midst of the major nuclear power countries, so it can realize the pain and peril generated by the nuclear weapons. My participation along with my two colleagues from Nepal AAPSO, is to reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Japan and pay regard to all Hibakusha.

I am hopeful that the deliberations and resolutions of this World Conference against A and H bombs will further strengthen the international opinion in favor of total elimination of nuclear

weapons from this planet. I once again thank the organizers for giving me this opportunity to address this august house. Let us march ahead, towards a better future, wherein the world will be free of nuclear weapons.

In the end, on behalf of Nepal AAPSO, I once more pay homage to the victims of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings and call upon the international community, in particular the nuclear-weapon states (NWS), to show political resolve and intensify their efforts towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

Purna Bahadur Maharjan AAPSO Nepal

Solidarity to 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs

It is my pleasure to be here today, attending one of the world's largest events raising the voice of people of conscience against the use of atomic bombs in the past, and against the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction at present. Please allow me to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all international and Japanese participants in this conference.

On behalf of the Nepal AAPSO, I would like to extend our profound solidarity to all victims of the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, those of the nuclear disasters in Chernobyl in 1986 and in Fukushima in 2011, as well as victims of all nuclear tests, and all kinds of weapons of mass destruction in different parts of the world over the past decades.

Allow me also to say thank you to the Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo) and its members and volunteers for organizing this significant event and offering a generous hospitality to overseas delegations, including that from Nepal.

We are all aware of the catastrophic consequences of the atomic bombings of Japan 73 years ago, which killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people while leaving behind hundreds of thousands of others suffering from never-ending health problems.

And we are profoundly concerned that nations are taking "national security" as pretext for retaining and developing nuclear weapons. The Nepal AAPSO, therefore, wants to join our voice with that of peace movements from across the world to call on all governments to strictly implement Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a way leading to a "Nuclear Weapon-free, peaceful and Just World," as this conference is themed.

I wish to take this opportunity to call for more support by governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, for victims of nuclear weapons, Agent Orange, and all kinds of mass destruction weapons, who are still suffering from physical and mental pains.

Once again, thank you for everything the organizers of this conference have done for us.

Dhyan Bahadur Subba AAPSO Nepal

Solidarity for a world without nuclear weapons

I am from the country known as the birthplace of the peace messenger Gautama Buddha and for Mt. Everest, the world's highest mountain. I come to Japan for the first time to attend this conference. By this visit, my dream to learn about the wonderful cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has come true.

The two cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have experienced the inhuman brutality which instantly killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people. This was the most terrifying massacre that took place on earth in the 20th century. August 6 and 9, the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, have been and will be remembered as the dark history of mankind.

When I was a child, our teacher told us heart-breaking stories about the A-bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. By listening to the stories, we were driven by fear of nuclear attacks against humanity. Why had the peace-loving Japanese people and their civilization become the target for the brutal attack? We imagined how painful and angry Japanese people had been. We still feel the fear and believe that we must free the world from risks posed by nuclear weapons. Since many countries continue to develop nuclear weapons, we cannot guarantee that the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will never be repeated.

We pursue the total abolition of nuclear weapons in order to achieve a world without them. Gensuikyo has long struggled to this end. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Gensuikyo's activities. Thanks to its invitation, we have been able to join this conference. Nepal, the birthplace of Buddha, is surrounded by nuclear-armed India, China and Pakistan. Therefore, our region is not free from conflicts. For peace-loving Nepalese, AAPSO Nepal has organized seminars to pursue peace and to fight against development of nuclear weapons.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest condolences to the victims of nuclear

weapons. I would also like to express my sympathy to all Hibakusha and pledge to promote strong solidarity.

Anasua Roy Chowdhury
University Professor
India

Faith in Peace

Man realizes that with time his belief undergoes a sea change. His childhood faith in completeness, in peace evolves with a change in his environment, culture and values. The cruelty, bloodshed, terrorism all around the world shakes the very foundation of his faith in peace.

Rabindranath Tagore in many of his writings has emphasized the bankrupted of such faith at the far end of his life. He once believed that Europe's civilization was its treasure, but gradually he realized that savagery in Europe was spreading its tentacles, striking terror in every heart. Subjugation of the human soul was spreading like a plague, humiliating the very essence of humanity. Man has tried to exploit his fellow beings paying to lord them. Tagore in his poem "Prantik" has given a clarion call to those who are preparing to resist the unholy forces, which ultimately is self-destroying.

In the history of the world, down the ages, the strong has always suppressed and exploited the weak, but the latter as sure to wake up one day and question the tyranny of the ruler. Tagore's plays "Raktakarabi", "Muktadhara" "Bisharjan" all bear testimony to this very fact, the true ruler feels for his subjects, shares their agony and extends his hand for their welfare. The Mughal ruler Akbar had striven of secularism, - to bring together all religions on the basis of love, tolerance and understanding. It is a constant struggle between heartless supremacy and the power of true love.

Since ages, India's teaching has been to realize one's inner strength, the real treasure as opposed to apparent pale exterior; - the king has to leave behind his crown to enter the hermitage. This is not merely a philosophic speculation, but amounts to bring India's religion to be practiced in one's daily life. But when rites and rituals become more important than the pride of power comes to the fore resulting in senseless wastage of vitality. It pushes man towards restlessness, the consequence of which has been the **dropping of atomic bomb on Hiroshima, - 6th August, 1045** being a red letter day. On witnessing the terrible destruction, man had sworn never to use such weapon in future and till date he has kept his word. **We observe this day as World Peace Day.**

True, the struggle between the forces of good and evil continues till today, but simultaneously, man's sense of good prevails and he endeavors to hold aloft the beacon of peace and harmony amongst nations.

Arup Kumar Das
Freelance Peace Worker
India

I express my solidarity to all the organisations those who are trying their level best to create a nuclear free World and give Peace a chance. My heartfelt thanks to our host country, Japan for taking the lead role to organise such a great event. And has made it possible for us to attend the 71st Anniversary of Nuclear Bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

A question has cropped up to my mind, i.e. if we really want to survive then should we not think about a total Ban on Nuclear weapons; a Nuclear Weapon free world.

Why do we need to have a total Ban on Nuclear Weapons???

The Earth we live in would be in total disaster as Nuclear weapons pose the single biggest threat to the Earth's environment that scientists have warned.

In a new study of the potential global impacts of nuclear blasts, it has been found that even a small-scale war would quickly devastate the world's climate and ecosystems, causing damage that would last for more than a decade. The ozone layer, which protects the surface of the Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation, would be depleted by 40% over many inhabited areas and up to 70% at the poles. I cannot imagine what would happen if there was an explosion /detonation, there would be total fallout everywhere. The country would be shut down. So, on this note I would say let us think of a total Ban on Nuclear Weapons so that we can pass on a blue and clear sky to our younger generation?

The human race, the beautiful creation of God would be in total mess. We have heard about the physical and emotional pain from the Hibakushas, the victims of the Nuclear Weapons. The Hibakushas have pointed out that these weapons are of mass murder and warn us that Human beings and Nuclear Weapons cannot coexist. Physicians have told us what will happen if these weapons were to be used. We know now about the "atomic winter" with its destruction of the biosphere and of all conditions necessary for life. The physicians have also shown the absence of any escape route, and that there is no feasible protection available

against such an atomic catastrophe. Home defence and medical services would inevitably collapse; it would be impossible to help the injured and the dying, and survivors would be subjected to the murderous long term consequences.

Are we here only to look back at what happened 71 years back in Japan, and millions of people who lost their lives in World War II, but we are here to assess where we are today on ridding the world of Nuclear Weapons?

Face to face with the threat of nuclear war, there is one common interest which will assert itself over all others: the will to survive. In other words, there is a common human interest in preventing nuclear war. The feeling for this common interest is now beginning to be so strong that a watchword seems to be evolving: People of all lands who wish to survive, unite!

If we, let the atomic powers decide our future, there will be no future. Today on this common platform let us pledge a new world where we the people force the nuclear weapons of mass destruction to become obsolete. Let the leaders feel the action of the common people. I am convinced that we can make the ban a reality if we only take up the torch of sanity, for a world freed of nuclear bombs.

Chitto jetha bhoysunyo (Where the mind is without fear) is one of the most quoted poems in India and Bangladesh. Written by Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore before India's independence, it represents Tagore's dream of how the new, awakened India should be. It appeared as poem 35 in the English Gitanjali. I quote:

“Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where knowledge is free
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
By narrow domestic walls
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way
Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by thee
Into ever-widening thought and action;
Into that heaven of freedom, My Father, let my country awake.”

In fact I would like the whole World to awake and strive for total Ban on Nuclear Weapons and give PEACE a chance.



Closing Session (August 4)

Reports from Workshops:

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

Haleigh Copley-Cunningham President, Tufts University Peace Action U.S.A.

Workshop 1 regarding “Damage and Suffering from A-Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Inhumane Nature of Nuclear Weapons; Struggle of the Hibakusha”, proved to be a successful informative discussion with the focus of the human costs and suffering behind the atomic bomb. Several Hibakusha were gracious enough to recount their courageous yet heart-wrenching tales of survival in detail as well as their efforts today regarding nuclear abolition. Despite the average age of the Hibakusha being 80 years old, the flame of hope for nuclear abolition still burns fierce. As Hibakusha Junko Kayashige, who was only 6 years old when the bomb fell and recalled picking maggots out of the severe burn wounds from her sister’s back, said that she is confident that we will

abolish nukes soon, and hopes that the international delegates present here will deliver their messages of same confidence and spread them throughout their country.

During our discussion we were also reminded that Hibakusha must live in constant fear of developing illnesses or having symptoms even today as a result of exposure to radiation. Although they appear healthy on the outside, this does stop them from unexpectedly dying, which we now know was from internal exposure to radioactivity. As the Black Rain Association described, the effects of the bomb could be felt kilometers away due to the black rain that fell. Currently, Hibakusha from places where the black rain fell comparatively less are struggling to gain support and legitimacy in court as scientific data was only collected for external radiation exposure, not internal exposure. The campaign to address the neglect of these black rain victims still continues. Our workshop also focused on Hibakusha from the Bikini Atoll incident, Fukushima and even those made into Hibakushas while still fetuses who all still struggle for recognition. Although the Nuclear Research Institute still insists that there is no proof of 2nd hand radiation, campaigns are still very active in fighting for scientific support and urge us for collaboration and conversations in regards to these Hibakusha.

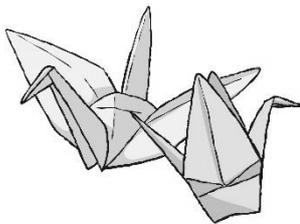
The promoting the International Signature Campaign was also a main focus of discussion.



Many Gensuikyo members from around Japan called for a notion to expand collaboration with other local organizations, including labor unions, municipals and religious groups. Another main strategy discussed is for Hibakushas to continue to take active roles in promoting the Signature Campaign like participating in rallies and marches. Katano Kenji of Kanagawa Gensuikyo described the 13-day rally with over 6 thousand participants, including 122 Hibakusha, the oldest being 95 years old. In addition, exporting the signature campaign to America and internationally is also an important strategy, especially with growing stigmatization regarding the use of the atom bomb among American youth in particular and the recent success in gathering signatures in New York.

We were excited to hear updates from the International Youth Relay Peace March as well as educational efforts. Over 5 thousand signatures were collected in Nagano alone and the teachers who participated in the march plan to deliver their lessons and experiences to their students. Also noted this year will be Shinfujin's 50th publication of Hibakusha testimonies. Publications such as this are also gaining an international audience as seen when Roland Gardien from France together with a group of French high school students, successfully translated the Hibakusha book "A Day Never to Forget" into French. Hopefully the publication of this French version can go on to be further utilized to educate French speaking people about the atomic bomb and its victims.

From our workshop's discussion, it is clear that Hibakusha and their families are still haunted by the atomic and hydrogen bombs. We must internalize their stories and aspirations both in Japan and internationally so that they can be turned into action. Utilizing new strategies to strengthen the Signature Campaign and educational efforts will bring us even closer to stopping a future with more Hibakusha.



Workshop II: International Treaty for the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons; A World without Nuclear Weapons; Role of Peace Movement and Civil Society

Irene De Vera
Head of International Relations
Pangasinan State University
The Philippines

Workshop II was actually the continuation of August 2, 2016 Plenary Session II, bearing the same theme with Introductory Speakers namely, Joseph Gerson of American Friends Service Committee, USA, Carol Turner, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament of UK, Selma Van Oostward, PAX, the Netherlands, and Yasui Masakazu, Secretary General of Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo).

The Moderators of the said workshop were Mr. Magiting Fabros of Philippines, Saito Shun'ichi of Japan, Yuhara Yukie of Japan and yours truly, Irene De Vera of Philippines.

The hall was fully occupied and well participated. About 32 speakers shared their various experiences and roles in prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons or promoting a nuclear free country. Eliminating nuclear weapons has long been the aim of the Hibakushas of Japan and Korea. Today, Hibakushas are not alone as they felt their lives are nearing to end. Many Peace movements emerged from different prefectures of Japan and different parts of the world. These movements have been calling the attention of the younger generations who care less of the past. Different approaches were done to reach old and young people know, learn and understand the past. These were in the form of photo exhibits of ruins in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, books and booklets of the lives and death of Hibakusha as they struggle to tell the world the thirst for world peace. Some sang songs and recited poems in 2-3 days in the street to attract people especially the young ones to affix their signatures for nuclear abolition campaign. While doing these, amounts given voluntarily though few yet enlightened the organization cause. In Hiroshima, elementary and high school students signatures for peace campaign were gathered. Some attended international conferences and conveyed the messages of Hibakusha through photo exhibit or presentation and their video testimonies. Association of peace marchers distributed peace leaflets. Other associations have

very good relations to their mayors which encouraged them to gather more signatures. Other creative way of educating the young ones for peace was through musical choir group. Hibakusha of Osaka formed a choir group to render songs to children with their mothers. The Buddhist group in Japan established stone grave with a sign of No Nuclear, No War and supported the signature campaign and prayer. Peace Museums were established in Japan to depict the culture and history of Japan and to convey the message of Japan's desire for a just and peaceful world. The nurses in hospitals that took care of Hibakushas played important role in giving information on the agonies and pains experienced by Hibakushas. The information served as inputs for peace messages and education for young people.

In Netherlands, signature campaign for peaceful societies across the globe was being done through online system using simple or basic information. Young people were brought to conferences and encouraged them to speak and lay out their feedbacks. Leaflets is one way of advertising the cause and communication in open park and would enjoin the young generations to involve themselves in peace organizations in United Kingdom. Representatives from Philippines believed in peace march as an effective way to convey the message and signature campaign for nuclear abolition and world peace. The paper crane was very effective tool in explaining to the Pilipino people the damage of Atomic bomb in Japan. The Barefoot Gen sent to the Philippines in manga form was also very attractive to young people in the Philippines. Through this, they learned about Japan and the thirst for peace. Also, the use of art in the form of painting murals attracted people. A 4.2 km peace murals was painted in the Philippines, the longest in the world. Teaching art wall to children of rebels and soldiers especially in Mindanao would make them appreciate the quest for peace. A lot of campaign for peace and nuclear abolition is being done in the form of art, music, poetry and the use of social media like Facebook. The use of anime and social media, these technologies would attract more young people to become involved and active to stand for peace.

All the forms and roles whether small or big will truly matter and contribute to a just and peace world.

Workshop III: Working Together for a World without Nuclear Weapons; Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Nuclear Power Plants; Safe and Secure Life and Environment

**Raymond Vincent Lujan
Guahan Coalition for Peace and Justice
Guam**

Workshop III titled, "*Working Together for a World without Nuclear Weapons; Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine; Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; End to Nuclear Power Plants; Safe and Secure Life and Environment*" served as an open forum for discussion. The workshop served as a place for conference participants to share their struggles as well as provide possible solutions and suggestions towards addressing such matters.

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Hirano Shoichi, Ms. Nagao Yuri, Ms. Mercedes Angeles and myself. 21 conference participants provided oral testimonies on behalf of their agency or personal experiences and the discussion allowed and called for participation from other participants to either respond to or provide recommendations.

There were a few participants of the workshop who are members of the Japan Teachers and Staff union. Testimonies provided by Noriko Yamamoto and others underscored the important role education has on campaigns, particularly the campaigns that call for the use of peace actions to address conflict and the campaign calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Points were also brought up pertaining to the very important role the Board of Education has on implementing the history of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and introducing peace activities in the curriculum.

Nobue Ogasawara, a member of Shinfujin stressed the importance of collaboration. Collaboration between associations and organizations as well as groups advocating for other social issues. Given how much of these problems are interconnected and have implications from one group to the next, working together is a must in the hopes of abolishing nuclear weapons and war. She shared of campaign project, "I am.." which was to oppose war legislature from a human rights stand point.

Mr. Jordi Calvo Refunges of the International Peace Bureau offered insight on how to combat war, the military industry and nuclear weapons through a macroeconomic perspective of the banking systems that fund these industries. He shared of his experiences as well as lent insight on

the important decision makers that peace movements need to address.

The group discussed collectively how influential social media is. They shared what tactics worked best for them, how to appeal to certain demographics, the main social network influencers on particular age groups and how important it is to engage the younger generation.

A couple of the participants spoke to the difficulties of engaging in proper dialogue with individuals who refer to the “Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine”. Mr. Mitsuku Kato, a 20 year-old third year university student, lent his wise and refreshing input. He spoke on issues of terrorism and political disconnect amongst young adults. He offered varying perspectives and advice that may assist in overcoming and talking through the nuclear deterrence doctrine theory. Many of the other participants expressed how glad they were to see the younger generation participating in activities such as this. It provides hope for the future.

While there are some tools in place which call for peaceful conflict resolution, those tools are being threatened. The Japanese Constitution was often referenced; however, some spoke out how the present events contradict Japan’s renunciation of war. Mr. Kyujiro Kawato of Nara Peace Committee shared how Nara established a war exhibition for peace that was sponsored by the local government, the board of education and local newspapers, but due to 6 complaints from “right wing pro constitution revision” supporters, the local government retracted their sponsorship which resulted in the cancellation of the 23-year-old Nara War Exhibition for Peace.

Many spoke to the dangers of nuclear power plants, but one young woman recalled her horrifying time during the Fukushima disaster that highlighted the many issues of housing nuclear power plants in our communities. Ohashi Soari, a university student, was very surprised when she learned of the disaster and the effects it would have on its surroundings. She questioned how much thought was put into placing a radioactive plant in an area that frequently received earthquakes. She described how the “crippling event” led to the displacement of her family and herself. She felt as though the government did not provide as much assistance as they should have as she and her family relocated away from radioactivity. She was frustrated by the fact that there was no emergency evacuation plan in place in the case of a disaster, or at least it was not made clear to the residents of Fukushima.

Others spoke to the ineffective safety checks, the lack of information regarding nuclear energy to the neighboring residents and the dependency

Japan has to the use of nuclear energy. Some believed that while it may be economically practical, the move to renewable and organic energy is morally and ethically the only viable option so as to not have any chances of humans and the environment being exposed to radioactive energies once more. Many also called for nuclear energy to be involved in the declaration which calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Tatsuo Kobayashi of Japan AALA provided scientific rationale to promoting a campaign of awareness. His profession and experience reiterated the fact that the use of nuclear energy is not acceptable. He argued that if the people were educated on the scientific component of nuclear energy that they, too, would call for its abolition. He was challenged by another participant to simplify the very complex scientific concepts so that his campaign would be even more affective. Mr. Oleg Bodrov of NGO Green World in Russia, brought the discussion of nuclear power plants to a close by complimenting the sentiments made by Mr. Kobayashi as well as share the purpose of his present work. At one point in time Mr. Bodrov was employed by the nuclear industry in Russia and upon learning of the dangers to humans and the environment he found employment in investigating the very industry he once worked for.

Mr. Hirano Shoichi closed the workshop by summarizing some of the important points made. He gave a homework assignment and that is it, connect, talk and engage.

Report from the Scientists’ Forum

Hagiwara Shinjiro Japan Scientists’ Association

The Japan Scientists’ Association has held the Scientists’ Forum as a part of the World Conference against A and H Bombs since 1987. This year, the 30th forum was held in Yokosuka City. In the forum on August 1 and 2, we had active discussion together with citizens on the theme of achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons and a peaceful society.

Regarding what actions citizens and scientists should take to eliminate nuclear weapons, Professor Emeritus Ikeuchi Satoru of Nagoya University, who is a member of the Committee of Seven to Appeal for World Peace, gave a very valuable keynote speech, titled, “The move against military-academics cooperation and the path to the abolition of nuclear weapons.” He spoke about the ongoing rapid move to promote

military-academics cooperation by the Abe Cabinet and roles of scientists against such move.

The forum was taken part in by 95 participants, including 11 JSA members and 84 ordinary citizens. We were grateful to receive very kind and warm messages from heads of cities adjacent to Yokosuka, such as mayors of Zushi City and Hayama Town as well as the assembly chair of Hayama Town. Those municipalities have declared themselves nuclear free. I believe our forum held in Yokosuka City attracted local citizens' interests. City assembly members and parliamentarians also joined this event, where active exchanges of opinions between scientists and citizens took place.

The first speaker was Mr. Hayashida, a graduate student of Meiji Gakuin University and a member of SEALDs (Students Emergency Action for Liberal Democracy). He spoke of how to block the move to turn Japan into a war-fighting nation and gave a report on the effort he was involved to promote opposition parties' joint struggle in the latest House of Councilors election.

Mr. Sonozawa, a local resident, made a report on the current deployment of military vessels in Yokosuka port. He has monitored the U.S. forces' nuclear-powered aircraft carrier deployed to the port.

From the U.K., Ms. Carol Turner who is in charge of CND (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament) London, spoke about a campaign against the planned renewal of the Trident program and dramatic changes in British political situation. We were very much inspired by her report that Labor Party leader Jeremy Corbyn has been active in CND, established in 1958, and in campaigns

against nuclear weapons and military expansion. Her report made us realize that we in Japan also need to actively promote such efforts.

The fourth report was on "hidden great earthquakes" by Mr. Kanie. He revealed that by press control during the war, the Tonankai Earthquake and the Mikawa Earthquake were covered up. The fifth speaker, Mr. Kameyama from the University of the Ryukyu, gave a report titled, "The Japan-U.S. military alliance realignment under the war laws." He spoke about how the bilateral alliance was dramatically reinforced under the war laws especially in Okinawa and in Yokosuka.

A very interesting report on the missile defense program was given by Mr. Doro who is a former member of the Self-Defense Forces. Regarding concern about China's and North Korea's missiles, he stated that the SDF lacks the capability to shoot them down. This is also admitted by the SDF itself. Revealing this fact, he emphasized the need to promote peaceful diplomacy.

As the last speaker, Mr. Kishi, a member of Yokosuka Residents' Association for Defense of Article 9, spoke about how this movement was developed by citizens.

The Scientists' Forum this year brought about very valuable discussion on how to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons together with citizens. On the second day, we made an on-the-spot tour to see how military vessels are deployed in Yokosuka Port. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan was stationed there. The two-day forum deepened recognition that Yokosuka City is so militarized with the existence of the base.





WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST ATOMIC & HYDROGEN BOMBS

Organizing Committee: 2-4-4 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8464 JAPAN
Phone: +81-3-5842-6034 Fax: +81-3-5842-6033 E-mail: intl@antiatom.org

H.E. Ambassador Thani Thongphakdi
Chair of the Open Ended Working Group -
Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations

August 4, 2016

Dear Ambassador Thani Thongphakdi,

At present, 71st year of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are meeting at the 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs from August 2 to 9 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to discuss the theme of “A Nuclear Weapon-free, Peaceful and Just World”.

Since the first World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955, we have held the conference every year to achieve the three basic objectives of 1) prevention of nuclear war, 2) total ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons, and 3) relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, the A-bomb survivors. With representatives from UN and a number of national governments as guests, thousands of representatives of civil society movements from within Japan and overseas, as well as many Hibakusha and nuclear test victims from overseas are being assembled in this conference.

In the light of the ideal of the UN Charter to save the humanity from “the scourge of war” and the objective set out by the first resolution of the UN General Assembly: “the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction”, we are fully aware of the urgency and vital importance of the historic duty taken upon by your Open Ended Working Group – Taking forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations. We therefore express our deep respect to you all for your sincere deliberations.

At our International Meeting, the initial event of the 2016 World Conference, held on August 2-4, we unanimously adopted the “Declaration of the International Meeting”. Expressing our high appreciation on the work of your Open-Ended Working Group, it sets out our message to you, saying, “We cordially request that the OEWG include the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons in the recommendations submitted to the coming session of the UN General Assembly.” With this letter, we present the declaration of the Conference to you and through you to the Open-Ended Working Group, in a hope that our proposal on “the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons” will find expression in the recommendations of your final report.

As the representatives of the Hibakusha, the A-bomb sufferers, repeatedly warned at your OEWG meetings as well as at the three international conferences on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, the humans and nuclear weapons cannot coexist, and that the only guarantee against the recurrence of nuclear catastrophe is to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons.

We hope that the OEWG will achieve big successes in fulfilling the mandate of the resolution of the UN General Assembly 77/33 to identify concrete and effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. We assure you that in solidarity with you we will continue our every effort to build worldwide movements and public opinion in support of a total prohibition and the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

(Signed)

Hiroshi TAKA
Co-Chair, Steering Committee

Enclosure: Declaration of the International Meeting, 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs

On August 4, the Organizing Committee of the World Conference sent the above letter to the Chair of the U.N. Open-Ended Working Group, together with the copy of the Declaration of the International Meeting.

Opening Plenary

2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs-Hiroshima (August 4)



Keynote Address on Behalf of the Organizer:

Tomida Koji Drafting Committee Chairperson of the International Meeting

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to present to you the Keynote Address, which doubles as the report of the International Meeting.

It will soon be 71 years since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and we are now facing a new situation: The forces of Constitutional revision, who have trampled Article 9 under foot through revising their interpretation of it, are now revealing their intention of actually revising it. A broad strata of people, including university and high-school students, young mothers, scholars and many others, as well as the opposition parties, however, are standing up powerfully in cooperation against these forces.

Friends, in my Keynote Address last year, I called on you to move forward, confident in the four major irreversible trends of the international community aiming for a world without nuclear

weapons, namely, the trends of 1) democracy, 2) rule of law, 3) rejecting the deterrence doctrine, and 4) peaceful settlement of conflicts.

At the same time, I called your attention to the fact that in this A-bombed country the Abe Government was working to destroy democracy and constitutionalism, force through the so-called War Laws, and thus embark along the path of a military response to international conflicts by resorting to collective self-defense. These actions constitute a threat against all four current developments.

Dear participants in the World Conference, in the course of the past one year, the contrast between the international community that is moving ahead to strengthen democracy and rule of law, rejecting the notion of deterrence, and promoting peaceful settlement of conflicts, and the Abe Government, which runs counter to these developments, has become all the more clear.

In the international community, the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) was set up as the result of the deliberation at the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Further, the UNGA resolution to “substantively address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions and

norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons” has actually been functioning since February this year. With the representatives of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-bomb Sufferers’ Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo), anti-nuclear NGOs and other civil society organizations participating, the OEWG held discussions, and is going to issue a report with recommendations to the UNGA starting tomorrow, August 5. By now, the overwhelming majority of the participating governments have supported the commencement of negotiations of a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, and a proposal to “convene a Conference in 2017 ... to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons” has been set out. After discussions at the working group in the second half of this month, the report of the deliberation will be presented to the next Session of the UN General Assembly, which will start this coming September.

The “Declaration of the International meeting” pointedly requests that “the OEWG include the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons in the recommendations submitted to the coming session of the UN General Assembly.” I want to announce to you that the Organizing Committee of this conference is now submitting the Declaration to the Open-Ended Working Group.

Friends, in the past one year, the international community has made headway towards a world without nuclear weapons. Let us deepen our conviction on the irreversible trend of the international community for democracy, rule of law, rejecting the notion of deterrence, and attaining a peaceful settlement of conflict.

Now, let us look at the Abe Government’s steps toward trampling democracy and constitutionalism under foot by violently railroading the War Laws through the Diet on the pretext of “consolidating deterrence”. Then in the latest election of the House of Councilors, it succeeded in securing two thirds of the seats required to propose the revision of the Constitution by thoroughly concealing its plan for revising it. And as soon as the election was over, it started making explicit its determination to revise the Constitution within Abe’s tenure. The very nature of the Abe Government as disrupter of democracy, constitutionalism and pacifism is now thrown into relief.

At the deliberations of the United Nation’s Open-Ended Working Group, too, the Japanese Government played the role of speaker for the nuclear powers that boycotted it by arguing against the legal control of nuclear weapons. Even

worse, when it was reported that President Obama, after visiting the A-bombed city Hiroshima as the first sitting President in May this year, moved to examine a US policy of no first use of nuclear weapons, the Japanese Government suggested to the US administration that such a change would weaken the role of the nuclear umbrella and lessen the effect of nuclear deterrence. This is such an utter scandal that I have no other words to express my disgust.

The Abe Government is not only a destroyer of democracy, constitutionalism and pacifism, but is also placing a major obstacle in the path of the international community working towards a world without nuclear weapons. Let us reaffirm that it is an international duty of the Japanese people to remove this obstacle and establish a government that is committed to abolishing nuclear weapons and promoting peace, a stance befitting the world’s only A-bombed country.

Dear participants in the World Conference, I am going to present the Organizer’s report by briefly explaining the “Declaration of the International Meeting” of which you have a copy in your hands. The Declaration begins with the description that 71 years ago the USA used nuclear bombs for the first time against humanity by releasing atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The two bombs brought about a hell on earth, where humans could neither lead a humanly life nor die a humanly death.

The tremendous energy released by the nuclear explosion turned into heat rays with a temperature the surface of the sun. Shock waves exceeded the speed of sound and lethal radiation was unleashed upon the two cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and their residents. Burning and filled with radiation, the two cities were instantly turned into an inferno.

Streets, houses and citizens were all wiped from the face of the earth. Those who barely escaped immediate death later died due to burns and acute symptoms of radiation damage. By the end of the year, about 140,000 people in Hiroshima and 70,000 people in Nagasaki lost their lives. It was the worst sort of mass destruction and mass murder in history.

Yet, the destruction and killings by the atomic bombs did not end there. The Hibakusha who barely escaped the hell of radiation later contracted leukemia, cancer and other radiation diseases. Even now, 71 years after the bombings, cancers, liver diseases and various other disorders plague the Hibakusha and threaten their lives.

The Hibakusha are tormented not only by diseases but also deep wounds of the heart caused by their miserable experiences, the guilt of being unable to save friends and family, and callous

social discrimination. They have harbored unbearable agony in every moment of their lives: marriage or childbirth, poverty and loneliness caused by their disease or distress. Hundreds of thousands of Hibakusha have undergone all sorts of hardships in their life, body, heart and subsistence.

Friends, as the Declaration solemnly says, such inhumane weapons should never be used in any circumstances. Let us renew our voices, with which we started our movement, for “No More Hiroshimas”, “No More Nagasakis” and “No More Hibakushas”.

The nuclear powers still maintain more than 15,000 nuclear warheads. As the Declaration points out, not a small number of them are on trigger alert. Even the danger of an outbreak of nuclear war stemming from deteriorating regional tensions cannot be denied. A total ban, the total elimination of nuclear weapons, remains an urgent task for the survival of humanity. Just as biological and chemical weapons were outlawed by international treaties, nuclear weapons should also be prohibited as unlawful weapons.

Dear participants in the World Conference, with confidence, the Declaration points out that a new move to open a door on a world without nuclear weapons is developing. As I mentioned at the beginning, this means substantive discussions on a treaty banning and eliminating nuclear weapons starting at the United Nations.

Having explained the course of events of the Open-Ended Working Group, the Declaration reaffirmed that through the 2015 NPT Review Conference, the voices demanding legally binding measures have expanded ever more widely. It then confirmed that the motive power of these developments was found in the worldwide anti-nuclear and peace movements, led by the Hibakusha, who have kept warning about the inhumanity and atrocity of nuclear weapons.

Friends, let us broaden these movements and strengthen public support. Through dedicated joint efforts of citizens’ movements and international politics, let us win our long-standing demand to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons by treaty.

Dear conference participants, as the Declaration points out, the five nuclear weapons states and their allies are joining together defensively in circling the wagons, trying to put a major obstacle in the way of our achieving a nuclear weapons-free world. This is now clear to everyone’s eyes.

There is no reason or ethical cogency for their opposition to an immediate step to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons: a gradual and

step-by-step approach is the only practical way; they are clinging to the nuclear deterrence doctrine by insisting that national security aspects also be considered. Let us defeat every one of these assertions.

Friends, as I said earlier in this report, the Abe Government is playing a role as spokesperson for the nuclear powers by opposing the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. In Japan, trampling underfoot the peace principles of the Constitution, which has its root in the national experience of the suffering from the A-bombings, the Abe Government forced through the War Laws and is proceeding with preparation to actively participate in wars overseas. As the Declaration rightly says, at the root of its move is its reliance on the so-called US nuclear deterrent and the Abe government’s absolute faith in the Japan-US military alliance.

Dear conference participants, the Declaration notes that a wide range of people have risen up for the abolition of the war laws and restoration of constitutionalism, that against this background, the opposition parties entered into cooperation by putting forward a united list of multi-party candidates in the latest election of the House of Councilors, that the united candidate who opposed the construction of a new US base in Okinawa defeated an incumbent minister, and that the Japanese anti-nuclear and peace movements took active part in these efforts. The Declaration thus expressed international solidarity with the Japanese peace movement in this struggle. Responding to it, let us take many more steps forward in our present struggle.

Reaffirming that “the movements and public opinion of the peoples of the world are the driving force to make the world nuclear weapons-free, the Declaration proposed three-point actions, beginning with the “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”, dissemination of the truth on the damage of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and relief for and solidarity with the Hibakusha.

To translate these proposed points into a rich variety of actions is the task now left for your discussions in this year’s world conference. I conclude my report by expressing my hope that you, all the participants, will be successful in having very fruitful discussions.

Greetings from Hiroshima Mayor:

Matsui Kazumi

Mayor of Hiroshima City

(Delivered by Tanimoto Mutsushi, Head of Citizens Division)

I would like to convey my heartfelt greetings to the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs. I would like to thank you and extend a warm welcome to all of you on behalf of 1.19 million Hiroshima citizens. I also would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for your continuous effort for achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons and eternal peace of the world.

On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was reduced to ashes by a single atomic bomb. Tens of thousands of citizens were burnt by the flames and 140,000 precious lives were lost by the end of the year. People who barely survived had their lives destroyed, and have suffered from serious psychological and physical aftereffects as well as discrimination and prejudice. Nuclear weapons are the ultimate inhumanity, and the "absolute evil".

People all live on the same earth beyond the differences of nationality, religion, language, etc., each person is living only one-time life with all his/her might. In order to "live together", we must eliminate these "absolutely evil," nuclear weapons, and build a peaceful world. For this purpose, Hiroshima believes that it is necessary to make known to all of peoples of the world the reality of the A-bomb damage, to share Hibakusha's earnest wish for peace and their strong determination not to repeat the tragedy on anyone else on earth, and to take action together.

This year, or the 71st year after the A-bombing, a new page was opened in the history of Hiroshima. In April, the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Hiroshima, in which the incumbent foreign ministers of the G7 countries, including nuclear powers and non-nuclear powers, gathered and released the declaration calling on the leaders of the world to visit the A-bombed cities. And in May, President Obama, as the first serving US president, visited Hiroshima and mourned the victims. What was originally scheduled to be a few minutes' speech turned out to last 17 minutes. In his speech, President Obama addressed to the leaders of the nuclear powers, including the United States, saying, "We must have the courage to escape the logic of fear and pursue a world without nuclear weapons". He also stressed that we must reimagine our connection to one another as members of one human race, indicating the

importance of future-oriented thinking and the significance of visit to Hiroshima.

While the world focus was drawn to the A-bombed cities, we feel encouraged by these events and want to promote our efforts to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons and permanent world peace. We in Hiroshima are going to keep the reality of the A-bomb damage and memories from oblivion, pass them on to the people in the world, including the heads of States, and make them known to the next generation. Further, we would like to strengthen the activities of the Mayors for Peace, for which I serve as the president and more than 7,000 cities have joined, to increase the worldwide momentum for the elimination of nuclear weapons, and accelerate the movement toward a legally-binding prohibition of nuclear weapons.

In order to achieve a "peaceful world without nuclear weapons", your cooperation and support is essential. In this context, your initiative to hold the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs is truly significant. I commend your effort to mobilize such a large number of peace-loving participants to the conference and inherit the message of the Hibakusha. I wish this conference will be successful in renewing people's resolution to work harder for peace.

In concluding, I wish you all good health and every success in your work.

Greetings from Guests:

Iwasa Mikiso

Co-Chairperson

Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)

I am going to be 87 this year. I am deeply moved to speak before the World Conference in its 61st year. When the First World Conference against A and H Bombs was held in August 1955, I was an assistant teacher at Kanazawa University. Though I was unable to join the Ishikawa Prefecture delegation to the Conference, I was on summer vacation in my hometown in Hiroshima so I went to the Peace Park, the site of the World Conference. The Peace Museum was still to be built there.

The World Conference was taking place at the international convention center in the western corner of the park. It was overcrowded and I was among an audience of some 5,000 participants from around the country who had to listen to the speeches via the loudspeaker outside of the hall.

That was the moment I took my first step in the

peace movement calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons as an atomic-bomb orphan.

When the Second World Conference was held, the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) was founded. After that, Hibakusha associations were formed in many parts of the country. When a momentum took place to launch Hibakusha organizations in Ishikawa Prefecture in 1959, I was promoted to be a full-time lecturer at the university. After discussing with related organizations in the prefecture, we established the Ishikawa Prefecture A-bomb Sufferers' Association in 1960. I was elected as the first chairperson of the association. We immediately join Nihon Hidankyo, and I became a member of Hidankyo's board of directors. I began to pursue two jobs at the same time, a Hidankyo's director and a researcher at the university. As described by the saying, "If you run after two hares, you will catch neither," I am still only half finished with both tasks.

Unexpectedly, many people supported me in one way or another, making it possible for me to be what I am today. I am grateful to everyone that has helped me. I want to thank you very much for your assistance. I have been helped particularly during my overseas speaking tours. It may be difficult for me to travel to New York for the 2020 NPT Review Conference, but I should be able to continue with visits within Japan by slow train. I would appreciate it if you ask me to come to see you and tell my experience of exposure to atomic bomb radiation and its aftereffects. Of course I am not forcing you to invite me. Don't worry about it.

Finally, let me talk about something serious and make a request. As you all know, on the occasion of its 60th founding anniversary, Nihon Hidankyo has launched a new international signature collection campaign to call on all national governments to sign a treaty banning and eliminating nuclear weapons.

Today, more than 70 years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Hibakusha are still suffering from their aftereffects. The international signature campaign represents the wish for no more unbearable damage from nuclear weapons. We are asking various organizations and individuals to support it. I hope Gensuikyo's active support and cooperation will stimulate other organizations to join the campaign. In order to make the campaign be carried out in across Japan and internationally, the activity of Hidankyo alone will not be enough. We need to count on support and cooperation from Gensuikyo and other support organizations around the world.

Let us make every effort to achieve this. I will close my speech by calling for a successful international signature campaign.

Nagao Utako **Lawyer/ Civil Alliance for Peace and** **Constitutionalism/ Mothers Against War**

I am Nagao Utako, a member of the Civil Alliance for Peace and Constitutionalism.

In the House of Councilors election held on July 10, the ruling coalition of the Liberal Democratic and Komei parties and four other pro-constitutional revision parties obtained 77 seats, making their seats 161 in total, together with their uncontested seats. Adding 4 independent seats supporting constitutional amendments, their total number of seats exceeded 162, two-thirds of the 262-seat House.

Throughout his election campaign, Prime Minister Abe Shinzo made no mention of constitutional revision in order to hide his intention as if it had not been a point at issue.

Under such circumstances, the four opposition parties – the Democratic, Japanese Communist, Social Democratic, and People's Life parties – agreed to cooperate in this national election, which was the first time in Japan's political history. They put up joint opposition candidates in all 32 single-seat constituencies across the country and won in 11 districts. Especially in both the constituencies of Okinawa and Fukushima, joint opposition candidates defeated incumbent cabinet ministers.

This marked a significant advance, comparing to the result of the previous election held 3 years ago, in which the opposition forces won in only 2 of all 31 single-seat constituencies.

The Asahi Shimbun reported on July 12 that in the Upper House election, the ratio of votes garnered by a joint opposition candidate to a total of the proportional representation votes obtained by the four opposition parties in the same constituency stood at 1.71 to 1 at the highest. The paper also pointed out that at 28 single-seat constituencies of all 32, unified opposition candidates got more votes than those of the four opposition parties. These results clearly show that the alliance of the opposition parties has achieved a definitive success.

It is extremely significant that growing civic movements pushed the back of the opposition parties to collaborate in the election. A wide strata of citizens, including scholars, students, workers, and young parents, who raised their voices against nuclear power generation, the Act

on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets, and the security laws, also joined the election campaign. From a long-term perspective, I believe that this experience will contribute to the development of democracy in Japan.

It is true, however, that we could not prevent the revisionist forces from obtaining two-thirds of the House of Councilors.

As soon as the election results came out, PM Abe declared he would start discussion on the Constitution this autumn in the Commission on it in both Houses, with an aim to prepare for the revision of the Constitution.

According to its website, the LDP draft amendments include: To delete from the Preamble of the present Constitution the entire part that says “resolved that never again shall we be visited with the horrors of war through the action of government, do proclaim that sovereign power resides with the people”; to add a new provision declaring the possession of national defense forces to Article 9; to delete a word “individuals” from individual dignity stipulated by Article 13 and instead include an emergency clause, which can lead to the suspension of the Constitution, to restrict people’s rights in the event of emergency. The LDP draft runs head-on counter to the ideals of the existing Constitution.

We should not allow such LDP draft constitution to be approved, let alone entrust politics to the current government led by PM Abe who has a long-cherished wish to revise the Constitution.

From several opinion polls, we found that while the intention of revising the constitution was hidden, we could not sweep away the delusion of “Abenomics” nor make adequately known to voters the policies of the opposition camp to counter the ruling parties. As a result, we could not make the people fully understand the danger of the security laws and of the destruction of constitutionalism facing them.

The joint struggle of opposition parties we achieved in this election is just a start. With the next House of Representatives election in mind, we have to further mature the united struggle in terms of both policies and organizing.

Only by defending the Constitution that declares to the world to build a truly peaceful Japan based on the deep remorse over the past war of aggression which deprived a large number of people of their lives, can we achieve a nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world. Let us work together.

Statement by the Former U.N. High Representative:

Sergio Duarte

Former U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs/ Ambassador (Brazil)

For the past 12 years or so I have visited the city of Hiroshima at least 9 times, if I counted correctly. In some of these visits I have been the guest of the Organizing Committee of the World Conference against A and H bombs and have had the occasion to discuss with you issues related to multilateral efforts to achieve nuclear disarmament and the abolition of nuclear weapons. I am grateful for your hospitality and for the chance to listen to your own concerns and ideas.

In coming to Hiroshima I cannot fail to pay tribute to all men, women and children who perished here and in Nagasaki on the mornings of August 6th and 9th 1945 and to the courage and determination of those who survive and their descendants – the *hibakusha* – for their continuing dedication to the cause of peace and disarmament.

The search for concrete, effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons is an uphill battle. There is reason for guarded optimism, but the hard fact is that the achievements in this field are much below the expectations of the public everywhere in the world. Nations that possess nuclear weapons do not seem inclined to accept legally binding obligations to enter into meaningful negotiations, with clear timelines for the completion of the dismantling of their nuclear armament.

However, over the seventy years since nuclear weapons started to proliferate in the world some important landmark agreements have been reached. The Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was concluded in 1970. Only four nations in the world are not Parties to the NPT, and none of its 185 Non-nuclear Parties have acquired nuclear weapons. Nuclear testing in the atmosphere was prohibited in 1963 and the prohibition was extended to all environments in 1996 with the Comprehensive Test-ban Treaty (CTBT). Although this treaty is not yet into force, all States possessing nuclear weapons – with the sad exception of North Korea – have not carried out any underground tests for the past eighteen years or so. Nevertheless, as I pointed out, the treaty is not legally in force. For the CTBT to become a part of positive international law it is necessary that eight States – the United States, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt and North Korea – sign and/or ratify it. It is important that world public opinion understand the need for a

ban on all nuclear weapon tests for all time. Meanwhile, the system of detection put in place by the Treaty Provisional Secretariat has been useful for early warning of seismic movements that may cause deadly tsunamis.

Other multilateral achievements in the nuclear field include the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones in five regions of the world and Mongolia, for a total of 113 countries whose territories are free of nuclear weapons.

All these agreements have helped significantly in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons.

However, there is still much to be done in the field of nuclear disarmament. The two States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals have worked over the past decades to reduce their stockpiles. As they inform us, from a peak of about 70,000 nuclear weapons at the height of the Cold War, there remain around 15,000-plus such weapons in the world today. Despite this considerable reduction, there is little consolation in observing that this is more than enough to wipe out civilization on the planet, even if but a small fraction of that number is ever used in a nuclear war. Three international conferences attended by governments, experts and civil society organizations in 2013 and 2014 concluded that no nation or group of nations possesses enough human and material resources to deal with the humanitarian emergency caused by nuclear detonations. The effects on the environment would be devastating and those who survive a nuclear conflict might not be fortunate enough to escape starvation and the destruction of the structure and foundation of civilized interaction among human beings. As I have said on previous occasions, if the community of nations does not reverse the trend toward climate change, life on earth may cease to exist as we know it in a few decades; but if mankind does not eliminate the danger inherent in nuclear weapons, life on earth as we know it may cease to exist in a few seconds.

At the 2010 Review Conference, all Parties to the NPT, including the five nuclear weapon States, agreed to express concern over the catastrophic effect of any nuclear detonation. Later on, at the General Assembly of the United Nations, 125 States subscribed to the Humanitarian Pledge proposed by Austria and committed to “stigmatize, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons in light of their unacceptable humanitarian consequences and associated risks”. Last year the General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing an Open-ended Working Group to address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions, and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. This

group held a number of meetings in 2016 and its report will be discussed at the forthcoming Session of the General Assembly. Support for a proposal to negotiate a Convention banning the use of nuclear weapons is increasing among Member States of the United Nations.

Unfortunately, the States possessing nuclear weapons and some of their allies chose not to participate in the work of this Group. They still adhere to the belief that their nuclear arsenals protect their security. They forget, however, that a nuclear war will have no victors – all those involved in the conflict will be losers, including they themselves and perhaps the remainder of the human race.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As I look around this room I see many faces of young and not so young people who have come here to remember the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki seventy-one years ago and to affirm their faith that one day the whole world will be free from the fear of destruction by nuclear war. In 1945 I was living half a world away from here in my own country, but was already old enough to understand the enormity of the holocaust of almost two hundred thousand people in both cities. During my life as a diplomat I have dealt with issues related to peace and disarmament in international organizations and conferences. Today I work as a private citizen and no longer have to follow the instructions and rules of any government or international organization. I speak freely as a human being but I have the same conviction that guided me through my years as a civil servant of my own country and of the United Nations. Just like you, I believe in the fundamental right of human beings to live in peace and harmony, free of the fear of instant annihilation in a nuclear exchange between countries that have predicated their security on the insecurity of all, including they themselves. At the opening of the International Conference, I was asked to give advice to activists for disarmament. All I can say is that you are doing a very good job. Nuclear weapon States and their allies are on the defensive. The report from the Open-Ended Working Group will endorse the will of the wide majority of members of the United Nations to start negotiations on a convention to ban nuclear weapons. I congratulate your determination to work toward the achievement of the abolition of all nuclear weapons.

Please keep your faith and your spirits high.

Appeal from the A-Bombed City Hiroshima to the World:

Representatives of Hibakusha Organizations in Hiroshima:

Sakuma Kunihiko Hiroshima Council of A-Bomb Sufferers (Hiroshima Hidankyo)

We are representatives of seven Hibakusha organizations. I am Sakuma Kunihiko, director general of the Hiroshima Council of A-Bomb Sufferers. I would like to express my gratitude for inviting me to the Opening Plenary of the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs. The representatives of all the seven organizations were going to take part in this plenary at first, but some of them could not make it because they had to attend other events taking place right now. So, four of the seven are present today. This is a signature form for the “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons,” which has the names of the seven Hibakusha organizations and their representatives as “campaign initiators in Hiroshima”. We produced it in the hope that people in Hiroshima would feel familiar with the campaign and support it easily. We call on as many groups and individuals as possible to participate in this campaign. The seven Hibakusha organizations held a press conference on July 14 and spoke about our action agenda, as following.

The first task was signature collection activity. On July 14, under the fierce summer heat, we took to the streets near Motoyasu Bridge with this banner and jointly collected signatures for half an hour. Second, the seven organizations agreed to ask their friend groups for their cooperation. We are now working on this. Third, we decided to take part in this summer’s World Conference against A and H Bombs to promote the signature-collection campaign, which was thus realized. Fourth, we decided to ask support from celebrities. We will start to garner their support as soon as possible.

By the way, on the day after tomorrow, August 6, the seven Hibakusha organizations will have a meeting with Prime Minister Abe Shinzo to convey our requests to him. At the meeting, we are going to touch on this international signature campaign. The seven Hibakusha organizations have worked thus hard, although each has a lot of activities to do at this time of the year.

We, the seven Hibakusha organizations, will keep working together, respecting each other’s

differences and exchanging opinions. From here, the A-bombed city of Hiroshima, to the rest of the world, we vow to continue our effort, hoping that it will be a steady step for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Maeda Koichiro Hiroshima Federation of A-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Hiroshima Hidankyo)

My name is Maeda Koichiro. I came here on behalf of one of the seven organizations, another Hiroshima Hidankyo. By the way, everyone, do you know the average age of Hibakusha? As of March, it surpassed 80 years old. Sakuma told you about the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal. It will continue for five years from now. Some Hibakusha are in good health, so they may enjoy a long life. However, all of you gathering at this conference, both young and old, please keep in your mind that Hibakusha will definitely be over 85 years old in five years. Hibakusha has played an important role in preventing the use of nuclear weapons through transmitting their testimonies and appeals on how dangerous and horrible nuclear weapons are. What will happen if they get unable to do so? Taking over the Hibakusha’s desire, I will collect signatures together with you, deliver the collected ones to the United Nations, and want to help pave the way for the abolition of nuclear weapons before Hibakusha’s time runs out. I ask for your cooperation and support for the international signature drive from my heart.

Kwon Jun O Special Task Force for South Korean A-bomb Casualties

Hello. I’m here on behalf of Korean A-bomb survivors in Japan.

In his latest speech, U.S. President Obama said that 4,000 North and South Korean people were victimized by the A-bombing. This is wrong. At that time, over 80,000 people from the Korean Peninsula were living in Hiroshima. I’m a second generation Hibakusha. I will take over the desire of those who were killed by the A-bomb and collect signatures together with you to create a world without nuclear weapons. I hope this signature campaign will get your warm support and cooperation and develop so as to contribute to the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Kim Jin Ho
Hiroshima Prefectural Council of North
Korean Hibakusha

Hello, everyone. I really admire your persistent work for the abolition of nuclear weapons you have continued despite summer heat. My name is Kim Jin Ho. I'm a member of the Hiroshima Prefectural Council of North Korean Hibakusha. I was exposed to atomic bomb radiation while still in my mother's womb. The goal of abolishing nuclear weapons is shared not only by the Hibakusha but also by sensible people in the world. Encouraged by growing worldwide momentum for the abolition of nuclear weapons, the seven Hibakusha organizations in Hiroshima decided to join hands and launch this signature campaign. Now is the time for us to get united firmly and promote this campaign. I hope you will continue to support us.

Bui Lien Huong
Vietnam Peace Committee
Vietnam

I am much honored to hand over the message of solidarity from the State President of Vietnam to the World Conference against A and H Bombs and the signatures to support the Hibakusha in this Opening Plenary.

This is the tenth message sent to our Conference by Vietnam's State President since 2005. This expresses Vietnam's aspiration for a peaceful world without nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction.

Japan's tragedy is similar to that in Vietnam, where millions of AO victims are living in pain, so it is easy to understand our President's feelings and sympathy with all losses and sufferings of the Hibakusha and all war victims.

Great efforts have been made, but here and there in the world, nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction are still being developed, tested, produced and used to protect the so-called "national security". Here and there in the world, war and conflict are still threatening peace, forces are still being used in defiance of international law.

However, I myself am strongly confident that the aspiration of leaders for a peaceful world will inspire us, peace movements and people organisations across the world, to continue our struggle.

May I wish again for a peaceful conference, for a beautiful world free from nuclear weapons, and for the good health and happiness of all of you here present.

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more Agent Orange/dioxin! Justice for Hibakushas! Justice for Vietnamese Agent Orange/dioxin victims!

As I mentioned before in the International Meeting, in response to the international signature campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakushas for the elimination of nuclear weapons, we have started to collect millions of signatures from people's organizations across the country this year, and we got over 80 thousand signatures.

Here, I would like to also hand over symbolically some of the signatures to Hibakusha representatives who are dedicating for this campaign.



Struggles and Campaigns for a
Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and
Just World:

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

Good Afternoon. I am the Executive Director of the University of the Middle East Project, an American NGO.

The University of the Middle East works with teachers in the Middle East to promote innovative educational methodologies and cross cultural

relations.

I am a Nisei, so please forgive my Japanese, usually I speak in English or Arabic but because I am in Japan, in front of a Japanese audience, and I am also Japanese, I will do my best and give my speech in Japanese. Please forgive me for any mispronunciations.

I am here to talk about the lesson of Hiroshima and how my family has spread this lesson for over 70 years.

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

When the bomb fell on Hiroshima, he tried to go immediately to the city. But before he left the house, my grandmother stopped him. My grandmother loved food and she was a great chef. Food was at the center of her world. She thought that food was something that was necessary and needed for all people, no matter how terrible the circumstances. So she made four big omusubi rice balls and gave them to my grandfather.

When my grandfather arrived in Hiroshima, he witnessed Hell. Everyone he met in Hiroshima only wanted two things before they died. The first was water, the second was their mothers. On August 6, 1945, my grandfather left home with 4 omusubis and also went back home with four omusubis.

One month later, my grandfather's hair fell out and he became blind in one eye. For the rest of his life, he told everyone what that eye had seen in Hiroshima. In every conversation, he said that the tragedy of Hiroshima should never be repeated. That was my grandfather's lesson of Hiroshima.

My mother also spread the lesson of Hiroshima. She left Hiro, moved to Tokyo and then lived in Boston. I remember well the times she made a new friend and brought them to our house. She would always tell them about the lesson of Hiroshima. Sometimes they would come back and other times they wouldn't.

My grandfather spread the message of Hiroshima in Japan, and my mother spread the lesson of Hiroshima in America. Now I am spreading the message of Hiroshima to a new part of the world.

This week, the 12 teachers from the Middle East sitting here will be here in Hiroshima. They will see the genbaku (A-bomb) dome. 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 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 mother, these teachers will also spread the lesson of Hiroshima!

These teachers come from a difficult and tumultuous region. For this reason, please join me in giving them a warm round of applause for their future efforts in spreading the lesson of Hiroshima to their region.

Park Jung Eun People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy Republic of Korea

A vicious circle of the security dilemma: Nuclear Threats and MD introduction on the Korean Peninsula

71 years ago, the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which brought catastrophic humanitarian consequences, not only to the Japanese people, but also around 70,000 Korean workers who had been forcibly taken to Japan. As a result of the Cold War, the Korean Peninsula was divided and finally torn apart by the Korean War. The Korean peninsula has become the powder keg of East Asia.

An unrealistic resolution like hostility and containment ended in failure.

This year, the North has carried out the fourth nuclear test. North Korea clearly expressed its will to keep the regime with human extinction weapons. It is very sad and miserable that North Korea relies on threatening not only the Korean Peninsula but also international society. No state has the right to possess and test such inhuman and mass destructive weapon. As seen in the nuclear history, its development in the name of nuclear deterrence simply has accelerated nuclear arms race and endangered the peace and security of human race.

The US and South Korean governments have failed to suggest a realistic measure to stop it. It has insisted that hostile disregard, sanctions and oppressions could deter but they haven't worked out.

The history of North Korea's nuclear program demonstrates that when dialogue and negotiations were pursued, Pyongyang suspended its nuclear program. The reverse was the case when the North saw itself as the target of pressure in the name of "hostile neglect" or "strategic patience". In those conditions North Korea intensified its nuclear program activities and developed

long-range missile capabilities. Demanding North Korea's dismantling its nuclear program as a prerequisite to any dialogue, automatically perpetuates the long-standing deadlock. This attitude does nothing to help solve problems.

Moreover, the already-dangerous situation in the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia is becoming even more unpredictable.

There were series of shocking agreement and measures by the South government. The first is an agreement regarding sexual slave for Japanese soldiers between the South and Japan last December. They said it's "final and irreversible" resolution. But the agreement hardly reflected the wishes of the victims, nor did the process involve any participation by the victims. It's a measure of removing an obstacle for strengthening of military cooperation between ROK-Japan and US.

The second is that last February the South Korean government announced the closure of Kaesong Industrial Complex, citing North Korea's 4th nuclear test and launching of a long-range rocket as reasons. The government argues that approximately 120 million USD paid to workers at Kaesong Industrial Complex has been used in development of nuclear weapons and missiles without any grounds.

The Third, last month the South Korean government and the US announced that they will deploy THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense System) to South Korea in Seongju, North Gyeongsang Province. There is no such an "adequate" location to place THAAD in our country.

THAAD is not a weapons system for the residents of the Korean Peninsula. THAAD is essentially a part of the US Missile Defense System (MD). Deployment of THAAD to South Korea signifies that South Korea will be sucked into the US-Japan MD, which targets not only North Korea but also China and that the Korea-US-Japan military cooperation system will become official.

THAAD deployment is militarily and diplomatically self-destructive measure. It is obvious that this will also negatively affect the international cooperation to solve the nuclear problem in the Korean Peninsula.

The non-democratic and non-transparent decision process is also problematic. Before announcing THAAD deployment, there were not any discussions, and any evaluations of its use, effects, and military/diplomatic significance. There was not enough discussion even within government. In the case of Seongju, which was decided as the location for THAAD deployment,

the residents were only notified by news without any explanation.

We, Korean people don't want the Korean Peninsula to be a powder keg competing hegemony and arms race. We hope the Korean Peninsula to transform as the stepping stone of Northeast Asian peace and cooperation.

Facing the serious situation of nuclear threats and THAAD deployment, we need to discuss and apply new perspectives and methods even if it is difficult.

For this, we are going to form solidarity to facilitate the reconciliation and the cooperation of North and South Korea and to form a peaceful system. We are going to actively spread actions for the withdrawal of the decision to place THAAD. We are going to form solidarity to prevent Seongju from becoming another victim of state violence, like Pyeongtaek or Jeju Gangjeong village.

Above all, we believe that it's time to challenge and stop the militarism which has been supported and justified in the name of national security. It only brings another military posture and development of fatal weapons. It only sacrifices the citizens' safety and other social investment. It only satisfies the defense industry. Those are truth that we have learned from the conflicts so long time. It's time to stop repeating such a stupid policy and start to discuss socially and globally how to overcome the militarism we're facing now.

**Paul Kawika Martin
Peace Action
U.S.A.**

Peace Action's Use of Grassroots for Peace and Nuclear Abolition

Let me first thank Gensuikyo for your hospitality. Additionally, I would like to give appreciation to the Hibakushiya. You play an immeasurable role reminding humanity of the horrors of nuclear weapons.

Second, I want to apologize that my Government dropped immoral nuclear weapons on this country. On behalf of Peace Action's 150,000 supporters and the more than 80% of Americans who believe we should abolish nuclear weapons, we apologize for the horrors caused to all the victims.

Peace Action is the United States' largest peace and disarmament organization with 100 chapters nationwide. Our current campaigns include removing troops from Afghanistan and Iraq,

non-military solutions to the conflicts in Syria and with ISIS, supporting the Iran nuclear agreement, reducing the military budget and lastly, the issue we were founded on nearly sixty years ago, abolishing nuclear weapons.

Today, I will explain how my organization uses the grassroots to influence the U.S. Government towards nuclear abolition. I will conclude by suggesting some ways that you, too, can shape American policies.

Peace Action's grassroots represents about 150-200,000 people — they are everyday people that care about our issues and are willing to take action.

Our grassroots can show lawmakers that voters want action on nuclear abolition. We hold lobby meetings with Congress members. In these meetings, we bring influential members of society from their district or state. People who have the ability to influence the actions of voters or political contributions.

Also, we generate constituent contacts so that elected officials feel pressured by voters. We do this by organizing calls, emails, letters and questions at public events. Politicians assume that for every letter or contact they receive; several hundred voters feel the same way.

Additionally, the media can influence policy. Our grassroots write letters to the editor which are read by politicians. They can hold protests, rallies and events that garner favorable media coverage. They raise money to purchase advertising to sway voters. Lastly, our experts publish opinion editorials that can impact elections and policy.

Grassroots can affect elections. By making sure they vote, volunteer and give money to the right candidates, we can elect Congress members and Presidents who are likely to work on nuclear disarmament.

While our grassroots hold a certain amount of political power. Joining them with other organizations and movements in a coalition working together strategically can wield significant political power to leverage governments to take action.

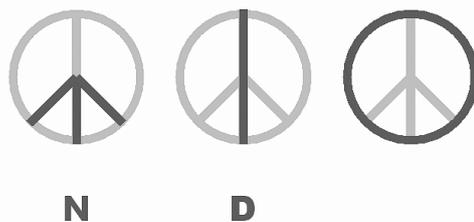
Let me provide you with the example of President Obama's visit to Hiroshima. Since he took office we have been pressuring the Administration. We worked with them to get the New START Treaty negotiated and ratified. We wrote opinion editorials and letters to the editor. We sent thousands of emails and signed thousands of petitions. We pressured Congress to support his decision and to urge him privately and publically to visit Hiroshima. Finally, we met with the White House delivering several boxes of

petitions and providing advice about why it was important to tour Hiroshima and meet with Hibakusha. This was the result of years of coalition efforts directed at the U.S. Government. While we wanted the President to mention some concrete steps during his visit, it is clear he might announce something soon.

You don't have to be in the U.S. to change American strategy. You, too, can affect U.S. policy makers in three ways: via the media, government to government communication and support of U.S. NGOs. I encourage your leaders to write letters to the editors or submit opinion editorials to U.S. newspapers like the New York Times. I encourage you to pressure your government to contact our government. Especially right now as Obama reconsiders no first use policy. These communications can be administration to administration or Diet to Congress. Lastly, I would humbly request you to support U.S. NGOs who work on nuclear weapon issues. Almost all of them do not get any governmental funding and their size is much smaller than other advocacy organizations like environmental, labor or human rights. You can support by sending staff, volunteers or interns to work with groups in the United States or by supporting financially.

Let me end by reminding us that all major social change in the world occurred because of grassroots organizing. When your energy is low, think of the amazing victories of our predecessors: the suffrage movement, the civil rights movement and more. Your work will be written in history books and will inspire other movements. So continue with pride, purpose and power!

Thank you again for the continued friendship between Gensuikyo and Peace Action and know that our work together will one day bring about a world free of nuclear weapons. Please stay in touch with me through Twitter. My Twitter handle is @PaulKawika. Because as the Kenyan proverb wisely points out, "sticks in a bundle are unbreakable." Domo Arigato Gozaimashita.



Relay Talk: “Developing grass-roots cooperation for a nuclear-free and peaceful Japan where Article 9 of the Constitution will be given full play”:

Koketsu Atsushi
Professor Emeritus of Yamaguchi
University/ Joint Candidate of Opposition
Parties in the House of Councilors
Election 2016

The Constitution is an apparatus that the people use to have the state comply with in quest of values to defend in it. The basic legal idea of constitutionalism is to limit state power based on the values that must not be changed even by a majority vote.

The present Constitution cites respect for human rights, people’s sovereignty, and pacifism as principles that must be defended.

War is a matter of major concern of the Constitution. Constitutionalism is supposed to put brakes on state power in regard to war. The present Constitution was established after drawing lessons from Japan’s long war of aggression. It invokes pacifism and declares, at home and internationally, that Japan will never become an aggressor or victim.

The lessons we learned from history and our respect for postwar peace have been deeply damaged when the Liberal Democratic Party-Komeito coalition government led by Prime Minister Abe Shinzo railroaded the security-related laws through the Diet. Laws are subject to the standards set by the Constitution, the country’s Supreme Law. Therefore, no law that contravenes the constitutional principles must be acceptable.

At a meeting of a House of Councilors committee on March 18, director of the Cabinet Legislation Bureau Yusuke Yokobatake said, “I don’t think that the use of all types of nuclear weapons is prohibited.” On April 1, the Cabinet approved a written answer to a question, stating that the Constitution’s Article 9 does not impose a blanket ban on the possession and use of nuclear weapons. These views must be severely criticized in this forum calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons and peace.

The Constitution, which is a critical bulwark of the antinuclear and peace movement, is on the verge of collapse.

This sense of crisis has pushed me to run in the House of Councilors election from the Yamaguchi constituency. Yamaguchi is Prime Minister Abe’s constituency and is very conservative. I knew

from the beginning that it would be a tough campaign but declared my candidacy because I wanted to speak for people who treasure constitutionalism and who wish to make the best use of the pacifism provided by the Constitution’s Article 9.

Although I suffered an utter loss, I received 183,000 votes, which I take as Yamaguchi people’s earnest wish to defend constitutionalism and the peace Constitution. We must continue to increase this voice.

Given what we gained through my recent election campaign, I came to acutely realize the need to build a united movement like a “citizens’ front for peace” embracing people regardless of political party or organization affiliation. I plan to propose it in future.

Maruyama Minoru
Nagano Gensuikyo

For a Nuclear-free, Peaceful Japan Where Article 9 Shines, Let’s Increase Grassroots Cooperation

Lessons learned from election campaign in Nagano: In Nagano prefecture, where we are from, united opposition candidate Sugio Hideya won in the recent House of Councilors election with 70,000 more votes than his rival backed by the ruling coalition – the Liberal Democratic Party and Komeito. Sugio’s votes exceeded total votes the opposition parties obtained in previous elections. He was supported by 60% of non-partisan voters, and Nagano’s voter turnout was 62%, the highest of all the prefectures in Japan. We successfully brought non-partisan citizens together and demonstrated the great potential of the joint efforts between the opposition parties and the citizens. The Democratic Party’s Secretary General said, “The joint effort of the opposition parties and citizens built on mutual confidence brought us a victory,” and leaders of the Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party attended the Japanese Communist Party’s 94th anniversary reception for the first time in history. All these show the strength of the bond among opposition parties and citizens.

A major factor which made it possible for four opposition parties and citizens to unite was the people’s mobilization against the war legislation spread out rapidly like wildfire with calls like “Scrap War Laws!”, “Defend the Constitution!” and “Opposition Parties, Unite!” resounding throughout the prefecture. First ever “villagers’ demonstration” in a small village or “pickup truck

demonstration” with tens of trucks marching together became this year’s buzzwords. Also, mothers stood up for their children to form “mothers’ association,” young people started to speak out as sovereign individuals, citizens’ organizations evolved from their initial movement against nuclear power generation into the movement against the state secrets law, and then into the movement against the war legislation, and many women organized their own initiatives called “red actions.” These kinds of new activism of citizens who had never been involved in the movement working tirelessly and energetically gave encouragement and added momentum to the cooperation among opposition parties and citizens.

This momentum led to the success of the rally jointly hosted by six civil organizations including the “Anti-war Committee of 1000” and the local “Article 9 Association”. We also succeeded in achieving our goal of collecting 400,000 signatures in Nagano for the “20-million signature campaign” calling for the retraction of the war legislation.

During the election campaign, we also took active part in the Nationwide Peace March, chanting the calls like “Abolish nuclear weapons!”, “Scrap war laws!” and “Protect the Constitution!”, which received a lot of positive responses.

Making the best use of lessons we learned from the joint effort of the opposition parties and citizens during the election campaign, I will redouble my effort under the circumstances with the pro-constitutional revision forces holding the two-thirds of the seats in the Diet, to further increase civil movements and public awareness to defend the Constitution and to block the attempt to revise the Constitution to insert an emergency provision. I am convinced that what we experienced and the power we gained through the united effort will bear fruit in the form of concerted effort in the ongoing “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”.

Our goals and determination in current and future struggles: In Nagano, five organizations: Nagano A-bomb Sufferers’ Association, Nagano Prefecture Teachers and Staffs Union, Nagano Consumers’ Co-operative Union, Nagano Congress against A and H Bombs (Gensuikin), and Nagano Gensuikyo, started consultations on how we can develop concerted efforts for promoting the “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”. Through discussions, we have reached a consensus for working together based on the shared understanding that no one would oppose this signature campaign, that the

petition can bring the broadest sections of people, and that we should build up an organization and movement with the participation of a wide-ranging people. On August 1st, the five organizations jointly carried out a signature drive in front of Nagano Station. It received a lot of media attention as well as a strong response from the public.

Behind the smooth progress of united effort regarding the signature campaign this time is ample experiences of joint efforts among citizens and opposition parties for the repeal of war legislation, for the restoration of constitutionalism, and for the victory of joint candidate in the House of Councilors’ election. Cooperation between the five organizations is also consolidated.

In Nagano, we have achieved having more than half the population sign for the Appeal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki for the elimination of nuclear weapons. We also have an experience of 20 years’ effort to insert an opinion ad with the names of 3,000 people calling for nuclear abolition in the local newspaper Shinano Mainichi Shimbun.

The five organizations are discussing to joint secretariat for promoting a prefecture-wide large-scale movement beyond differences of opinion, thoughts of creed. I am certain that the success of united effort in this signature campaign will give the power for creating “All Nagano” movement on various issues in the future. Hoping that this power of unity will make a great contribution to realizing a government ready to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons and peace, I will do my utmost to this end.

Reports on the Nationwide Peace March - International Youth Relay Marchers:

Raymond Vincent Lujan Guahan Coalition for Justice and Peace Guam

Minna-san Konnichiwa.

Hafa Adai! And I’d like to start off by just thanking Gensuikyo, the Peace March organizers, and most importantly, the people of Japan for welcoming me and allowing me to participate in this beautiful and necessary cause. I’m a young man but I found myself growing cynical of some of the world’s issues, but it was coming here and seeing your spirit of peace that assured me that things can get done if we work together, and inspired me to fight for what I think and believe is right. And with that being said, I stand and support your movements to advocate for the abolition of nuclear weapons, for a peaceful and just world, and once again, thank you very much.

Matet (Mary Therese) Norbe
Communication and Media Officer
Mindanao People's Peace Movement
The Philippines

Minna-san konnichiwa! First of all I would like commend all the peace marchers, who under the heat of the sun and the downpour of the rain, have continuously marched all the courses, all throughout Japan, to call for the abolition of nuclear weapons and to call for peace. I come from Mindanao which has internal wars since the 1970s, and I come from a peace movement to stop the war in Mindanao. And this participation in the Heiwa Koshin, or the Peace March, is a very important step for us in building and strengthening global solidarity for peace. To the Hibakusha's and to all the peace advocates and peace activists in Japan, we are with you in this struggle. Until the time that the nuclear power and nuclear weapons are not abolished we will continue to be with you in this struggle. No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more Hibakusha! Ganbaro!

Nozawa Yasuyuki
Aichi Gensuikyo

This year I took part in the peace march after the lapse of some years. Since I had worked at a factory, I had not been able to join it during weekdays. This year, I was able to make it.

In the past I was only walking in the peace march, but this year I tried to collect donation as well as petitions.

This year, I realized that so many people think nuclear weapons should be abolished or it is better if they are abolished. Some told me it would be difficult to eliminate nuclear weapons. But when I asked them if they think nuclear weapons are necessary, they would say it is better to eliminate such weapons.

The day I joined the peace march was hot under the scorching sun. Activity of collecting signatures made my wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons stronger.

After joining the peace march for two days, I have come to the World Conference. I attended it after the lapse of seven years. This is a place where our marches for the abolition of nuclear weapons meet all together.

I believe the World Conference will make my wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons much stronger. I will bring the wish back to my town, continue to do what we do such as the signature collection, and create a path of peace march leading to the next year's World Conference.

Voices cannot be heard unless we raise them. If we join our voices, we can start movements.

Let us continue to raise our voices together to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Kim Jung Geun
Korean Civic Network for Justice in Sport
Republic of Korea

Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Kim Jung Geun from the Republic of Korea. My whole body felt Japan while walking from Nagasaki to Hiroshima. During the march, this wish came to my mind: How wonderful it would be if we in the ROK and Japan could call for peace in one concerted voice.

During the march I met various people, including war victims. They were survivors of the atomic bombings and those who lost their father or friends in the war. The war completely changed their lives. I realized that war turns everyone into victims and brings grief to humanity.

The ROK and Japan share the history of tragic war. I imagine how strong their message would be if the two countries raise a voice for peace together. Of course before doing so we should face the history of war, but I hope that one day we will get together and jointly call for no more nuclear weapons, no more wars, and peace. I will continue to value the earnest wish for peace you have shown me and the lessons that I have learned from the march.

AG Saño
Teach Peace, Build Peace Movement
The Philippines

Minna-san konnichiwa. Watashi wa AG Saño desu. Philippine kara kimashita. (Hello everyone, I am AG Saño. I am from the Philippines.)

On behalf of the international youth marchers I'd like to call on the youth of Japan to go out of your shells, get out of your comfort zones, and start walking with us outside your homes. Bring your friends, your cousins, your neighbors, your dogs, your cats into this fight, because this is for you. The Hibakushas have been walking for a long long time for something that they will not witness. This fight that they are doing is for you. So if the youth of Guam, of the Philippines, of Korea, of the United States, can come here and support your cause, what is stopping you being one with us outside in the streets? If you have the time to go on social media for long hours a day, play Pokemon Go, Clash of Klans, or whatever you want to do...watch baseball. You have the time to walk with us because this fight is nothing less but for your future.

And by that, I want to see millions and millions of Japanese youth walking next year in the Heiwa Koshin. Arigatou gozaimashita!

**International Forum:
“Achieving a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons -
Dialogue between Governments and NGOs”
(August 5)**



Panelist Presentations:

(Transcribed from oral presentations)

Sergio Duarte

**Former U.N. High Representative for
Disarmament Affairs/ Ambassador (Brazil)**

**ACHIEVING A NUCLEAR-WEAPON FREE
WORLD**

This is the 9th time I come to this beautiful city of Hiroshima to join my voice to that of all those who work for a nuclear-weapon free, peaceful and just world. I have come here over the past 13 years in different times and in different capacities. It started in 2003 when I was still a member of my country’s foreign service and had been chosen to chair the 2005 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Later I had the honor of representing the Secretary-General of the United Nations on four occasions at the ceremony in the Peace Memorial on August 6. I also accompanied the Secretary-General in his visit to Nagasaki during this period. After leaving

the United Nations I visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki in my private capacity as an individual, as one of many others who come here every year.

Every time I come here I cannot fail to pay my respects to the memory of the tens of thousands of men, women and children that died instantly in the morning of the 6th and the 9th of August, seventy-one years ago. I also remember with admiration those who survived to tell the world their story and their effort that continues into the next generations, to make sure that this tragedy will never be repeated.

People everywhere should support their campaign. Nuclear weapons were launched against defenseless people only twice, but they continue to be used to threaten people in many countries. The accuracy and destructive power of existing nuclear arsenals are being increased through programs called “modernization” that are designed to keep atomic arsenals operational for many decades into the future. The countries that possess atomic weapons have clearly stated their willingness to use them in the circumstances they see fit, even against those that do not possess them. This argument actually encourages proliferation. While some reductions in the arsenals of some

nuclear weapon States have taken place over time, they have never accepted any binding commitment to enter into concrete disarmament negotiations. We must not relent in our effort to persuade them to listen to the appeal of the overwhelming majority of the international community to eliminate nuclear weapons from their arsenals.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The United Nations was created less than one month before nuclear weapons started to proliferate. In the city of San Francisco, in June 1945, representatives of fifty governments signed the Charter, proclaiming the determination of “we, the peoples of the United Nations” to practice tolerance and live together in peace and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security. It is very significant that the drafters of the Charter of the United Nations wanted that document to record the wish of the peoples of the world for an end to war and injustice. Nuclear weapons did not exist at the time of the signature of the Charter, but the very first resolution adopted at the General Assembly, on January 24, 1946 called for “the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction”.

Seventy-one years have gone by since the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This year we also celebrate seventy years since the adoption of that resolution, and still nuclear weapons have not been eliminated from the national arsenals of a handful of countries. At least we can say that the two other categories of weapons of mass destruction have been abolished: in 1975 the Convention banning all bacteriological (biological) weapons entered into force and in 1997 the Chemical Weapons Convention became part of international law. The dismantlement and destruction of all chemical weapons in the world is proceeding quite effectively. The overwhelming majority of stocks of these weapons have already been destroyed. Soon the world will be completely free of the threat of chemical warfare.

But what about nuclear arms, the most cruel and indiscriminate of all weapons ever devised by man? Why can't the community of nations find ways to prohibit their development, manufacture, stockpiling, and use? If you ask public opinion, even in the States that possess nuclear armament, people will say they support effective measures to rid the world of the threat of nuclear extinction.

At the 2010 Review Conference of the NPT the 196 States Party to that treaty – including five possessors of nuclear weapons – agreed for the first time that a nuclear detonation would have catastrophic consequences. As a result of that agreement, three international conferences on the

humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons were held in 2012 and 2014.

The Chair's summary of the last of these Conferences, held in Vienna, stated that the impact of a nuclear weapon detonation, irrespective of the cause, would not be constrained by national borders and could have regional and even global consequences, causing destruction, death and displacement as well as profound and long-term damage to the environment, climate, human health and well-being, socioeconomic development, social order and could even threaten the survival of humankind. The summary went on to say that as long as nuclear weapons exist, there remains the possibility of a nuclear weapon explosion. Even if the probability is considered low, given the catastrophic consequences of a nuclear weapon detonation, the risk is unacceptable. The risks of accidental, mistaken, unauthorized or intentional use of nuclear weapons are evident due to the vulnerability of nuclear command and control networks.

These risks increase over time. The dangers of access to nuclear weapons and related materials by non-state actors, particularly terrorist groups, persist. The only assurance against the risk of a nuclear weapon detonation is the total elimination of nuclear weapons. No state or international body could address in an adequate manner the immediate humanitarian emergency or long-term consequences caused by a nuclear weapon detonation in a populated area, nor provide adequate assistance to those affected. Such capacity is unlikely ever to exist. The catastrophic consequences of a nuclear weapon detonation event and the risks associated with the mere existence of these weapons raise profound legal, ethical and moral questions.

In 2009 the Security Council of the United Nations adopted, a resolution that stated, among other things, that the proliferation of nuclear weapons is a threat to international peace and security. This is certainly true. Nuclear weapons started to proliferate in 1945, when the first experimental detonation was carried out in the desert of Nevada. Proliferation continued after 1945 and resulted in the more than 15,000 plus nuclear weapons that exist today in the arsenals of nine countries. This is what threatens peace and security today. The Security Council should in fact declare that the *existence* of nuclear weapons is a threat to international peace and security.

None of the countries that adhered to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as non-nuclear States have acquired nuclear weapons. The only one that did – the DPRK – had to withdraw from the Treaty in order to do so,

demonstrating the importance and permanence of the NPT. The treaty recognized the possession of nuclear weapons by five States – the same States that are permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations – but it did not give them a license to keep their nuclear weapons forever. On the contrary, the NPT stipulated the obligation for them to pursue negotiations on effective measures relating to nuclear disarmament. They must comply with that obligation, just as all non-nuclear parties have complied with theirs. The world cannot tolerate for much longer the threat of the indefinite maintenance of nuclear arsenals and their continuing improvement.

The international community has been active in promoting effective non-proliferation measures. Over the decades, several important international instruments have been negotiated and became international law. Among these are the treaties that established nuclear weapon free zones in five regions of the world, starting with my own – Latin America and the Caribbean. One Asian country – Mongolia – declared itself free of nuclear weapons. Another crucial instrument was the 1996 Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), by which nuclear experimental detonations in all environments were outlawed. However, this treaty is not formally into force, because eight States have not yet signed or ratified it. Only one of them – North Korea – continues to carry out nuclear weapon tests and does not give any sign of abandoning its nuclear ambitions. A vigorous international campaign to ensure the entry into force of the CTBT is necessary.

As a result of the re-awakening of the awareness of the dangers inherent in the existence of nuclear weapons, a number of non-nuclear countries promoted the creation of an open-ended Working Group as a subsidiary body of the United Nations General Assembly “to address concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions, and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons.” This group held a number of meetings in 2015 and 2016 and its report will be discussed at the forthcoming Session of the General Assembly. The report of its Chair is due in early August and it will be debated later in the same month. The proposal to negotiate a treaty banning the use of nuclear weapons is gaining wide acceptance among the Member States of the United Nations.

Although the States that possess nuclear weapons chose not to participate in the work of this group, several of their allies took part in the deliberations. Through bilateral agreements or because of their membership in military alliances, these states entrusted their security to the possible

use of nuclear weapons by those that agreed to protect them. If nuclear weapons are so important to maintain security, then the logical conclusion is that every State should acquire them. In some parts of the world, including Northeast Asia, a dangerous trend seems to be emerging, by which currents of public opinion start to suggest the acquisition of national nuclear means to deter aggression because of the development of growing nuclear capability by other regional States.

But this is the wrong path to pursue. The choice is not between disarmament and comfortable national security. The choice is between disarmament and a scramble for the world’s deadliest weapons. This is why disarmament must be here to stay. It is a righteous cause and it is our shared responsibility to past victims and future generations.

So while the eyes of the world are on Hiroshima every sixth of August, I have only one final prescription—do not underestimate the contribution you can make to this vexing process of disarmament. The world is more open than you might think to fresh thinking and ideas involving creative, practical solutions to chronic problems in this field. A great door is open, to all who may wish to enter and contribute.

**Joseph Gerson
American Friends Service Committee
U.S.A.**

It’s a pleasure to be here - with many of you participating in the Conference and this workshop. I have to say that it’s a special honor to be sharing the platform with Mr. Duarte, a man who has earned our great respect because of his dedication, his vision, and his quiet courage over the years. It’s a privilege to be working with him. It’s also a pleasure to be here with other friends, especially Taka-san, who has been a very important inspiration and a partner in our work.

Let me say first of all that it’s still something of an embarrassment to be coming to Hiroshima from the United States. The people of Hiroshima and also Nagasaki were sacrificed on the altar of Great Power imperialism. Before the A-bombing, Japan was attempting to surrender on terms that Truman ultimately accepted. Truman’s senior advisers said it wasn’t necessary to use the bomb to achieve Japan’s surrender on terms acceptable to the United States. But Truman and some of his senior advisers wanted to bring the war to an immediate end so that the U.S. would not have to share influence with the Soviet Union in Northern China, Manchuria and Korea. Thus the people in these

communities were sacrificed in the first bombings of the Cold War.

It's also an embarrassment to be coming from the U.S. these days. I'm sure you have been reading newspapers about the American election. On the one hand we have Trump, who is amazingly ignorant, racist, xenophobic, and who has released fascist forces at the popular level. He has refused to rule out the possibility of using nuclear weapons in the war against ISIS, which is not only brutal but ridiculous. And during this week while I've been here, it's been reported that during expert briefings he asked repeatedly why it is not possible for us to use nuclear weapons. So he is a very frightening figure who, fortunately at the moment, seems to have his campaign imploding.

But, on the other hand, we have Hillary Clinton, a woman who has said that nuclear weapons could be abolished in some century, not this one. She is the woman who launched the U.S. military pivot to Asia. And, who might become her secretary of defense if she wins the election? She is looking to Michele Flournoy.

Flournoy is not as extreme as your new defense minister Inada, who just yesterday pathetically refused to say that Japan's 15-year war was a war of aggression. Ms. Inada said that it depends on your perspective. And, when questioned about her previous support for Japan becoming a nuclear weapon state, she said, "Not at this time." She did not say never, but "not at this time." That's the position of the Japanese military for the past 50 years.

But, with Flournoy who is advocating escalation of the U.S. war in Syria, we would have a more hawkish manager of U.S. military than we had in the recent past.

I should add that among other embarrassments there was the failure of President Obama to make any meaningful disarmament announcements when he briefly visited Hiroshima. We were happy that he came to Hiroshima, but we were sorry that he came empty-handed. And, as you can read in *Japan Times* today, his visit deepened U.S.-Japan military alliance. We are hopeful that he may yet take some steps to burnish his legacy before he leaves office, but he may not also want to do anything that would complicate Hillary Clinton's election as prospects. So, we'll see how that works.

One more thing to say in this regard is that I have a friend and colleague who sometimes engages with the White House. His wife is now actually doing research on U.S. nuclear weapons spending while working within the White House and the Pentagon. He told me that the thinking in the White House is that if the negotiations going on in

the Open-ended Working Group go forward toward what's called a ban treaty -- a simple treaty to declare nuclear weapon is to be illegal -- it can simply be ignored. The U.S. and other nuclear powers have been resisting their obligations under Article 6 of the NPT for years, and the sense is that they can absorb what follows from the OEWG report like water rolling of a duck's back. So the question is, how do we bring in enough power to bear to achieve a nuclear weapons-free world? My belief is that nuclear powers have to be involved in negotiations for the elimination of their arsenals; otherwise they are not actually going to take meaningful steps in that direction.

This morning as I awoke I found myself trying to think about how best to frame this. I came up with an odd analogy. It was of an atomic bomb. For an atomic bomb to explode, it must have massive and even pressure across its surface. So in terms of detonating change -- blasting open -- the resistance of the United States and the other nuclear powers, ideally we have to bring pressure on them from as many directions as possible to break their intransigence. It is also possible that focused action, for example on the British government to prevent Trident replacement, could also help to break that resistance.

So, turning to resistance, let me first point to the absolute importance of the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons process. It was a privilege to be at both the Nayarit and Vienna conferences. The Hibakusha who spoke there played critical roles in the conferences' outcomes. In Nayarit, because the U.S. refused to attend, there was more time for the Hibakusha to speak. Their descriptions of how they suffered transformed the conference. In Vienna, there was an amazing moment when a U.S. nuclear weapon victim, a victim from nuclear tests, was brought out onto the stage in her wheelchair. She began by saying, "My government has killed me", and she explained how she and so many others in her community in Utah have been victimized and have been dying one after the other from the cancers caused by U.S. nuclear testing. Her stream of consciousness talk and Setsuko Thurlow's speech as the conference began sealed its outcome. Immediately following these talks, the U.S. State Department official embarrassed himself and almost everyone else in the room by breaking the rules. Instead of honoring the chairman's announcement that it was then a time for questions, the U.S. official responded with ridiculous and defensive statement. We all wanted to crawl under our chairs and hide.

There was another remarkable moment in Nayarit. After hearing the International Red Cross report that they couldn't even respond meaningfully

to detonation of a single nuclear weapon in a city, let alone what would happen in nuclear exchange, and other expert testimonies, there was this wonderful moment when the Ambassador of Zimbabwe, a young man, got up and said, "What are those people thinking?!"

That kind of education and the other work that has been done by the Hibakusha and all of us pushing forward has had an effect of changing government policies. Through the humanitarian consequences process, we have been educating the whole generation of diplomats.

Let me then turn to the popular movements. Mr. Duarte and Gensuikyo representatives were present in the 2010 when we held a major international conference, with deep involvement of Gensuikyo, on the eve of the NPT Review Conference. To our amazement, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon accepted our invitation to speak, and he told us that governments alone will not deliver us a nuclear weapons-free world. It cannot be achieved, he said, without popular pressure from below. That's our responsibility. That's what we have to do. I loved AG Saño's brief talk yesterday (he is one of the Philippine peace marchers.) He stressed that we have to push to the limits, to step out, and to challenge ourselves and others to take meaningful actions. This is what we have to do. We have to step up and not be afraid to be the nail that stands up. If we're going to get hundreds of millions of petition signatures, it's going to take something other than "business as usual." As AG said, we're not going to win a nuclear weapons-free world if young people remain glued to their computer games.

Let me then point out a few things that we've done in the United States. Fortunately, we do have a meaningful movement in the United States. It's not as strong as we like, but it's meaningful. Selma van Oostwaard has spoken about the "Don't Bank on the Bomb" campaign. In my community, Cambridge, Massachusetts, which is a home to Harvard University and MIT, we were able to win the unanimous vote of our city council to divest all the city's investments -- pensions and others -- from financial institutions investing in nuclear weapons production. That's more than a billion dollars. And the U.S. Conference of Mayors has, in their declaration just last month, cited the Cambridge resolution as a great achievement, and as a model for other cities to pursue. When we do something like that, it builds its own momentum.

In another initiative, we were able to gain the signatures of a number of very influential scholars and peace activists, on the eve of President Obama's visit to Hiroshima. With the help of one of our partners, it reverberated through the Japanese press.

I'm sure that the U.S. Embassy was well aware of our statement. Adding pressure, my colleague Paul Martin got our statement to the higher reaches within the White House. We pushed as hard as we could.

One of the main openings we have now for our work is the frightening and awful reality that the U.S. is in the process of spending a trillion dollars to build a whole new generation of more "usable" nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. This has happened when the national infrastructure is collapsing, when people are still suffering from austerity, and when we have massive poverty and even hunger.

In response, one of the things that my organization did was to train literally hundreds of community activists like yourselves in the states of Iowa and New Hampshire. These are the first states to vote in the caucus and primary processes for the selection of presidential candidates. We trained them to ask questions that educate the audience, educate the media that's there, educate and challenge the candidates. Then, on a weekly and sometimes daily basis, our staff tracked candidates campaign, and informed our activists where and when to find the candidates. We call this "bird dogging." When we received a meaningful response from a candidate, we posted it on the web, so that people will follow up with the related questions at the candidate's next event. Out of this process, we did get a commitment from Hillary Clinton that spending a trillion dollars is too much. That's not disarmament, but it's a step. And our campaign made a contribution to the Democratic Party's national platform plank which states that the U.S. should reduce its nuclear spending. It's not enough, but the process also gives us a way for education and further movement building.

Friends, in March, Taka-san told me about the process then under way of developing the Hibakusha's signature appeal, and he said that it was going to be an international campaign. In the past, I have heard about other Japanese international petition campaigns. But, coming here now and hearing that the goal is hundreds of millions of signatures and remembering the impacts of the Stockholm Appeal, I have to say this is absolutely wonderful. Last night I worked late to get the word out about this campaign, not only to U.S. activists, but also people who've joined the Peace and Planet international network.

There is one more point I want to make about the roles and importance of the Japanese movement: I was talking with Taka the other day how we build the movement that we need to reverse U.S. nuclear weapons and war policies. I found myself

remembering that during the Vietnam War, the leaders of the Vietnamese liberation movement were brilliant in the ways they engaged not only progressives but liberals in the U.S. society, arranged for the exchange of POWs, and the visits of Americans into the war zones, so they could come back and tell the American people. In 1971, an era of relatively primitive communications technology, Madame Binh, the National Liberation Front's senior representative at the Paris peace negotiations, spoke by phone to a conference of 500 leading U.S. anti-war activists. This kind of intervention from the outside is what we need to help build our movement to change U.S. policies.

Then I remembered this is what the Hibakusha and Gensuikyo delegations have repeatedly been doing. The visits of other Japanese peace activists, including the 1200 who came to the last year's NPT Review and the Peace and Planet mobilization – have been very important part in stimulating, inspiring, and pressing our movement.

Paul Martin, who is here, has also talked about the ways you can send op-ed articles or letters to the editors to the New York Times or Washington Post. These are ways that you help bring some sanity into what is sometimes absolutely insane political culture in the United States.

The fact is that the Japanese movement has a special place, not only in the practical day-to-day work that I have just described, but also as an inspiration that provides hope for people around the world. It is vitally important for you to keep on keeping on, and to be engaging young generation, bringing them up, giving them responsibility, and moving them toward leadership for the longer struggle.

Selma van Oostwaard **PAX** **The Netherlands**

First of all I'd like to thank you that I am sitting here speaking in front of you and also listening to all the work you are doing to achieve a nuclear weapons free world.

Let me first explain my organization and what we actually do. I work for PAX and we are based in the Netherlands in Europe. PAX literally means peace, so we are a peace organization and we bring together people who have the courage to stand for peace in difficult conflict situation and we are working on the protection of civilians in armed conflicts. I work for the humanitarian disarmament team and we look critical towards certain types of weapons, we work towards norm building, norm setting and norm compliance. We

look critical towards the use of armed drones in conflicts, we look critical towards toxic remnants of war, use of explosive weapons in populated areas and arms trades. We do our research on investments of financial institutions in cluster munition producers and we work towards a ban on fully autonomous weapons also called "killer robots" and one of the most interesting campaigns is the nuclear disarmament campaign.

If I would be standing here 5 years ago I would be feeling different because I have the feeling that we together have achieved lots in, let's say, during the last 3 years. The discussion on nuclear disarmament has been brought forward a lot. So I work mainly for the nuclear disarmament program and together with my colleagues and our partners in the country itself and in Europe and internationally we work to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. We do so through political lobbying, public campaigning, research and publication.

As we just mentioned, every year we publish a research called "Don't Bank on the Bomb", which includes a list of financial institutions from all over the world and we look at the companies they invest in and if we see any trace towards nuclear weapons producers, we put them in a list and we make a division. We call it the "Hall of Shame", so that means that they put their money in nuclear weapons producers. We have a "Hall of Fame", because you also need to encourage financial institutions who do make decisions that they don't invest in nuclear weapons and we have the "Runners up". Those are financial institutions that have changed their policy since the latest publication of the report. That can be because they made a decision to do so based on the reports or it can be that contracts ended, and then they decided not to invest anymore.

What this report does is that it provides campaigners from all over the world to bring the discussion of nuclear disarmament in a new perspective. If I talk for example...I always use my friend as a case study. If we have a political discussion on nuclear weapons we get into a whole geopolitical discussion. But if I talk about you, you have a bank account, you save your money, you work 40 hours a week, and knowing that your money is spent in weapons of mass destruction, how do you feel about it? Then I get a different answer than when I ask how you feel about nuclear weapons. It makes the issue more personal and it makes the issue also motivated for people to act. We ask people to change their bank accounts. We recently are focusing in the Netherlands on the largest pension funds. This is the pension funds that provides the pensions of our teachers, at universities, at high schools, at civil servants, and knowing that their money is invested in nuclear

weapons producers causes a lot of anger. We see a lot of people who may not know much about nuclear disarmament, may even don't really care, but if they hear that their saving money is being invested on weapons of mass destruction you can see that they are very willing to sign petitions or to stand on the streets to ask other people to switch bank accounts.

What we also do is we focus on youth and I think this was a theme that came in several workshops and meetings that we need to involve newer generations in this discussion. So we also need to bring youth to the discussion in office visits. A special moment for me was the NPT 2012 which was in Vienna. We had an international group of students representing Russia, United States, and Iran. They set up meetings with diplomats and asked them critical questions. And the moments that students ran out of a statement meeting when Norway announced that they were about to host the first conference ever in history about the humanitarian impacts on nuclear weapons, we were very happy because for the first time in history the discussion was not about geopolitics but it was about the humanitarian impacts.

And PAX has been involved in the campaign against land mines and cluster munitions and what we learned from that campaign is as soon as the discussion was about the humanitarian impacts, when victims were brought into the discussions, the discussion changed from a geopolitical discussion into a discussion on the type of weapon itself. It doesn't matter who the weapon has, it's about what it does. And based on that view, as the governments decided that we find this unacceptable. So we were very pleased to see this in a nuclear disarmament discussion that a humanitarian initiative arose at the NPT.

When Mexico in Nayarit held the second conference we felt a process coming. So we decided in the Netherlands that we also need to make our government aware of this. Just to explain the context we work in. We are based in the Netherlands. The Netherlands is a very very small country. But it is important to know that we are a member of the NATO alliance, we don't possess nuclear weapons, but we do give permission to host about 20 nuclear weapons from the United States on our soil. So we also have a very important role in nuclear disarmament. So when we saw the humanitarian initiative, we wanted to inform people that this is the moment that we need to put this on the agenda again. And not only nuclear disarmament, but literally talking about a nuclear weapons ban treaty.

In the Netherlands we have a political campaigning tool, and I recommend if this is

possible in your country to use it as well because this political tool has helped us a lot. It's literally translated as a "citizens' initiative" and that means in the Netherlands you can raise a topic in Parliament if you are able to gather more than 40,000 signatures. Please know that the Netherlands is a small country so that's a lot of signatures. And you need to write an official proposal on a topic that has never been discussed in Parliament in the last two years. So it has to be a new topic and your proposal has to be perfect from page 1 to 10 because everything will be checked. We wrote an official proposal on a national ban...so the proposal was that the Netherlands should decide within national legislation to prohibit nuclear weapons. We went on to the streets to gather the signatures, had to explain to people why now we were putting this topic on the agenda. And because of the humanitarian initiative and because a majority of the UN member states already had pledged to negotiate...to be willing to negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons, people were really disappointed to hear that our country doesn't belong to this majority. So getting the signatures was quite easy. We also had the support of many Dutch celebrities, mayors, political youth wings. It is also interesting to know these were people representing political parties who are not in favor of nuclear disarmament and those were the people who had signed the petition. Because for example, in the '80s they joined the demonstration and they said, "I haven't changed my position on nuclear weapons since then, so there's no reason for me not to sign."

What happened? The government counted all of our signatures and looked at our proposal and they approved it. So in April, the debate on our proposal to ban nuclear weapons took place in the Hague. Of course we prepared some lobby talks with members of Parliament. We also did a lot of lobby talks with members of Parliament whom we knew were difficult to convince, because we really want to inform them about the humanitarian initiative and that now we have a majority of UN member states calling for negotiations.

What happened at the debates? We hoped for it but we didn't know what was about to happen, but 4 motions were adopted by a large majority of the Parliament, all calling strongly upon the government to act more on nuclear disarmament. And one of the most interesting motions was handed in by a political party that's always very vague on where they actually stand and they were the ones who stood out and said to the Dutch government that it should join, to explicitly participate in international negotiations on the ban treaty. And this is something that has never happened before. And this motion really helped us to go to the Open-

ended Working Group in Geneva because suddenly our government had to explain to the Parliament why they didn't support the majority call to start negotiations. Suddenly the government had to explain to all the people who signed the petition why they didn't join the majority of the UN member states calling for these negotiations.

At this moment 12 documents on the Open-ended Working Group are circulating. We don't know if the Netherlands will change its position, but they do realize that they cannot stay in the same position. They feel the pressure from the Dutch Parliament, they feel the pressure from the civil society, and they feel the pressure from the people on the streets and they feel the pressure also from the media. So we are very interested about what will happen to the Open-ended Working Group. We will make sure that whatever happens the Netherlands should do what the majority is calling for, and for us this political campaign tool was very useful. And once again I do recommend to you if you do have the possibility to do this in your country. It is a very useful way to convince...to put pressure on your government.

Lastly, I would like to say that the international petition of the Hibakusha we are definitely going to use it because it also puts new pressure on our government to tell them that we don't accept anymore, that we won't allow nuclear weapons to be part of our deterrence policies. So thank you for setting this petition up and we will do everything to make your voice stronger.

Hiroshi Taka
Representative Director
Japan Council against A and H Bombs

Making the Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign an Epoch-making Campaign

It is a great honor for me to join a panel of people who are playing a prominent role in international politics or in civil society. I take this opportunity to express my deep respect to you for your valuable work.

This year's World Conference marks the 71st year of the suffering from the A-bombings and 61 years since its first meeting. It is becoming a conference of historic importance. First, we are meeting at a juncture where the world is making headway towards banning A and H bombs. You already know it through your study before the conference, from speeches at the International Meeting of overseas delegates, or from the Organizer's Report delivered yesterday.

On August 5, 16 and 17, and 19 in Geneva, the U.N. Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) is meeting to address legal measures, legal provisions and norms needed to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. It is attended by the representatives of some two thirds of the UN member states and civil society organizations. Its report will be submitted to the next session of the UN General Assembly, which will start in September, and next steps will be discussed and decided upon there.

The recommendations put forward by the draft Report of the OEWG, due for discussion from today in Geneva, are clear and straightforward.

It says that additional efforts can and should be pursued to elaborate legal measures, legal provisions and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. It also makes clear that the above efforts are to complement and strengthen the NPT.

The report further affirms that a majority of states supported the convening by the General Assembly of a conference in 2017, open to all States, international organizations and civil society, to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. It also noted that a group of States, however, considered that such negotiations would be premature, that it needs to address national and international security, and that they support the "pursuit of practical building block measures."

It also urges member states to review and implement such measures as transparency related to the risks of existing nuclear weapons, accidental, mistaken, unauthorized or intentional nuclear weapons detonation and other matters.

From these points alone, it seems clear how far we have come towards the elimination of nuclear weapons and what we should do now to take the world to the goal. I want to commend the United Nations, the nuclear weapon-free zone movement, Non-Aligned Movement, New Agenda Coalition and many other governments, as well as civil society movements that are committed to these efforts.

I want to make one more point that characterizes our conference. It is that in this only A-bombed country where we should keep initiating efforts for the abolition of nuclear weapons, we have prepared the conference on the basis of new experience of struggle.

Faced with the situation where Japanese politics is driven towards the use of force overseas for war fighting, destroying Article 9 of the Constitution, a broad range of people rose in protest at a grassroots level across the country. Mounting waves of actions developed against war laws and in defense

of constitutionalism, putting aside differences in thought, belief and bygones.

Out of these actions, a call, "Opposition Parties, Unite!" grew nationwide, and on this basis, joint candidates were fielded in many constituencies at the latest national elections for the House of Councillors and in the Tokyo gubernatorial election. A joint candidate was chosen on the common platform of defending constitutionalism and against the war laws. In Okinawa, the opposition unity candidate achieved overwhelming victory against the incumbent Minister, and in Tohoku region, united candidates won in all prefectures except for Akita.

The situation remains tense. Some time ago, the news carried by "The Washington Post" saying that President Obama was examining a policy of "no first use" of nuclear weapons was also reported in Japan. The immediate reaction of the Japanese Government was to solicit the US Administration for consultation and ask for maintaining the first use policy lest "deterrence should weaken."

There is a precedent for this. On the eve of the Six Party Talks on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula to start in 2003, the Japanese Government asked the US to maintain the policy to use nuclear weapons even if North Korea should abandon its nuclear development program.

Now, having secured a two thirds majority in the Diet, the Japanese Government is starting actions to fully revise the Constitution.

Yet, the road to stop such a dangerous current, defend the Constitution and reset Japanese politics to stand in the van for a world without nuclear weapons has clearly come in sight through our recent experiences. Will the dawn of a new Japan start in Okinawa, or in Tohoku? We should see to it that it will also start here in Hiroshima, Nagasaki or elsewhere where we work, using the signature campaign initiated by the Hibakusha, as a common form of action at the grassroots.

The third point I want to make is about the Hibakusha Signature Campaign itself. Yesterday, the International Meeting of the World Conference adopted a declaration. With a cover letter, we immediately sent it to the OEWG. At the United Nations, disarmament related resolutions are usually adopted by the First Committee in early November and by the General Assembly in early December. It is already proposed that the UN should convene a conference to negotiate a ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons in 2017.

More than 70% of the UN member states stand in favor of legally binding measures to ensure a

nuclear weapon-free world. This line of actions, no doubt, will work as a heavy pressure on the five nuclear powers called "Nuclear Weapon States" in the NPT, as well as the rest of the nuclear powers.

The abolition of nuclear weapons, however, will not be achieved unless nuclear powers themselves abandon their arsenals. A world without nuclear weapons also requires the renunciation of the reliance on the "nuclear umbrella" by such countries as Japan.

At the 2015 NPT Review Conference, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon referred to the petitions submitted by civil society as a "reminder of the hopes and expectations of the peoples we are here to serve". It is true that the very factor that determines the course of international politics is the voice of the sovereign peoples around the world. That is why the signature campaign is important.

The campaign initiated by the Hibakusha is now producing wide cooperation beyond all barriers. In June, I joined in the peace march walking along the Pacific coastal area of Fukushima. In Iwaki, the south end of the course, I engaged with friends of the local Gensuikyo branch in the signature collection. I visited four families and had dialog with another four citizens in the street. When I visited the first house, an aged man had just come back home. I asked him to sign the Appeal. He said, "Later". So, I again visited him 15 minutes later, but inside the house he waved me off. Then, another 15 minutes passed, and when an end of the signature collection was announced through a loudspeaker, we saw a man hurriedly coming to us offering to sign the "Appeal". It was that man. He must have changed his mind. In the street near the railway station, an old woman agreed to sign the "Appeal." She was an evacuee from Tomioka, a neighboring town of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. She said she lost her land to cultivate, house and family life. Because of her age, she could no longer expect to return to her old life. She could not stop talking... Through conversations with altogether 8 people, I got signatures from all of them. This actually epitomizes the trust and familiarity with which the citizens embraced our local Gensuikyo.

In a signature campaign, the actual number of signatures collected of course matters, but the contents of the dialogues and the interpersonal relations built through them are even more important. Let us make the signature campaign for the Appeal of the Hibakusha a historic campaign to change our neighborhood, our region, our country and our world.

Closing Plenary

2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Hiroshima (August 6)



Speeches by Representatives of the U.N. and National Governments:

Kim Won-soo High Representative for Disarmament Affairs United Nations

Mr Hiroshi Taka, Co-chair of the Steering Committee

Esteemed Hibakusha
Ladies and Gentlemen

I am honoured to be here with you once again as we commemorate this sombre occasion – the first use of nuclear weapons in war. This is my second visit to Hiroshima and the impact of this memorial is no less moving.

I bring you the greetings of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. He has asked me to convey his commitment to the pledge he made six years ago to stand with the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And his unwavering commitment to the imperative of nuclear disarmament.

As the Secretary-General likes to say, “Disarmament is in the DNA of the United

Nations”. Our organisation was formed in the shadow of World War II. For seven decades we have dedicated ourselves to achieving a world, safer and more secure world, and without nuclear weapons.

In this cause, the United Nations has no greater ally than the brave survivors of the atomic bombings, the Hibakusha. Today I acknowledge the suffering the Hibakusha have endured, both during the bombing and in the years that followed.

I also pay tribute to their determination to transform their personal tragedy into a message of hope. They have become, as the Secretary-General said, “True champions of peace.” As the embodiment of the human costs of nuclear war, the Hibakusha are unique. However, most Hibakusha are now in their eighties or older. We need to make sure that their legacy is secured.

I take this opportunity to call on the young peacemakers of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to ensure the voices of the Hibakusha echo down the years so that future generations fully understand the toll these weapons take.

Throughout his tenure, the Secretary-General, and especially in his five-point plan on nuclear

disarmament, has highlighted the steps that must be taken without delay if the world is to achieve nuclear disarmament.

Yet our efforts to adopt effective measures for disarmament continue to be frustrated and the gap between positions on how to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons grows wider.

We must work together to fill this gap. The community of nations, led by those states possessing nuclear weapons, needs to come together in inclusive dialogue. All nations need to find common ground and a way forward.

The stakes are too high not to. The human and environmental consequences of the use of one nuclear weapon would be devastating.

I call on you, civil society, to also play your part. Civil society is central to prompting the public conscience to advance disarmament. Raise your voices and let them be heard. Keep your governments accountable for their actions and policies.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki remind us of the devastating consequences of nuclear weapons. But, as the Secretary-General has said, “the only absolute guarantee that they are never used again is through their total elimination.”

I count on you all to help attain that goal.

**Miguel Ruiz-Cabañas Izquierdo
Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and
Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
United Mexican States**

Distinguished Organizing Committee;
Distinguished authorities from the Government of Japan;

Distinguished Mr. Kim Won-soo, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations;

Distinguished Mr. Sergio Duarte, Former High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations;

Distinguished Hibakusha;

His Excellency Mr. Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador of Venezuela to Japan;

Distinguished Mr. Azri Mat Yacob, Malaysian Embassy in Japan;

Distinguished Mr. Damian Delgado, Cuban Embassy in Japan;

Distinguished members from Non-governmental Organizations;

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

I am deeply honored for participating, on behalf the Government of Mexico, in the commemoration of the 71st anniversary of the

atomic attacks to Hiroshima, which took place on August 6th, 1945.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki are a worldwide and historical reference to the horror that war represents and to the devastating suffering caused to human kind when science is used for war purposes. Nevertheless, they are also a symbol of resistance and perseverance to overcome adversity. We should never forget the terrible history behind these two cities, but we also should learn to be inspired by them.

Mexico pays tribute to the Japanese people, particularly to Hibakushas, the survivors of the attacks. Their strength and example have been essential to raise awareness before the world about the destructive effects of nuclear weapons. We must also convey this message: under no circumstances this experience should be repeated.

Hibakusha’s generation saw the early beginnings of nuclear weapons, one of the most powerful memories of war. Our generation grew up under their menace. If it is true that we did not create them, we have the responsibility to eliminate them all. Our commitment should be a link between generations.

Ladies and gentlemen:

Today, our societies are not fully aware of the danger nuclear weapons represent. The threat to exterminate life within our planet, due to a nuclear attack, was vanished after the Cold War.

Nonetheless, Mexico along with a growing number of countries believe that it is meaningful to remember that this weapons still exist - there are more than 15 thousand around the globe - and they still represent one of the foremost threats to humankind.

The three Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, held in Oslo (2013), Nayarit and Vienna (2014), clearly demonstrated the devastating effects that would be caused by one detonation, either unintended or planned. Serious consequences would occur to the environment, development, global health, food security, among many others factors. What is certain is that a single detonation would have local, regional and global consequences.

As a result of these Conferences, today two thirds (2/3) of the countries agree that the very existence of nuclear weapons do not actually guarantee any State’s security or safety. This is the reason why we should work towards their complete prohibition and elimination.

This is the only way to avoid repeating tragedies such as Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Ladies and gentlemen:

Countries like Mexico and Japan, which do not possess nuclear arsenal, have the noble endeavor

to encourage nuclear disarmament. We cannot wait for future generations to take care of this important matter. We have to start now.

In this regard, it is a great honor to my country that other 127 States have already rendered their support to the so called "Humanitarian Initiative". These 127 States do not possess any nuclear weapons, however they are determined to fill the current legal vacuum that obstructs their prohibition.

It is our historical and collective responsibility to guarantee that the attacks to Hiroshima and Nagasaki will never happen again.

Ladies and gentlemen:

Let us keep the memory of the Hibakusha alive. Complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons are the best tribute that the international community can give to the victims of August 1945, as well as to the many survivors that keep sharing their memories with us.

Mexico will not refrain from insisting that this brave testimony should be both, a warning and an inspiration to keep working towards a more equitable, more just and safer world, away from the nuclear threat.

Seiko Luis Ishikawa Kobayashi
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 to all participants a message of solidarity at this World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, to commemorate the 71st Anniversary of the heinous atomic bombing to the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in which thousands of people died and caused catastrophic humanitarian consequences.

We are perpetually reminded of the inhumane, indiscriminate and senseless destruction caused by nuclear weapons every time we visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki, every time we hear the terrible experiences of the Hibakusha and every time we look back at the Second World War history.

As a fellow human being and father of three children, my heart aches at the sufferings and devastation left by these sad and tragic events.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is a pacifist country, and its National Constitution explicitly establishes in its objectives the promotion of peace among nations and nuclear disarmament. In this context, Venezuela advocates for the nuclear disarmament as the only guarantee against the danger of atomic and

hydrogen weapons.

Venezuela is a member State to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which establishes a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the region. It is the first Free Zone of Nuclear Weapons in a densely-populated area of the world and serves as a guide and institutional benchmark for the creation of other zones of this type around the world in order to avoid terrible events, as those that occurred in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August of 1945.

During the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held in Havana, Cuba, on January 2014, the region was formally proclaimed as a "Peace Zone". It commits us to the promotion of Nuclear Disarmament as a priority.

There is an urgent need to move towards nuclear disarmament and to achieve full and general elimination of nuclear weapons. On this regard, Venezuela exhorts members of the international community to work together towards the negotiations to develop an instrument prohibiting nuclear weapons, which would be universal, legally binding, irreversible, verifiable and that includes a multilaterally agreed timetable.

The international community must keep in mind the threat posed to humanity by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and their possible use and that the total elimination of these weapons is the only guarantee against the use or threat of use thereof. Nuclear Disarmament is essential to rule out the danger of a nuclear war and its devastating consequences.

It is important to note the historic visit of President Barack Obama to Hiroshima last May, where he appealed, during his remarks at the Peace Memorial Park, for a "world without nuclear weapons and that mankind would learn from its mistakes to avoid new wars". Now, the planet needs concrete actions from all countries possessing nuclear weapons, oriented to their total abolition.

Venezuela, as a member of the Treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, reaffirms the necessity of its universalization to ensure a true world of peace. In particular, we must strengthen the three pillars of the NPT in a balanced and non-discriminatory fashion, and ensure that commitments made at the NPT Review Conference are fulfilled, especially by Nuclear Weapon States. Venezuela rejects the doctrines of strategic defense of States possessing nuclear weapons that not only establish justification for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, but holds

unacceptable concepts about international security based on the promotion and development of policies of nuclear deterrence.

In recent years, we have been honored by the numerous visits of Hibakushas to Venezuela, who travelled on board the Peace Boat, spreading a message of peace around the world, demanding the prohibition and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. During their visit to Venezuela in June 2015, our people and government had the opportunity to hear the invaluable testimony of these Hibakushas.

On this occasion we reaffirm our support to the principles and objectives of the global network initiative of Mayors for Peace, founded by the authorities of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, of which Venezuela currently participates with 25 member cities.

As we commemorate the 71st anniversary of the atomic bombs dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, my wife Erika and I would like to express our respect and appreciation to the organizers and attendees at this World Conference and to reiterate our commitment to jointly achieve a world of peace, free from the threat of nuclear weapons.

Special Program: 71 Years of the A-Bombing: Aspirations of the Hibakusha:

Matsumoto Hideko Hibakusha of Hiroshima

Until that day 71 years ago, I was living in Zaimoku Town with my 9 family members. The Atomic bombing instantly took away the lives of six of them: my mother, older sister, two younger brothers, and two younger sisters. (A small stone monument is located in the Peace Park to remember Zaimoku Town.)

That day, August 6, was a bright sunny Monday. I was 15 years old at that time. With a lunch box my mother made for me, I left my house around 7 a.m., heading for a girls school in Midori Town which was located about 3 km from the hypocenter. It was when I was chatting with my friend in a classroom on the second floor of the school. All of a sudden without nowhere my sight was covered with orange light, and I went under a desk. Five or six seconds later when I stood up to try to get out of the building, window glass crushed to pieces by the bomb blast stuck in the right side of my face and shoulder. I was bleeding and ran outside. Hearing that a major

disaster hit Hiroshima, I decided to go home.

On the Miyuki Bridge was full of people who were standing or sitting down with shock after escaping from the dust or being burnt by the bomb flash. Some of their hair stood on end. Others' clothes or even skins were burnt and dangling. They barely managed to get there. The scene was just like a hell on earth. There I saw 7 or 8 residents of Zaimoku Town. Later I would learn that Mr. Tsuboi Sunao of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations was also on Miyuki Bridge at that time.

Since fire and smoke stood in my way to my house from Miyuki Bridge, I had to go through Koi Town where my schoolmate Ms. Imaoka was living. I walked in a river at low tide and on a railway bridge. It was very crowded on the way, but I saw a lady acquaintance from Zaimoku Town, and she took me to her parents' house. Looking up a red burning sky, I felt like my heart was breaking. I could not sleep a wink on that night.

On the next day, the 7th of August, I went back to Zaimoku Town, which used to be a busy district. Not only my house but also the whole area as far as I could see was turned into a burning field. Feeling like I was the only one left in the wasteland, I was overtaken with indescribable grief and began trembling. Tears began to pour from my eyes, and I cried in a loud voice.

On the 8th, after the fire went down, I went back to the area where my house had been located. There I found two skeletons, one in the entrance and the other in the kitchen. I thought they could be my mother and older sister. I put their ashes into a tea leaves can that we used to use. In front of my house, 4 or 5 black ash-like objects were lying on the ground. "Are they my younger brother Mamoru or my younger sister Noriko?" I wondered, but there was nothing I could do. While I was walking absent-mindedly, I saw a dead woman body whose eyeballs popped out about 2 or 3 cm because of the blast. She was a lady at a cafe near my house together with her unborn baby whose umbilical cord was still connected with the mother's body. I placed my hands together in prayer before the charred bodies.

In the early morning of August 9, I went to Ujina together with my neighbor Ms. Hiromori to look for my family. We found out in a list of rescues that my father had been sent to Kanawa Island. On his way to get food, he had been caught under a collapsed building. Luckily he was not severely injured, but his eyes were hurt. In Kanawa Island, many girls school students and junior high school students with major injuries and burns were sheltered. They died one after

another and were buried in a hole at the foot of a mountain.

After staying for two nights in Kanawa Island, we decided to go to Ondo, which was my mother's hometown. When we were walking along the bank of Tenma River on our way to Hiroshima Station, I found a piece of a burnt jacket of my younger sister Kiku. It was the matching clothes she and I had, made of my mother's kimono. She might have been here and headed for the river to get water, while tearing off her smouldering jacket. Kiku, who was 13 years old, went to the area on that day to work on demolition of buildings.

The atomic bombing took the lives of my 40-year-old mother, 17-year-old sister working at Chugoku Shimbun, the 13-year-old sister in the second grade of junior high school, 7-year-old brother in the first grade of elementary school, 2-year-old brother, and 4-year-old sister.

On the 12th, my father and I arrived in Ondo. Then my father, who was 43 years old then, went to our relatives' house in Shimane Prefecture to bring back my younger brother and sister who had been evacuated there. When he came back two months later, we all cried to look at his conditions: Due to serious A-bomb radiation effects, he lost his hair; his whole body became swollen; flesh inside his mouth and upper jaw bone were melt; and he lost his teeth. But he struggled to live and work for me and my younger brother and sister until he was diagnosed with stomach cancer and died at age 58.

Now, I am 86 years old, and my life is supported by choral singing I began 10 years ago. I found out that musician Mr. Takada was practicing accordion at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, the resting place of my older sister and mother, who had loved singing. I believe they have led me to join the "utagoe (singing voice)" activities.

People around the world come to Hiroshima to listen to the "silent voices of mementos left by A-bomb victims" exhibited in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. From this city, I want to call for the abolition of nuclear weapons and peace together with you all.

Koo Jung Sung
Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association
Republic of Korea

My name is Koo Jung Sung. I am vice president of the Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association.

The atomic bomb was dropped 71 years ago when I was only two years old. My father was a

cargo handling worker at Hiroshima Station. My mother worked hard to support the family's well-being. I was one of the four sons. My family was a poor but ordinary family living in harmony. My older brother was a second grader at Onaga Elementary School, but I hear that he couldn't study at all due to frequent air raids. Air-raid drills were prioritized over studying.

Then came the day: August 6, 1945. It was in the morning. A sound of huge explosion was immediately followed by a blast destroying our wooden house. We found ourselves in hell. Fortunately, thanks to our neighbors' help, all our family members survived. But my older brother was wounded. He has been enduring leg injury.

In the wake of the bombing, my family moved to Funairi in order to return to my parents' hometown in Korea. My parents once told me what they had witnessed on the way. I never recall their story without a shudder. In Funairi, my parents obtained a temporary house to live and gave their injured son medical treatment. It was around that time that the chance came. They successfully boarded a smuggler and left Funairi for Korea and they managed to reach their hometown. There, my brother and sister were born. My father died in 1982 after a long battle with liver cancer amid poverty. My mother died of stomach cancer in 1995. My younger brother died in 2013 of larynx cancer. Two years later, my younger sister died of a stomach cancer.

My parents thought that our family's bitterness came from heredity caused by radiation. They thought they had to accept this fate. This is a sad history of an unfortunate family. I think the loss of loved ones is the most tragic thing the nuclear weapons left to me. Times goes by helplessly.

This is the 71st year since the A-bombing. We must understand that we are called upon to maintain the historical view that no more tragedy of nuclear war is allowed. I will devote the rest of my life to tackle this serious challenge.

Abacca Anjain Maddison
Former Senator/ Iju in Ean Club, People
of Rongelap
Marshall Islands

"A Nuclear Weapons Free, Peaceful and Just
World"

Mina San Konnichiwa and Iakwe!!

Twenty three years ago today since my father passed on I am feeling blessed and honored to carry on his legacy. My father was Jeton Anjain,

the late senator who led the people of Rongelap from living in highly contaminated homeland. He fought injustices with every energy he had in his sick body till the last breath. He made known world-wide how nuclear weapons indiscriminately destroy human lives and planet earth. This is the very same reason we are here today in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In March this year, RMI's case took place in the International Court of Justice at the Hague and Foreign Minister Tony deBrum in his testimony explained briefly about the Marshall Islands. He said, "The Marshall Islands has a unique and devastating history with nuclear weapons. While it was designated as a Trust Territory by the United Nations, no fewer than 67 atomic and thermonuclear weapons were deliberately exploded as 'tests' in the Marshalls Islands, by the United States. Several islands in my country as a result of the tests vaporized and gone from the face of the earth and others remain uninhabitable for thousands of years. Many, many Marshallese died, suffered birth defects never before seen and battled cancers resulting from the contamination. Tragically the Marshall Islands thus bears eye-witness to the horrific and indiscriminate lethal capacity of these weapons, and the inter-generational and continuing effects that they perpetuate even 60 years later". Mr. Tony deBrum now serves as the ambassador in charge of the Climate Change, a new position within Government and he asked me to convey his highest regards to all.

Of the special significance was the largest test conducted code-named Castle Bravo, a 15-megaton thermonuclear device tested on March 1st, 1954 on Bikini Atoll, 1,000 times greater than Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. Because of the Bravo shot incident the people of Rongelap and Utirik and Japanese fishermen on Daigo Fukuryu Maru shared and experienced radiation effects from the nuclear fallout. Their lives became not their own but as subject matter in the science and medical field, etc. In Rongelap's case, the people, including children were used in the Project 4.1 to further advance the knowledge regarding radiation effect on human being and continue to be in the Department of Energy medical program to this day.

We must strengthen our collaborations and finding new partners and networking at all levels. At home more non-government organizations, including youth groups are established and are taking active roles in making known the nuclear legacy in public and mass media. More schools are teaching about nuclear experience in RMI and around the world and engaging students in public

forums. The new RMI Government administration under President Hilda Heine is committed to nuclear issue agenda as priority and acted accordingly in the following....Endorsement of RMI's case in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in Hague; signing of President Heine of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and by calling all heads of governments for consultation to integrate and localize the SDGs into our National Strategic Plan addressing nuclear issues, climate change, eradicate poverty, etc. to achieve before or by 2030. And to further our action, on Ebeye, Kwajalein Atoll for the first time, Bikini Day commemoration on March 1st, 2017 will be held.

To end my speech I wish to express sincere appreciation for the opportunity to work closely with uncle John and Nelson Anjain and with Lemeyo Abon, Lijohn Eknilang and Betty Edmond to name a few through Gensuikyo and Japanese hibakusha. Thank you for making my family the symbol of solidarity between the people of Japan and Marshall Islands. Let us keep the spirit alive and take our cooperation and friendship in solidarity to a higher level. No More Hiroshima, No More Nagasaki No More Bikini bravo shot....We Shall Overcome!

For a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons – Speeches by Overseas Delegates:

Gediminas Rimdeika The Green Policy Institute/ Lithuanian Green Party Lithuania

The decision on ending the war at the expense of peaceful people by dropping the nuclear bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki taken 71 years ago by the authorities of the USA was condemned by the people of the world. The current President of the United States Barack Obama's visit to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park several months ago and his bowing to HIBAKUSHAS (atomic bomb survivors) were an indirect-silent apology for the global error committed by his predecessors, a deep understanding of the former senseless step, or, perhaps it was a firm step towards "the world without nuclear weapons".

We want to appeal to the heads of the Great Powers: Sirs, heads of the powerful states, that possess the nuclear weapons – all of you have to visit the Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorials; this would help you better understand the senselessness

of the existence of the nuclear weapon, you have to bend in memory of the Hibakushas and say to yourselves the following – NO TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, our country will not have this weapon, we shall invest these funds into building kindergartens and schools.

Unfortunately, the events of the last spring in North Korea say to us that we have to concentrate all progressive forces and work hard in this sphere.

Following a successful example of your organization involving the youth into a fight against nuclear and hydrogen weapons, meetings with school children have been organized for several years already at schools in Lithuania. On the first of March this year and this is a symbolic date - the 62nd anniversary of the explosion of the first hydrogen bomb in the world - with the help of Gensuikyo organization, we started the educational Lithuanian-Japanese project - exhibition of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: The Atomic Bomb and Humanity. The exhibition encourages the school children and members of the society to draw attention to the global problems of the world that pose a threat to the existence of humanity and humanism. At the present time this exhibition is being exposed in Lithuanian schools and organizations. During the conference it was displayed at the Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania.

The future belongs to the younger generation. This is not a hackneyed phrase. Having become acquainted with the short-sightedness and senselessness of the armaments race and having understood it well, the younger generation is going to continue the march The World without the Nuclear Weapons that we have staged today with full responsibility. Such people as Putin, Merkel, Obama or Kim Jong-un cannot impose their viewpoints and positions on the world and cannot dictate it. We shall try to achieve that in the future the countries should start competing for the number of modern kindergartens and schools, institutions of higher education, for the best social guarantees, for the highest standard of living and for the elimination of the stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

In May 2016, during the international conference held in Lithuania, where the thirtieth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster was commemorated, the residents of Chernobyl who reside in Lithuania awarded the Japanese organisation Gensuikyo and its Representative Director Hiroshi Takakusaki with the gold medal For Public Interest. This is our very modest contribution to the mighty (grandiose) work, which you perform for the sake of humanity. Your nation and your organisation has set an example to

us in seeking for the common goal –The World Without Nuclear Weapons.

Selma van Oostwarrrd

PAX

The Netherlands

It is a great honour for me to be invited to speak to you here today.

It is special moment for me to stand here in Japan again. Last year I had the honour to visit Hiroshima for the first time. Together with a group of other young nuclear disarmament campaigners from all over the world we listened to the story of Ms. Toshiko Tanaka, who was 6 years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Ms. Tanaka shared that she was 70 years old when she could even begin to talk about what happened. “To re-live the pain and horror is too much for anyone to bear... the scars may have faded away but the bad memories still remain”, she said. Like Ms. Tanaka, I cannot believe why we, in the year 2016, still allow only 9 countries to possess more than 15,000 nuclear weapons.

Today I am asked to elaborate on the national campaigning work of PAX, the organization I represent. Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction that have not yet been prohibited by an international treaty, therefore PAX is working towards a ban on nuclear weapons. We are based in the Netherlands. Although the Netherlands does not possess nuclear weapons itself, my country participates in the NATO nuclear weapons sharing agreements and hosts about 20 U.S. B-61 warheads at the Volkel Air Base – which is one of the worst kept secrets in NATO and Europe.

When the Humanitarian Initiative evolved within the framework of the NPT in 2013, we decided that it was time to scale up our national campaign work. Because suddenly we had a majority of the world's governments (159 states) saying loud and clear that nuclear weapons should never be used again, under any circumstances. And we had a majority of the world's governments (127 states) pledging to negotiate a new treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. Unfortunately my country, the Netherlands, is not one of them.

Due to these developments at international level, we decided to use a Dutch political campaigning tool which is called a ‘citizen’s initiative’: if you gather more than 40,000 signatures for a proposal on a topic that hasn’t been discussed in Dutch Parliament in the last two

years, the Parliament is obliged to talk about your proposal. The citizen's initiative got the support from religious leaders, Dutch celebrities, a long list of mayors from various political parties and political youth wings. Our main partners were the Dutch Red Cross and one of the largest ethical banks in the Netherlands.

In April, this year, our proposal 'Ban nuclear weapons in the Netherlands' was discussed in Parliament. Several motions were put forward by parliamentarians during the April debate, and four of them received majority support during the voting session. The most important motion adopted by a large majority is the motion that calls upon the Dutch government to actively work on the start of negotiations on an international treaty banning nuclear weapons. The parliament also endorsed the proposal to disclose the secret treaties on the basis of which nuclear weapons were placed in the Netherlands and supported the request to use the unwanted modernization of nuclear weapons in Europe to boost global nuclear disarmament. Lastly, the House called upon the Dutch government to cumulatively reject its nuclear task in consultation with the United States.

Due to the citizen's initiative nuclear disarmament is high on the political agenda. Unfortunately the Dutch government still hasn't taken the step we want: call for the start of negotiations. However, with a majority of Dutch citizen's and the Parliament calling upon the government to actively participate in the international negotiations on a ban treaty, a clear majority of UN member states calling to start these negotiations, they can't deny anymore that they have to forward.

States choosing to stall nuclear disarmament processes are gambling with our families, our lives and our futures. And I, as a young person, as a Dutch citizen, European citizen and global citizen, urge them not to squander, but use this opportunity, to move forward and start negotiations. And to all of you here I would like to say: thank you for your great efforts and dedication, together we can make a difference, and together we can achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Jordi Calvo Rufanges
International Peace Bureau/ Centre Delàs
for Peace Studies, Spain

Disarmament for development and peace

Dear friends and colleagues, I'm delighted to be here in the World Conference against A and H Bombs. Thanks to Gensuikyo and Hibakushas for

their visit to Spain last year, spreading the needed voice of nuclear disarmament in a country without nuclear weapons, but a country supporting its military and nuclear allies from NATO and their positions in favor of military responses to conflicts, which are creating a more insecure world.

Nowadays hegemonic doctrine of security and defense is based on War on Terror of George W. Bush trying to fight Al Qaeda first and ISIS now under the false assumption of preemptive war. The result is well known by all of you: more war, more bombing, more terrorism and more insecurity than the day after 11-S.

Nuclear deterrence is part of this logic of preemptive war, because it generates fear in the enemy, becoming nuclear deterrence a preemptive threat.

Military expenditure, all the arms of the world are not contributing to create more security but more terror with bombings in Iraq and arming the war in Syria and all countries in the Middle East. War on Terror is creating more terror.

Nuclear weapons have not prevented terrorist attacks on major military powers in the world. Why? Because security is not achieved by weapons and military power. It needs other kinds of actions.

From this point of view, reducing threats to our security means reducing and abolishing nuclear weapons. Because they are a real threat to our security for different reasons:

- Likely to be used by irresponsible governments or armed groups
- Accident on their facilities
- Pollution during thousands of years
- Attacked by terrorist groups

Why do we have arms in the world, why do we have people ready to use them? Because we have money to do it. Military budget or military expenditure is the beginning of the armaments and war cycle. Without military spending there is no possibility to pay armies, buying arms or developing new weapons.

Global military expenditure in 2015 was \$1.7 trillion, 2.3% of the world's total Gross Domestic Product.

IPB promotes together with many other peace organizations in the world the Global Campaign on Military Spending, which propose to use military resources to cover human needs.

Besides that, nuclear weapons maintenance and developing have an extraordinary cost in the world every year. USA plans to spend in 30 years around 1 trillion of dollars only modernizing nuclear weapons. How much other nuclear possessing states are going to spend to maintain and improve their nuclear arsenals?

Military budget, including money used for nuclear weapons is enough to end poverty in the world in only one year.

Moreover, it's important to consider other resources related to nuclear weapons expenditure. Financing nuclear arms producers is one of the main activities that divest resources from real economy to war and defense economics. 3 out of 4 weapons wouldn't exist without banks support.

There are 382 banks, insurance companies, pension funds and asset managers from 27 countries that invest in the nuclear weapon industry of USD 493 billion. In Japan, the biggest investors are Mitsubishi UFJ Financial (Japan), and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial (Japan).

Let's stop War on terror cycle that is creating more terror.

Let's fight against arms business. Let's take out our money from banks that finance arms industry and nuclear weapons producers. Let's move the money from military expenditure to social and development spending.

Carol Turner Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament U.K.

Good afternoon everyone. I thank our hosts for the opportunity to address you, and bring greetings from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament UK.

It is a great pleasure to visit Hiroshima for the first time, and an honour to join you in commemorating the many victims of the terrible nuclear disaster visited on this city in 1945. The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was nothing less than an act of state terrorism committed by the United States. And I am ashamed that my government, the British government collaborated and supported this dishonourable act.

And a privilege to hear first-hand some of the Hibakusha's stories, and to learn that the second generation is continuing the struggle to rid the world of these weapons of mass indiscriminate destruction.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was launched in February 1958, three years after the founding of the Japanese Council against A and H Bombs.

Nowadays our membership numbers in the region of 35,000 people – national members of CND and of the many local groups around Britain. I am chair of London Region CND, where about 20% of our members are based.

Each year we hold a ceremony in a park where

a cherry tree was planted many years ago by the local mayor in memory of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Our speakers this year represent many faiths and races – including Muslims, Buddhists, Roman Catholics, Quakers, and an elderly Jewish man, a survivor of Hitler's Germany, who is also Vice President of CND.

2016 is an important year for us in Britain – the year in which the government will finalise its plans to upgrade Trident, Britain's nuclear weapons system.

In February CND held the biggest nuclear disarmament protest in a generation calling on the government to Stop Trident! And we have held many other actions across the country to let parliament know that the British public is opposed to Trident.

Our cause is greatly helped by the election of Jeremy Corbyn as leader of the Labour Party, which is the chief opposition party in Britain. Jeremy's campaign was three-fold: against austerity, against war, and against nuclear weapons.

He is a life-long member of CND. Shortly after his election last September he announced on TV that if he became prime minister he would never press the nuclear button.

This caused outrage and frenzy among the political establishment, including members of parliament from his own party. But Jeremy continues to attract huge support, especially from young people who are tired of grey-suited politicians who don't represent their views or their interests.

CND stand with you in the defence of Article 9 of your constitution.

We will continue our struggle alongside you for an end to nuclear weapons!

For a more just, peaceful and secure world!

Joseph Gerson American Friends Service Committee U.S.A.

Minasan konnichiwa. It is privilege to rejoin the World Conference. Here we mark and learn from one of the greatest war crimes in human history and recommit ourselves to the restoration of a nuclear free world.

A special thanks to those who have opposed Abe's campaign to eliminate Article 9 and impose the LDP's emperor-centric, human rights-assaulting alternative constitution. Thanks too to those who joined the resistance to U.S. bases

in Okinawa. It's time to end colonialism in Okinawa, Japan and elsewhere.

These are dangerous times. There are the tensions between rising and declining powers, nuclear and high-tech arms races; resurgent nationalism, territorial disputes, resource competition, complex alliances, economic integration and competition, and wild card actors.

Former US Secretary of Defense Perry warns that "the danger of some sort of nuclear catastrophe is greater than it was during the Cold War." An incident during provocative military exercises could trigger the unimaginable.

Hillary Clinton is the candidate of military-industrial complex. She says nuclear weapons can be abolished "in some century", not this one. Her leading nuclear weapons advisor tells us that nuclear weapons are "indispensable". Trump would be the ultimate unaccountable nuclear monarchist. He's repeatedly asked why we can't use nuclear weapons and refused to rule out nuking ISIS.

Governments on their own will not rid the world of nuclear-weapons free world. That requires powerful popular pressure from below. Our job is to force our governments to begin negotiating a nuclear weapons abolition convention. We need to bring pressure from every possible source, including collaborations with supportive governments.

AFSC works with host of partners. With our Governing Under the Influence campaign, we challenged the corrupting influences of the military-industrial complex and the super-rich. Opposing spending \$1 trillion to upgrade the nuclear arsenal, activists sought out presidential candidates, asking questions that educated the audience, the candidates and the media. The campaign contributed to the Democratic Party's new commitment to reduce nuclear weapons spending, if not abolition.

Before Obama came to Hiroshima, our statement - signed by 75 prominent scholars and activists - urged him to announce concrete actions for disarmament: cancelling the \$1 trillion triad, reducing the U.S. arsenal to stimulate disarmament diplomacy, and challenging Putin to join in negotiations for a nuclear weapons abolition convention. The statement was delivered to the White House, and provided framing and encouragement for many thousands of activists and the general public.

We won the Cambridge's City Council unanimous vote to divest from financial institutions involved in producing nuclear weapons. The U.S. Conference of Mayors cited our resolution as a model, urging other cities to follow

suit. Peace and Planet is now promoting the "Chain Reaction" events, and we've organized other events, including at next week's World Social Forum.

Let me close by urging support for the international petition campaign. As the President of the NPT Review Conference said last year, your petitions and our actions reflected the demands of international civil society. The new petition campaign is especially important given the Abe Cabinet's assertion that Japan has the right to possess nuclear weapons, as well as to reinforce the door opened by the Open Ended Working Group. Peace & Planet has already begun promoting it.

Friends, these are dangerous times that require committed responses. Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us that "It is not enough to say we must not wage war. It is necessary," he said, "to love peace and sacrifice for it." Together, with imagination, commitment, sacrifice and will, we shall overcome, Gambaro!

Determination of Grass-roots Movements in Japan:

Misaki Kaoru Fukushima Gensuikyo

I come from Fukushima city. My name is Kaoru Misaki. I am able to come on this stage thanks to warm support of many friends of ours.

It is now over five years since that tragic day. Before coming to this conference, I was asked to make a banner for our delegation to display in the conference. It was a good chance for me to look back over our steps taken till now and think about what message we Fukushima people should send out. For me, the meaning of the March 11 is so heavy, and the lessons we learned so many, that this banner alone cannot express even a part of them.

There was a report about US President Obama's visit to Hiroshima that he visited the A-bomb museum there for only a few minutes, while he had a nuclear football kept carrying with him. I felt disappointed to know that. Yet, prompted by the words of a media commentator that "All Japanese should go to Hiroshima first of all", I decided to come to Hiroshima. The image of the banner then came up in mind.

A thin veil covering the banner, as you see before you, represents the present situation of Fukushima. Though low level, radioactive materials remain sitting in mountainous and

forest-rich Fukushima. It also shows anxiety of the evacuees about their uncertain future, and my own pent-up anger. The blue sky represents the “true sky” which Takamura Chieko, an artist from Nihonmatsu of Fukushima, used to keep painting in her mind. Following Hiroshima and Nagasaki, now “Fukushima” is a common language in the world to represent nuclear disaster. Will it be able to retrieve the “true sky”?

There is still no way found to remove melted nuclear fuel from the first, second and third reactors of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. It remains saturated with endlessly welling polluted water. The attempt of blocking underground water by constructing ice-wall simply did not work. The leaders of the “Nuclear Damage Compensation and Decommissioning Facilitation Corporation” finally began talking about “sarcophagus as option”, to contain the reactors in trouble. Everyone in the prefecture, including the governor, fiercely opposed it and had it repealed.

The compensation paid to the evacuees will be terminated next year. That policy is not standing close to those who lost their houses, rice fields and families. The biggest damage of all, for them, must be the loss of their own communal ties, long cherished way of life and good memories. I am not sure how well this state of the evacuees is known to people in the farther west of Tokyo.

We do have a hope, however. In the election of the House of Councillors in July, the united candidate of the opposition parties, standing on the policies of decommissioning all 10 reactors of the Fukushima NPPs and of abolishing the war laws, won the election, defeating the competing candidate, who had been the incumbent Minister of Justice. In addition, a young candidate, who spared no effort to support the sufferers of the Tsunami and NPP accident and worked to realize the desire of the prefectural people to abolish NPPs, was also elected to the House. The young people, who energetically fought the election campaign together with the Citizens’ Coalition, are the hope of Fukushima.

We are still at a start line. There is a long way to go. Yet, I should like you to keep giving heed to voices of Fukushima. Neither humans nor sciences are perfect. We are sure that both nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants would lead the human race to ruin. I want this message to reach those people who are pressing to restart NPP on this earthquake-ridden archipelago, those who are eager to promote nuclear arms race, those who quietly support them, and also to those who do not yet know what day August 6 is.

We want a true blue sky. May this white veil be cleared off. Can we do it? Yes, We Can.

Niga Satomi Kyoto Chapter, New Japan Women’s Association

It was only a few months ago that I was asked if I wanted to participate in the World Conference against A and H Bombs. I was interested in the Conference, but I felt uneasy and pressured because I was not involved in the activities for the elimination of nuclear weapons before, so I did not know what I should and could do.

In preparation for attending the World Conference, I went to see Ms. Odaka Miyoko, a Hibakusha who lives in Kyoto City, to hear her story with my Shinfujin colleagues last June. When the A-bomb was dropped, Odaka-san was 20 years old and five-month pregnant. What she told us was so vivid that we felt like we were seeing the scene immediately after the bomb was dropped.

It was the first time for me to hear the story of Hibakusha directly and I was very nervous. But Odaka-san’s personality helped me to unwind and rather than feeling shocked and scared, I felt like she was sharing her precious memories with me. When I told her that I was going to Hiroshima in August, she said that she was not able to go because of her bad legs, and asked me to pray for the victims for her. Her words released my tension and I said to myself, “On August 6 in Hiroshima, I will pray for the victims with my children and colleagues. That is how I get started.” Seeing Odaka-san watching us walk off, I felt as if she had given me a gentle, supportive push.

In July, we took to streets for the International Signature Campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha with Ms. Hanagaki Rumi, who was exposed to the A-bomb radiation in Hiroshima at age 5. She took the microphone to ask the people on the street to sign the petition, saying that she did not want anyone else to feel the agony she had to go through and that she wanted to eliminate nuclear weapons from the world. I was amazed and touched by the power of her words and strong resolve that there should never be another tragedy caused by nuclear weapons. And I wanted more than ever to learn as much as I could in Hiroshima and to share it with others.

Every year, on the morning of August 6, I watch the Peace Memorial Ceremony on TV and take a moment of silence at home. Last year my children asked me for the first time what I was doing. I thought for a while and said to them, “Today is the day that a bomb called atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and a number of people

died many years ago when Japan was waging war. So I am praying for those who died.”

This year, encouraged by the Hibakusha and Shinfujin colleagues who have long been committed to the peace movement, I was able to attend the World Conference with my children. And standing here, I am wondering what I can do on August 6 next year. Empowered by what I have learned and supported by my friends, I could reach here, and I hope to be able to take action in my own way. If my children ask me again what I am doing, I want to answer that I am doing my best to eliminate nuclear weapons from the world.

With the desire of the Hibakusha and the value of life of each and every person in my mind, I will move forward step by step for a world without nuclear weapons.

Let’s chant: “I Am the One to collect signatures in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha!”

Matsuura Shunta **Tokyo Students Tour to the 2016 World Conference**

My name is Matsuura Shunta, studying at a university in Tokyo. We are from the Tokyo Students Tour to the 2016 World Conference, and 34 students are participating in this year’s World Conference against A and H Bombs. In preparation for the conference, we had meetings in Tokyo; we heard experiences from the Hibakusha living in Tokyo, and studied the situation over nuclear weapons in Japan and the world. A Hibakusha who had entered Hiroshima City after the bombing said, “I cannot yet forget the shocking smell of dead bodies of men and women, or horses.” Some others said they were exposed to the atomic bombing when they were just babies or little children with no memory of those days, and yet they have long lived with worries over A-bomb diseases or radiation effects. We learned that each Hibakusha has different and own experiences and stories.

After we had these meetings, we began to think that in Hiroshima we should use all five senses, not only visual sense, when we listen to Hibakusha’s stories and should re-experience them ourselves. We decided to make our tour lead us to clearly come to feel that “Another Hibakusha must never be created,” which is the earnest desire expressed in the International Hibakusha Signature Campaign for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. We also confirmed with each other that we should study hard about the Hibakusha’s experiences, including their sufferings of discrimination as well

as the peace movement which has continuously supported the Hibakusha for over 60 years.

The four-year university days are a period when their sense of value or sensibility drastically changes and develops. I am sure that this year’s Students Tour contributed to deepening their understanding about what true anger was and developing their ability to think, through listening to the Hibakusha’s testimonies and having active discussions.

After we go back to Tokyo, we are going to strengthen the ties among the students born from the tour and with the Hibakusha living in Tokyo, and engage in activities to pass the Hibakusha’s stories to the next generations and friends around us. In so doing, I think the most important thing is to talk about with our own words the inhuman nature of nuclear weapons and what we learned in the A-bombed city Hiroshima, not “information someone clips off” from the Internet, etc.

At present, Japan is moving toward a completely opposite direction to what the Hibakusha have long looked forward to. For example, the elected Tokyo governor openly said Japan should have nuclear weapons; and a majority of the present Cabinet members belong to an organization that insists the past war waged by Japan was correct. With the determination that “We will never be Hibakusha again” deep in our hearts, we students will work on the signature campaign and gather small voices from people in Tokyo so that we can create a large stream leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Proposal for Action:

Yasui Masakazu **Japan Council against A and H Bombs**

Thank you for your participation in the discussions during the three-day World Conference in Hiroshima. First of all, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and solidarity to Mr. Kim Won-soo, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations; Ambassador Sergio Duarte, former U.N. High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; Ambassador Miguel Ruiz-Cabañas Izquierdo, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico; and other government representatives and leaders of the anti-nuclear peace movements in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, and the United States for coming to Hiroshima to join the World Conference. My gratitude also goes to Mayor Matsui Kazumi of Hiroshima for sending us a message and to the Hibakusha of Japan and

nuclear victims from other parts of the world for making valuable contributions to this World Conference.

In addition, I would like to extend my sincere thankfulness to the members of the Hiroshima Organizing Committee, interpreters, staff, and everyone else who was involved in the preparation for the conference.

The United Nations has started substantial discussions on a treaty to ban and abolish nuclear weapons, which our World Conference against A & H Bombs has long called for. Amid this new move, this year's World Conference has become a historic gathering in setting out concrete actions to achieve this goal.

In order for the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly to decide on starting negotiations for a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons, it is crucial to break through the obstructions set by the nuclear weapon states and their allies.

The Organization Committee of the World Conference sent the "Declaration of the International Meeting" to the Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) meeting, which began yesterday in Geneva to discuss "concrete effective legal measures" to achieve "a world without nuclear weapons." And we requested that the OEWG include the commencement of negotiations for a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons in the recommendations to be submitted to the coming session of the UN General Assembly.

What is needed now is to overwhelmingly strengthen public opinion and the movement in order to encircle and isolate the obstructing forces. The Japanese government, acting as a spokesman for the nuclear weapon states at the OEWG meetings, turns its back on the effort to completely ban nuclear weapons. The biggest responsibility for us in the Japanese movement is to get our government to play an appropriate role as the world's only A-bombed country. Let us defeat the ambition to change Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution held by the Abe government, which is dominated by Yasukuni Shrine advocates who call on Japan to arm itself with nuclear weapons and try to glorify the past war of aggression.

The most significant key to our success is the "International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha" aimed at collecting hundreds of millions of signatures throughout the world. In this signature campaign, Hibakusha of the world's only A-bombed country describe the actual damage caused by nuclear weapons, with

which human beings can never coexist, and call for their prohibition and elimination.

During this World Conference, many participants have shared their determination to engage in the Hibakusha signature campaign. One of them said that by listening to the Hibakusha's appeal, he is now determined to work on the signature campaign as his lifework. Many participants in discussions at workshops expressed their commitments to build a nationwide movement, convinced by the expanding collaboration among citizens and opposition parties both against the war legislation and for the restoration of constitutionalism.

Let us start our actions immediately toward the U.N. General Assembly session in autumn. I call on you to initiate numerous gatherings to report on the outcome of the World Conference, learn about and discuss the "Declaration of the International Meeting" and other resolutions, and try to involve your local communities and municipal governments in the Hibakusha signature campaign.

With Hibakusha leading the way, let us bring success to joint actions on September 26, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, by inviting a wide range of people in all municipalities, communities, workplaces, and school campuses throughout Japan. With the power of our grassroots voices and actions, let us open a door leading to a world without nuclear weapons.



A Call from Hiroshima

“You, your families and relatives, or any other people should not be made Hibakusha again. We believe that your signatures appended to this appeal will add up to the voices of hundreds of millions of people around the world and move international politics. They will finally save the future of our blue planet and all life on it.”

*-International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha
for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons*

We are commemorating the 71st anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima when there are new developments that are pushing the doors open towards a “world without nuclear weapons”. Substantive discussions have started at last at the United Nations on a convention that will prohibit and abolish nuclear weapons definitively.

The U.N. Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) to address “concrete effective legal measures” for achieving a world without nuclear weapons has become a ground-breaking forum in developing proposals about elements to be included in a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and the convening of a conference to negotiate such a treaty. We call on the OEWG to make concrete propositions to the United Nations General Assembly, including the commencement of negotiations on a convention that will outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons.

The power of the Japanese movement to ban A and H bombs and of anti-nuclear and peace movements around the world that have persistently denounced the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons has opened a new page in history and is now leading to new progress. It is the time for all world leaders to visit the A-bombed city to squarely face the realities of the atomic bombing. Let us respond to the earnest desire of Hibakusha who want to achieve a world without nuclear weapons at any cost while they are still alive. Let us work to see both a powerful public opinion and movement to surround and isolate the countries that cling to the notion of “nuclear deterrence”.

The Abe government has played the role of spokesman of nuclear weapons countries in the OEWG. In Japan, it forced the enactment of the War Laws in total disregard of Article 9 of the Constitution. Not satisfied with the re-interpretation of the Constitution, Abe does not hesitate to show his ambition to amend the text of Article 9.

Workers as well as a wide range of the population have stood up to demand abrogation of the War Laws and recovery of Constitutionalism and prevention of the revision of Article 9. Joint efforts of citizens with opposition parties, including college and high school students, women and researchers have developed significantly. In Okinawa, a struggle involving nearly all of the local population is spreading to oppose the construction of a new base and to demand the reduction and dismantling of a U.S. marine base as well as all other U.S. bases.

Let us further expand the tide of democracy in which each and every citizen takes action and unites with others to change Japan and the world.

Let us now build a huge groundswell of public opinion calling for the start of negotiations for a convention banning and abolishing nuclear weapons. The International Signature Campaign in Support of the “Appeal of the Hibakusha, the Atomic Bomb Survivors of Hiroshima & Nagasaki, for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons” must be developed involving local communities and local assemblies. Using U.N. initiatives including the U.N. General Assembly session, the U.N. Day for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (September 26) and U.N. Disarmament Week (October 24 to 31), let us realize international joint actions from the grassroots.

In conjunction with the signature campaign, we must learn and disseminate the knowledge about the atomic bombing. Let us organize A-bomb exhibitions and Hibakusha testimonies in every town and village. Let us make use of cultural means such as images, music and theater as well as social media in transmitting the experiences of Hibakusha, their desires and struggles. Let us also multiply our activities of support for and solidarity with Hibakusha to demand a radical review of the A-bomb Disease Recognition System and State compensation for Hibakusha.

Let us demand the government strictly observe the Three Non-Nuclear Principles and put them into law, as well as exit from the U.S. nuclear deterrent –the nuclear umbrella – and take the lead in international efforts for the conclusion of a convention banning and eliminating nuclear weapons.

Let us build joint actions of citizens and opposition parties to defeat the goal of the Abe government which wants to give a perilous twist to the Constitution, and let us get the War Laws abrogated. Let us keep maintain strong solidarity with the all-Okinawan struggle to prevent the construction of helipads at Takae. Let us intensify our campaign for the reduction and withdrawal of U.S. bases. Let us oppose the strengthening of the Japan-U.S. military alliance and achieve a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan.

Let us oppose the restart of nuclear power plants and work in firm solidarity with the campaign for change from nuclear power generation to natural energy production. Let us oppose the destruction of jobs and living conditions and fight against the extension of poverty and social inequalities. Let us enhance the campaign for reduction of military spending to allocate more money to protect life, livelihood and jobs.

Let us achieve a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan and a world without nuclear weapons, united under the common goal of preserving peace, life and livelihood.

No more Hiroshimas. No more Nagasakis. No more Hibakusha. No more war.

August 6, 2016

Hiroshima Rally, 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

**2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki
International Forum: “For a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons --
Grass-roots Movement and International Solidarity”
(August 8)**



Greetings from Nagasaki Mayor:

Taue Tomihisa
Mayor of Nagasaki City

Good afternoon. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your holding of the 2016 World Conference against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs and the International Forum here in Nagasaki. On behalf of 430,000 Nagasaki citizens, I genuinely welcome all of you from around Japan and the world. I am sure you have already discussed a lot of topics. I sincerely apologize for my late arrival and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the middle of the discussion.

Perhaps somebody already talked about this subject but today we can see various changes around the issue of nuclear weapons. In May, President Obama visited the A-bombed city of

Hiroshima. I think it was epoch-making. In a larger move, since the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 2010, we have seen all kinds of efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons from the viewpoint of considering them as inhumane weapons. Through these discussions going forward, the difference of standpoints between states possessing or depending on nuclear weapons and non-nuclear weapon states is becoming clearer. In a sense, the move looks stagnant or even going backward. But I think we are at a point where we face a wall after having achieved progress. That is why we should keep up efforts of holding meetings like this, discussing ideas, exchanging opinions and going beyond the wall. This year's Nagasaki Peace Declaration will refer to this.

Among them, today's topic “For a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons - Grassroots Movement and International Solidarity” is particularly important.

As for international solidarity, the opinions for establishing a legal framework to ban nuclear weapons are becoming stronger and stronger. It is states that can create such a legal framework. Then the states are moved by civil society, NGOs, other various groups and, perhaps, the United Nations. These people and groups should be united to encourage, sometimes criticize and support the states in order to move them forward. This is the role of international solidarity and I think it is critically important to encircle the states by the voices for eliminating nuclear weapons. To achieve this, though individual voice is tiny, we need to unite and make our voices stronger. We have coordinated with other cities around the world to have more opportunities to express our opinion. Today, over 7,000 cities around Japan and the world join a group called Mayors for Peace. Such move should be strengthened. In addition to this mayors' network, we need to create a lot more networks around the globe.

Meanwhile, I think grassroots movement is also crucial. Particularly, as 71 years have almost passed since the A-bombings, it is getting more and more difficult for people in Japan to listen to the direct experiences of the bombings and even the war itself. In 10 to 20 years, the time will come when we cannot hear the experiences from Hibakusha. Thus we must focus on listening to them now. At the same time, we should prepare for the future. Now is the time to start to make all kinds of efforts and many trials so that we can pass on the experiences to the next generation who can no longer listen directly to Hibakusha. Let's think about an example. A mother reads a picture book about peace to children. Doing it together with other mothers in their community means planting seeds for peace in children's heart. These small efforts, if accumulated, can lead to a larger move. Through all kinds of ways, we will continue to plant seeds for peace together with various kinds of people.

Again, I would like to express sincere respect to all of you, coming here to discuss how to achieve peace around the world and create a world without nuclear weapons and making a serious effort to realize them. Let us move forward step by step, hand in hand with many others without giving up. This is my welcome and solidarity message on behalf of citizens in Nagasaki City. Thank you and let us work together.



Panelists Presentations:

(Transcribed from oral presentations)

Joseph Gerson

American Friends Service Committee

U.S.A.

(Please see page 84)

Carol Turner

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

U.K.

Good afternoon. I bring you greetings from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain. It's a pleasure to be here with you, it's a pleasure to learn from you, and to listen to your stories. And I am very sad that my visit comes to an end tomorrow. I want to tell you a little about how CND organizes in the U.K., and the political contexts in which we organize.

You may know, 2016 is an important year for us in Britain. It's the year in which our government will finalize its plans to upgrade Trident, which is Britain's nuclear weapons system. Like all nuclear weapons, Trident is an indiscriminate, mass-destruction weapon. The system includes an estimated 220 warheads, each one of which has the explosive power which is 8 times that of the atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. There can be no conceivable use of such weapon.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was launched in February 1958, three years after the founding of the Japan Council against A and H Bombs. Nowadays our membership numbers in the region of 35,000 people, national members of CND, and local active members in groups across Britain. I'm Chair of London region CND where approximately 20% of our membership is. We have also held a ceremony to commemorate what happened in Nagasaki and Hiroshima. And we hold it in a park in central London where the local mayor many years ago planted a cherry tree to remember the victims.

CND walks on two feet. We lobby opinion-formers and decision-makers and we organize action on the streets of Britain and national demonstrations to small local activities in towns and cities. What our members do week to week, month to month in all those towns and cities up and down Britain is indispensable. It keeps CND in touch, and it keeps us focused.

CND also works with a number of important affiliates and partner organizations such as the Stop the War Coalition U.K., which organized the

big demonstration against the Iraq War in 2003. This year CND held a national Stop Trident demonstration in February. It was the biggest protest against nuclear weapons in a generation.

We called a mass lobby of Parliament. In July, hundreds of people came to London, to the Parliament from all across the country to talk to their individual representatives and say, "Don't vote for Trident." When the government announce a debate and the vote in Parliament with only one week notice, and that day, CND delivered a petition of more than 40,000 signatures to the U.K. Ministry of Defense. We organized a gathering of Parliamentarians opposed to Trident. And during the debate and the vote, we held a protest outside on the steps of Parliament.

It was widely anticipated that the government would win that vote. But there was significant opposition. More than 1/3 of British MPs refused to vote to upgrade Trident. Opposition to Trident is far from exhausted. We are now beginning to plan future activities. Successive opinion polls in Britain show that public opinion is opposed to Trident.

Let me tell you a little about the political context in which we campaign. A new mood is sweeping in Britain. It represents a mood across Europe, North America and also elsewhere. One manifestation is the rise of anti-establishment political figures such as Jeremy Corbyn in Britain and Bernie Sanders in the United States. Jeremy Corbyn is now a leader of the British Labour Party, which is the major opposition party in Britain.

As you might know, Jeremy Corbyn is a lifelong member of CND U.K. When he became a leader of the Labour Party last September, he was CND Vice-Chair, actively engaged in the week to week running of our campaign. After his election was announced, in a TV interview, he told the British public he would never agree to press the nuclear button if he were Prime Minister.

Jeremy was an outsider candidate with no hope of victory, or so we thought. He achieved the biggest votes, the greatest support that any political leader in any party election in Britain. His campaign was three-fold: Against austerity, against war and against nuclear weapons. All of these had a popular resonance with the people of Britain, especially those of us whose living standards are being driven down by a harsh neoliberal economic regime, and those of us who despair of a grey-suited establishment represented by the politicians in Parliament.

I don't mean to imply that everything is good in Britain - it's not. We are also seeing a rise of xenophobic, racist, reactionary forces. Racism and opposition to immigration played an important

part in the outcome of the European Union referendum. The vote to leave the European Union caused considerable political disorientation. Our politicians were thrown into confusion. It provided an opportunity to Jeremy Corbyn's opponents in the Parliamentary Labour Party to demand a second leadership contest, which is going on at the moment. The desire of Labour MPs to change the leader was strongly resisted by ordinary members of the Labour Party and by the public. I offer you the opportunity to express your greetings and solidarity to Jeremy in Britain. If you come forward at the end, you can send a greeting. Let me show you. (Showing "Good luck, Jeremy Corbyn" poster.) It is a pity that you cannot vote in the leadership contest.

I want to finish by declaring our solidarity to the people of Japan. We support your efforts to defend Article 9 of the Constitution. And with you, we call for an end to all nuclear weapons and for a world which is safe, secure and peaceful.

Selma van Oostwaard

PAX

The Netherlands

(Please see page 87)

Lee Jun Kyu

Research Associate

University of North Korean Studies

Republic of Korea

Hello, friends. I understand you are opinion leaders or main activists in the movement in your respective communities. So, I think that the task for me is to provide you with information about North Korea's nuclear program, an issue that your movement cannot evade, and about the international situation in relation to affairs of the Korean Peninsula. If time permits, I may discuss some practical issues regarding our future movement.

Let me begin by speaking about the current situation relating to the North Korean nuclear issue. In its nuclear test in 2013, North Korea is believed to have used a uranium bomb. In January this year, they said they conducted a hydrogen bomb test. All this suggests they are developing smaller and lighter weight nuclear weapons and even increasing their variety. This fact is linked to the delivery system of nuclear weapons. North Korea is repeatedly conducting rocket (SLV, Satellite Launching Vehicle) tests, using ICBM technology. Rocket technology is a

dual use technology. Recently, North Korea conducted “Musudan” medium-range missile tests. They claimed to have succeeded in their re-entry technology, which is necessary to bring a nuclear-armed ballistic missile back into the Earth's atmosphere. This has an important bearing in terms of military technology. Another point to note is that North Korea is conducting submarine-launched ballistic missile tests.

I have to admit to wrongly saying at the 2005 World Conference that we would have time enough to solve the problem of North Korea's nuclear program. I said so because I thought North Korea had many technological problems to solve, such as the technology for making smaller and lighter weight nuclear bombs as well as the technology for the delivery system and missile re-entry into the atmosphere.

But now, I feel we may not have much time to deal with North Korea's behavior. In fact, what North Korea is saying and doing shows their thinking about nuclear weapons. The serious part of the problem is how the North looks to nuclear weapons. Most analysts have said that it retains nuclear weapons as a negotiation card. And North Korea says nuclear weapons are a deterrent. But recently it also perceives nuclear weapons as the symbol of a strong and prosperous nation. In other words, it might be very meaningful that the North is taking nuclear weapons as its status symbol or something like that.

The Libya model, Ukraine model, South Africa model and so on have been cited as models for the resolution of North Korea's nuclear problem. But what's actually going on shows that the country seems to be taking the Pakistan/India model.

Plainly speaking, the exacerbating North Korean nuclear issue can be seen against the background of the failed policy of the three countries - the United States, South Korea and Japan - toward North Korea.

The Park Geun-hye administration maintains the notion that North Korea is doomed to collapse, just as the previous Lee Myung-bak administration did. I think the South Korean administration certainly believes that the North Korean regime will capitulate to outside pressure, including sanctions, and eventually fall down. The policy of the U.S. Obama administration is to be strategically enduring until North Korea changes—so called “strategic patience”—but it actually has nothing in common with strategic policy. The Obama administration has counted on South Korean policy, just waiting for the downfall of the North.

In this context, the Kaesong Industrial Complex (KIC), which had been the only hope in the effort to improve the North-South relations in Korean peninsula, was closed earlier this year. It meant the disappearance of a kind of buffer zone as well as the only exchange program between the North and the South. We need to pay attention to what the South Korean military is saying these days. A South Korean military official, who was explaining some details of the present joint U.S.-South Korean military exercise, has revealed that they include a drill called a “Decapitation Operation”, implying they are thinking of assassinating Kim Jong-un. I think this suggests that the South Korean military is taking a very dangerous road.

One more point I want to make is that most of you pay too much attention to the appearance—especially, historical or territorial conflicts—to be able to see what's really going on between Japan and South Korea. U.S.-led military ties are being strengthened behind Japanese-South Korean relations.

For example, in 2014, South Korea, the United States and Japan signed a military intelligence sharing MOU. The move came after the failure of South Korea under the Lee Myung-bak administration to conclude an agreement of this kind with Japan due to public opposition in the country. The Park Geun-hye administration invited the United States to join the MOU. This trilateral agreement does not need to be ratified by the National Assembly. Actually, the MOU, I think, is linked to the U.S.-Japan-R.O.K. MD system. The main feature of RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific Exercise) in June this year is the sharing of missile information among the participating countries, especially U.S., South Korea, and Japan. Using the rise of China, its expansionistic behaviors, and North Korea's nuclear issue as the pretext, South Korea, U.S. and Japan are strengthening their Cold War-era military alliance, thus increasing tensions in East Asia. We are also aware that there is a vicious circle of an arms race.

Let me speak about some practical issues for the discussion, “what is to be done?” substituting for a conclusion.

U.S., China, Russia and Japan have historical responsibility for the “Korean Questions”. They should not be by-standers interfering in regional affairs. I think all countries in the Six-Party Talks have the responsibility to help solve the Korean Peninsula issues.

Having said that as the basic premise, the question now is what we should do about the North Korean nuclear program. I think we

should take a hard look at the reality and then begin to act. Now that North Korea has nuclear weapons, bilateral or multilateral dialogue is required regardless of the form. The important thing is, how to create the entrance for the North Korean nuclear issue. The aim of this dialogue, the exit, should be to achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. It's difficult, however, to discuss it from the beginning.

So we have to first consider what is to be done at the start of the dialogue. I think the dialogue should start with the issue of peace. Note that North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Su-yong said this year that his country would freeze its nuclear program if the United States and South Korea cancel their joint military exercise. This is an example of what can help open dialogue in one way or the other. I think it is important to set up the dialogue, even if it is not in the Six-Party Talks. That would be conducive to providing an opportunity for negotiations which discuss the issue of peace, and for turning the armistice on the Korean Peninsula into the system of a peace treaty.

Finally, I would like to make a proposal to Japanese friends present here.

My Japanese friends sometimes ask me about what Japan should do in dealing with the issue of the Korean Peninsula. I would like to propose two things. One is that the issue of the North Korean nuclear program should be dealt with in a broader context, namely along with the relationship between North Korea and Japan, and between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. In other words, we should look back on the postwar history of the relations between the Korean Peninsula and Japan and consider building relations between the Korean Peninsula and Japan within the context of East Asia. This is what I want you to think about.

I also believe that, at a time when tension is increasing in East Asia, Japan is facing the domestic task of finding ways to contribute to building an order of peace in East Asia and in the world. You have the issue of the right to collective self-defense. You also have a movement to let the world know more about the Japanese Constitution's war-renouncing Article 9. I think it is important to carry out these tasks one by one and explain what these efforts mean to other countries.



Tsuchida Yayoi
Assistant General Secretary
Japan Council against A and H Bombs

I am glad that we have an opportunity today to discuss with our overseas friends how to cooperate and achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Now the world is heading for a world without nuclear weapons. We are paying attention to the moves of international politics towards this direction. At the Open-ended Working Group set up under the United Nations General Assembly, discussion on how to prohibit nuclear weapons is now underway. As Japan's anti-A and H-bomb movement, which has pursued a total ban on nuclear weapons since the First World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955, we feel confident that the world is progressing to a stage where a start to negotiations on legal prohibition of nuclear weapons is firmly on the international agenda.

Most inspiring is that the May session of the Open-ended Working Group proposed to hold a negotiation conference in 2017. The Chair has already announced the draft recommendation, which includes the following: "A majority of States supported the convening by the General Assembly of a conference in 2017, open to all States, international organizations and civil society, to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination." The current session, started on August 5, will wrap up discussions and issue recommendations to the UNGA.

In this session, a fierce battle between supporters and opponents of the recommendation will continue. Relating to this, I am pleased to inform you that the World Conference sent a letter to the Chair of the Open-ended Working Group together with the Declaration of the International Meeting adopted on August 4, in which we requested our desire that a start of negotiations on a treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons be reflected in the recommendation. Our friend Alyn Ware, member of Unfold Zero, handed the letter and the declaration to the Chair for us. He also referred to them in his speech and distributed them to government representatives. We are happy that we were able to forward to the Working Group in a timely fashion the general will of the World Conference and the desire of civil society for the start of negotiations on a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons.

Our attention also goes to the "humanitarian initiative on nuclear weapons" as a driving force to achieving the prohibition of those weapons. From the viewpoint that a nuclear weapon detonation could cause catastrophic humanitarian

consequences to the whole world, this initiative has raised awareness of the danger and risks of nuclear weapons and emphasized that they should be banned and eliminated urgently. Thus, it has contributed to driving those clinging to nuclear weapons into a corner.

On the other hand, those possessing nuclear weapons boycotted the sessions of the Working Group, and those under their “nuclear umbrella” opposed negotiations on a prohibition treaty, even saying that it is premature and dangerous for security. The only way to guarantee that this positive move bears fruit is to enhance public support for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons enough to change the policies of the governments of the nuclear weapon states and their allies. In particular, the role of the Japanese movement is important.

First, Japan is the only country to have suffered from nuclear attacks in war. Not only A-bomb survivors (the Hibakusha) but the people as a whole maintain the sentiment that the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki should never be repeated anywhere on earth. We in the Japanese movement have to transmit this appeal of the Hibakusha to the world and take the lead in achieving their earnest desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Second, the Japanese government is playing a negative role by obstructing advances towards the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons, turning its back on the desire of the Hibakusha and the people. Underlying this attitude is the fact that Japan is under the US “nuclear umbrella”, relying on US nuclear weapons to protect Japan’s security. In addition, in spite of a historic surge of public opposition, the Abe government forced the enactment of war laws to make Japan a war-fighting country with the US. While the peace forces and the people carried out an unprecedented united struggle to scrap the war laws in the House of Counsellors election, the Liberal Democratic - Komei Party ruling coalition secured two thirds of the seats, which is the number required for them to propose the revision of Article 9 of the Constitution. Immediately after the election, they tried to start discussion on the revision.

When US President Obama visited Hiroshima, Abe did a performance to impress the people as if he had taken the lead in achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons. Just after that, as soon as Obama announced an investigation into the possibility of adopting a “no first use” policy regarding nuclear weapons, Abe asked Obama not to adopt such a policy. If Japan took the lead in efforts towards the prohibition and elimination of

nuclear weapons, it could have a tremendous impact throughout the world. The current position of Japan is so shameful. If war breaks out, the danger of nuclear weapons being used increases. We have to change the policies of the Japanese government by breaking away from the US “nuclear umbrella” and defending Article 9 of the Constitution. This is the way for us to contribute to realizing a world without nuclear weapons.

The key is to create an over-whelming majority of support for the abolition of nuclear weapons in Japan and the rest of the world. Recently the Japanese people started to stand against nuclear power plants and the war laws, and they started to cooperate and work together on agreed tasks, irrespective of differences of opinion. Their actions led to historic changes in Japan. For example, in order to scrap the war laws, the citizens’ alliance was formed. Thanks to its persistent efforts, opposition parties agreed to cooperate in the Upper House election in July and their united candidates won in 11 single-seat constituencies across the country.

We have to develop the same majority struggle for the abolition of nuclear weapons in Japan. For this purpose, we already have a useful tool in our hands, which is the Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign, launched in April this year. It expresses the Hibakusha’s earnest desire to abolish nuclear weapons in their lifetime, and calls for the start of negotiations on a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons. The campaign has already started nationwide. Its experiences have proved the effectiveness of the Appeal. It is said that the Appeal opens closed doors. Mayors who had not signed petitions for the abolition of nuclear weapons have started to sign it. So far 21 organizations have joined the Signature Campaign Promotion Committee. In Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Hibakusha organizations agreed to work on the campaign together.

Support for the Hibakusha Appeal is increasing abroad, too. For example, Mr. Sergio Duarte, former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, has already signed; the board members of the International Peace Bureau have also signed. The signature campaign was launched in Vietnam, France, the USA, India and other countries.

This is the Japanese Hibakusha’s initiative. Let us develop the campaign with support of all the Japanese people and build up an overwhelming majority of support for the abolition of nuclear weapons in Japan and the rest of the world.

2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs: Nagasaki Day Rally (August 9)



Greetings on Behalf of the Hibakusha:

Taniguchi Sumiteru
Co-Chairperson, Japan Confederation of
A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations

I suffered from the atomic bombing in Nagasaki at age 16, while delivering mails by bicycle as a postman. My entire back was exposed to the bomb heat rays at about 1.8 kilometers from the hypocenter. With heavy burns all over on my back I could not move an inch, and kept lying on my stomach on the hospital bed for one year and 9 months. During these days, I could not bear intense pain and agony, and kept crying, "Kill me!" After hovering between death and life, somehow I was made to survive.

Nuclear weapons are weapons of devil, which will not allow humans to live or die as humans. The use of nuclear weapons is the worst crime against humanity.

We Hibakusha have always appealed, "Don't start nuclear war, abolish nuclear weapons," "No more Hibakushas," and "Don't repeat Hiroshima or Nagasaki anywhere in the world!"

In April this year, Nihon Hidankyo launched the "International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons." With all our might, Hibakusha are determined to dedicate ourselves to making this signature campaign a global-scale movement, equivalent to the Stockholm Appeal signature campaign.

Let us mobilize all people around the world to join hands and achieve an international treaty to totally ban and abolish nuclear weapons. To save a blue planet for our future generations, we must make sure even a single nuclear weapon should not remain on earth. Friends, let us spread our voices for nuclear weapons abolition across the world!

Special Program: 71 Years since Nagasaki - Aspirations of the Hibakusha:

Fukahori Satoru Hibakusha of Nagasaki

Thank you very much for coming to the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs - Nagasaki on the 71st anniversary of the atomic bombing from all over Japan and around the world.

I am grateful to have this opportunity to tell you what happened here 71 years ago today.

In those days, my house was located in Ueno Town, 600 meters from the hypocenter. It was close to the Urakami Cathedral, and my family was Catholic for generations. My father had already died, and I had 7 other family members at that time: my mother, grandmother, elder sister, two elder brothers, and younger brother and sister.

I was 11 years old and a sixth grader in Yamazato Elementary School. Around that time, I had been sent to my aunt's house in Motohara Town located 1.3 km from the ground-zero because I hated to go into an air-raid shelter when air-raid alarms went off or the U.S. bombers came.

On August 9, I was sitting on the exterior wooden veranda with my uncle and my immediate elder brother who was visiting the aunt's family. Suddenly a big flash passed in front of our eyes. As soon as I screamed in its terrible heat, I was blown off and trapped under the house.

Awaken by my uncle's call, I found my waist caught between a heavy beam and a wooden entrance step in the house. I couldn't crawl out there by myself until my uncle came and helped. We rescued my brother from under the walls, and then rescued three of my next-door family. I was bleeding from my head so badly that the blood covered my whole body. All the houses around there were completely crushed.

A woman in our neighborhood was caught by the bomb when she was in the field. Her whole face skin was stripped off and hanging down like seaweed. Only her armpits and crotch were left unburnt with only a string of pants as clothing. She died that night after screaming and howling in pain. Her voice at that time still remains in my ears.

My aunt, who was exposed to the bombing at the time of weeding in the rice field, came home in the afternoon. Her daughters also came home in the evening.

On the 11th, I was allowed to go near my house. I couldn't take the path we were always taking. Dead bodies were lying here and there in the fields on the way. Countless charred and

injured dead bodies were found around our house. Though I got close to the house after jumping over those dead bodies, I had to give up going into the house because it was still smoldering and too hot to enter.

Next day I found my mother's and grandmother's ashes at the ruins of our house. I felt sad when I buried their ashes in the graveyard, and I collapsed on the ground for hours on the way home.

The day after, I heard that my seven-year-old brother was in a raid shelter of Yamazato Elementary School, so I went to see him with my aunt. He looked frightened, and as soon as he noticed us he jumped and hugged us tightly. My brother seemed so scared that he did not say a word. On the 14th, my elder sister came back with bandages around her head. She was caught by the bomb at the Ohashi factory located 400 meters from the ground zero. "Where's Mother? Where's Grandma?" she asked, and I answered, "They died." She shed tears. Then we, four brothers and sisters, said to each other that we were lucky to survive.

On the evening of the 15th, purple spots appeared on my elder sister's body, and she started suffering from diarrhea. She died on the 19th. The spots were also found in my younger brother, and he died on the 21st. My girl cousin developed the spots and died on the 26th after vomiting a lot of blood. My aunt, who had not been injured or burned, began to lose her hair, developed the spots and diarrhea, and died on September 19th.

After that, trying to get out of the life in the shelter, we collected lumber day after day and built a house by ourselves at the ruins where our house used to be. I could not go to school even though I wanted to go. There was no clothes to wear. Snow fell and piled up on our thin and hard bedding mattresses in winter. We had a hard time securing food. We entered into a mountain to gather weeds to eat. We even ate frogs and snakes.

Although I was with my elder brother, I missed my elder sister so badly who would have talked to me gently. I was so lonely at the age of eleven. In October the next year, my uncle died. Five years later, my elder brother died. The ashes of my missing elder brother and younger sister have not been found. We used to be a big family of eight, but then I became all by myself.

I got married at the age of 34. Four sons were born to us, and I was able to have my own family. My family is a treasure to me. Now I need to get dialysis three times a week, and I have been constantly in and out of hospital. But I continue

to tell my experience to many people because if we Hibakusha fail to do so, the tragedies could be repeated.

Nuclear weapons would bring everything to ruins. Another nuclear war could destroy the earth. Nagasaki should be the last A-bombed city. I continue to tell the actual damage of the A-bombing as long as I live.

Abacca Anjain Maddison
Former Senator/ Iju in Ean Club, People
of Rongelap
Marshall Islands
(Please see page 95)

For a World without Nuclear Weapons - Speeches by Overseas Delegates:

Oleg Bodrov
Green World, Russia

RUSSIAN NUCLEAR VICTIMS: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

Dear participants of the conference! Together with you I bow my head and mourn the hundreds of thousands of lives in Hiroshima and Nagasaki that instantly disappeared from our planet.

Unfortunately the victims of atomic bombs were not only in Japan!

I come from a country, which while competing with the US created its own nuclear weapons. Fortunately those weapons were not exploded on the territory of other countries. But the paradox is that the creation and testing of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union gave rise to a number of victims, which is comparable to the number of victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki!

Liquid radioactive waste from the production of first weapons-grade plutonium dumped into the Techa River in Ural Region. People living near the bank of the river were the first victims of the not yet completed Soviet atomic bomb!

There were accidents. The largest happened in 1957. The tanks for storage of liquid high-level waste exploded. 20 million Curies of radioactivity were thrown into the atmosphere. More than 20 thousand square kilometers were contaminated. Soldiers and even schoolchildren participated in the cleanup of pollution. Many received lethal doses of radiation.

After the accident some 250 settlements were relocated. The total number of officially registered affected civilians is more than half millions people.

After the invention of the bomb, there were numerous tests. One of them took place on September 1954 with the participation of 45,000 soldiers and 10,000 local residents. A plane dropped a nuclear bomb with the capacity of 40 kilotons over Russian territory. Many became victims of these tests.

Over the past 70 years, 20 nuclear single-industry towns were built and continue to function today. Half of them are mainly related to nuclear weapons, the other half with operating nuclear power plants. One and a half million people currently live in these nuclear towns. This is 1% of the Russian population.

Residents of this "Rosatom Country" are living under special laws. The liquid radioactive waste is allowed to be discharged into the nature.

For example, the Mayak nuclear facility in Ural Region annually discharges into the Techa River 600,000 cubic meters of liquid radioactive waste. This is the result of the processing of spent nuclear fuel from nuclear submarines and NPPs.

Russian citizens today continue to live on the banks of the radioactive Techa River, just as it was 70 years ago. They are in fact living in a radioactive waste site. These are the modern victims of the Rosatom. It is a violation of the Russian Constitution, which guarantees the right to a safe environment.

Those who try to protect the civil rights of these people are under pressure from the authorities. Nadezhda Kutepova, head of the NGO "Planet of Hopes" was forced to flee from prosecution in Russia. She and her children have received political asylum in France in this year.

About 100 anti-nuclear, environmental and human rights Russian NGOs have been assigned the status of "foreign agents". This means, in the understanding of the authorities that such an NGO is working against Russia.

"Rosatom Country" is a territory without freedom. It is non-transparent, undemocratic and corrupt.

The business of Rosatom is nuclear electricity export and building of the nuclear power plants in other countries. This business is based on the nuclear infrastructure of the period of the Cold War.

Emissions and discharges of radioactivity into the environment are planned like a part of this business in the Russian closed nuclear towns. It is a threat of the radioactive contamination of the largest Eurasian rivers - the Ob and the Yenisei. These rivers move radionuclides toward the Arctic Ocean. This means that radioactive seafood may be found on the table of future generations of the people of Europe and other continents.

Dear participants of the conference, there are hundreds of thousands of victims of nuclear technologies in Japan and Russia. We do not need new victims!

We must be together for our peaceful future without nuclear weapons and without nuclear power plants! Arigato!

Roland Gardien
French Peace Movement
France

First, let me thank - once again - our friends Gensuikyo for their invitation to this international meeting. This is my first time here in Japan, and my emotion is great. All these meetings with each of you strengthen me in my desire to act to eliminate nuclear weapons and build a world free of the nuclear threat. I am happy to greet all the representatives of international organizations and civil society participating in this conference.

Nuclear weapons are a global problem which affects all nations and has an impact on future generations, as well as on the planet which is our common home. Therefore, we need global ethics if we want to reduce the nuclear threat and to work for nuclear disarmament.

We consider the elimination of nuclear weapons is in the common interest of mankind as a whole, since the humanitarian consequences of nuclear strikes are predictable and devastating. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki which took place here 71 years ago still have visible effects. And yet, the nuclear risk has not disappeared and the fact that some countries, and mine for one, I am sorry to say, still rely on nuclear deterrence, is a major obstacle to the establishment of lasting peace in the world. Military codes and international law, as well as elementary moral codes, have long condemned those who inflict unnecessary suffering. If such suffering is prohibited during conventional wars, they should especially be prohibited in the case of a nuclear conflict in which civilians are an indiscriminate target.

A few persons here with us have been the victims of these weapons; they are here to warn us not to repeat the same irreparable mistakes, which decimated the population. I extend my warm greetings to the Hibakushas. We encourage them all, to voice their suffering and bring forth their testimonies, so that nobody ever forgets what happened here, reminding the world that nuclear weapons can destroy us and our civilization. Nuclear deterrence and mutually assured destruction threat cannot be the basis for peaceful

coexistence among peoples and States. Besides, it is obvious that today these threats have become useless to solve the conflicts in the world.

The present and future generations are entitled to a much better world. They are entitled to a peaceful world based on unity, based on respect, cooperation, solidarity and compassion. It's time to fight the logic of fear and replace it by that of responsibility to foster a climate of trust and sincere dialogue.

Spending on nuclear weapons squanders the wealth of nations. Making these expenses a priority is a mistake and a waste of resources that would be much better invested in the fields of human development, education, health and the fight against extreme poverty. When these resources are wasted, it is the poor and the weak who are paying the highest price.

Our own future security depends on our ability to ensure the peaceful security of others. Indeed if peace, security and stability are not established globally, they will benefit to none. Individually and collectively, we are responsible for our children's present and future welfare.

Courage, tolerance, hope in the future, peace, solidarity ... so many words, and values, that resonate more than ever in our minds and in our hearts. Even though we are going through a difficult period, we must still move forward, and still have faith in life and in the future. Thank you.

Bui Lien Huong
Vietnam Peace Committee
Vietnam

It's my honor to attend the World Conference against A and H Bombs for the 2nd time. Also I am very happy to see old friends again and meet many new ones. I would like to convey to all of you the warmest greetings and best wishes from the Vietnam Peace Committee and the millions of Vietnamese working for peace and friendship.

I would like in particular to extend our congratulations to the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (GENSUIKYO) on its 61st foundation anniversary, and our profound thanks to all Japanese friends for their enormous efforts in organizing this Conference, and for the heartfelt hospitality provided to overseas participants, including us Vietnamese.

Although 71 years have passed since the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hundreds of thousands of Japanese are still suffering from never-ending pains. The situation is similar in Vietnam, where, millions of victims of

Agent Orange, including those of the 2nd, 3rd and even 4th generations, are still living in agony. So we understand your feelings and sympathy with all losses and sufferings of the Hibakushas and all war victims.

We are aware that great efforts have been made by governments, people's organizations and peace movements in different countries for a world free from nuclear and other weapons of mass destructions. But, despite such efforts, lethal weapons are still being developed, tested, produced, used and proliferated by many governments. In addition, increasing military spending, expanding military bases, terrorism, and growing tensions resulting from sovereignty disputes over sea and land between nations are threatening peace, security and stability in the region and heavily impacting people's life.

In such a context, I highly appreciate the Organizing Committee's efforts to hold annually the World Conference against A and H Bombs since 1955. I am strongly confident that the Conference will continue to be a platform for peace organizations and activists around the world to unite and struggle for a peaceful world without nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction, where all conflicts and disputes are settled peacefully in accordance with international law.

The Vietnam Peace Committee has joined hands with peace workers throughout the globe in the struggle for a peaceful world. In response to the International Signature Campaign for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, we have collected millions of signatures from people's organizations across the country in several recent years and this year we participated in the signature campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha. So far we got over 80 thousand signatures in two months.

Once more, I would like to thank you for giving me the chance to speak at one of the world's largest peace conferences, a significant experience for a member of the younger generation.

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

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki! No more Agent Orange/dioxin!

Justice for Hibakushas! Justice for Vietnamese Agent Orange/dioxin victims!

Corazon Fabros Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition The Philippines

To friends from all over Japan from the north island of Hokkaido down to the south island of Kagoshima and to our courageous brothers and sisters from Okinawa, and to all our friends and comrades from different parts of the world, Peace and Solidarity Greetings from the Philippines!

More than twenty-five years ago, we had the opportunity to ask for your solidarity with our struggles in the Philippines to close some of the biggest U.S. military outposts in Asia. And as the bases were closed in 1992, you celebrated with us.

Today, we live in dangerous and challenging times. Currently, more than half of the U.S. military bases overseas are in the Indo-Asia-Pacific area that includes forces for military intervention, occupation and domination. Japan's re-interpretation of Article 9 in its Constitution allows Japan to re-militarize, engage in active overseas military exercises and sell military hardware to other countries. The Philippines, with an Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) with the U.S., will once again provide the staging ground, facilities and bases for U.S. forward deployment, wargames and military exercise – an arrangement perceived to be a solution to hedge off China's continuing build up in the South China Sea/ West Philippine Sea. It is our hope our new government will genuinely take a conciliatory approach, not to taunt the Chinese, not to flaunt victory on the case and remain humble in the face of victory as this will help in terms of renewing our ties with China. It will be a difficult and balancing act in the face of strong U.S. military presence in the Philippines. We again ask for your solidarity for the Philippines No-Bases campaign as we remain in solidarity with your struggles here. Our colleague, AG Saño will go to Okinawa and visit Takae to express our solidarity with your courageous struggles. We appeal for your continuing support for Takae, as they go thru some of the most difficult times.

I would like to express my personal gratitude to the World Conference for making my participation here possible all these years – a privilege that has energized me, strengthened me, kept me inspired to carry on each passing day for the memories of the past years of loving friendship with some of the courageous Hibakushas I have ever known thru the World Conference - Senji Yamaguchi, Chieko Watanabe and many others who has long left us physically but their memories continue to inspire me and will always occupy a special place in my heart. We are what we are today because we would like to honor their



memories thru our commitment to peace, justice and nuclear abolition.

Let me end with a special note from my daughter, Malaya who says hello and sends her warm hugs to everyone and to invite organizations/youth marchers for the 2017 Peace March International Youth Relay. Though she cannot attend this year's World Conference, her commitment to the peace movement and her dedication to the Peace March remains. Let Peace prevail over anything that goes against it.

Abolish nuclear weapons! No to U.S. Bases!
No to War! Justice for the Hibakusha!

Long Live international solidarity!

Paul Kawika Martin
Peace Action, U.S.A.

(Please see page 77)

Grass-roots Movement of Japan and Peace Marchers:

Hayashida Mitsuhiro
Campaign Leader, Hibakusha Appeal
Signature Campaign/ Graduate student of
Meiji-Gakuin University

"It is our strong desire to achieve a nuclear weapon-free world in our lifetime, so that succeeding generations will not experience hell on earth ever again." Supporting an appeal of Hibakusha all over the world, whose average age is now over 80, a liaison committee to promote the International Signature Campaign by Hibakusha was formed.

Behind the Appeal of the Hibakusha, there has been active discussion and growing awareness on the inhuman nature of nuclear weapons since the 2010 NPT Review Conference, which consequently has built up a growing demand to negotiate a treaty to ban nuclear weapons in international community.

Many Japanese people must recognize nuclear weapons as inhumane weapons or their "inhuman-aspects". However, our Japanese government, together with the US, rather has become hindrance to the start of negotiations on such a treaty.

The position of our government is a matter of serious concern, but we can make our voice heard around the world as citizens of Japan, the only country that experienced the nuclear attacks. As civil society peace movement that rejects the government position, we have to positively support

the treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and disseminate the Appeal from the only Atom-bombed nation to all over the world. I am confident that to strengthen the voice in and outside Japan will change the government position and the world fundamentally.

Hibakusha have courageously stood up since their tragic experience 71 years ago. This signature campaign is the first one in Japan proposed by Hibakusha, whose average age is over 80 years old. They stand on the streets to collect signatures across Japan in the very hot summer. This shows how serious they are about this campaign.

Responding to their strong passion, the unprecedented "solidarity of determination" has started among grassroots movements.

The coalition of opposition parties in the Upper House election and the Tokyo gubernatorial election has marked a turning point in the Japanese political history. The solidarity for the Nuclear Weapons Convention can develop even further beyond differences in ideology of conservative or progressive, religions, generations and national borders.

This year may mark an important turning point for the anti-nuclear weapons and peace movement in Japan. As one of the third generation Hibakusha from Nagasaki and one of former members of peace ambassadors of 10,000 high school students petition campaign, and through activities I have taken part in during my college days that have led me to SEALDs (Student Emergency Action for Liberal Democracy), I am confident that no other year than this year has brought us such a hopeful situation.

Let us bring our voice for abolition of nuclear weapons and "Nuclear Weapons Convention" to the world.

Abe Hiromi
Lawyer/ Joint Candidate of Opposition
Parties in the House of Councilors
Election 2016

I am Abe Hiromi, a lawyer who ran in the 24th House of Councilors election, which was held on July 10, as a joint candidate of citizens and opposition parties in the Kumamoto constituency.

Unfortunately, I was not elected, but the experience of running the election campaign as the first national candidate jointly backed by citizens and opposition parties has given great influences to not only myself but also many other people.

It was the first time that a broad range of citizens joined together regardless of their political affiliation.

The opposition parties responded to the citizens' call and promoted their joint struggles. The deepening of solidarity among the political parties which supported me in the election indicates that it is possible to further develop their solidarity in any future activities. Collaborations among different generations created a new style of election campaign, giving us a great hope for the future.

In Kumamoto, young people, who had been connected with each other in activities against the war legislation, took part in my election campaign. They livened up our street speeches by chanting.

Moreover, many citizens carried out election activities tenaciously, asking friends and acquaintances for their support or calling strangers to ask the same. I believe that their involvement in the election campaign on their own initiative will make themselves confident in developing the movement to protect peace in the future.

As a lawyer, I have been engaged in activities to protect the Constitution and to tell the society about the value of the Constitution. I am now determined to send the information even more widely regarding what the Constitution is about and how it is threatened to be changed. From now on, it is necessary not only to maintain and deepen the activities but also to expand them, even little by little.

During the election campaign, my goal was to attract voters' support. The people understood this and took part in the election campaign to this end, building up their strength steadily. I believe the activities to actively talk with others, try to understand their thoughts, and gain a favorable response from them will be used effectively in our future movements to block the revision of the Constitution and to abolish nuclear weapons.

The effects of propaganda through mass media might be tremendous. But if each one of us continue to persistently exercise the grassroots power to develop our movement, it will bring about a significant outcome.

If we do not forget to continue to do so, we must be able to create a peaceful society without nuclear weapons.

Let us expand the circle of empathy from one person to another in order to pass a more peaceful and safe society on to the next generations.

Magiting Fabros
Volunteer Information Technology
Trainer, Nuclear-Free Philippines
Coalition/ International Youth Relay
Marcher of the 2016 National Peace March

Konnichiwa. I want to congratulate Gensuikyo, partner groups, Hibakusha, students, children, and volunteers for the very successful peace march. We want to salute through marchers for your leadership, and I want to thank the international young marchers here from the Philippines, Korea, Guam, and Japan for sharing your experience like photos and videos through social media like Facebook and Twitter. We are also looking forward to having more young peace marchers from Asia, America, Europe, or Africa next year. Thank you very much.

Valtimore Fenis
Deputy Secretary General, Mindanao
People's Peace Movement, the Philippines/
International Youth Relay Marcher of the
2016 National Peace March

Avante! Gambaro!!



Appendices:

Overseas Delegates and Guests in the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Representatives of National Governments/ Inter-Governmental Organizations

- Mr. Kim Won-soo, High Representative for
Disarmament Affairs, United Nations
- Mr. Sergio Duarte, Former High Representative for
Disarmament Affairs, United Nations/
Ambassador (Brazil)
- Mr. Damian Delgado, Third Secretary, Embassy of
Republic of Cuba in Japan
- Mr. Miguel Ruiz-Cabañas Izquierdo, Vice-
Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human
Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United
Mexican States
- Mr. Carlos Almada, Ambassador to Japan, United
Mexican States
- Mr. Seiko Luis Ishikawa Kobayashi, Ambassador
to Japan, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Peace Movement Representatives & Individuals

Asia-Pacific Region

Marshall Islands

- Ms. Abacca Anjain Maddison, Former Senator/ Iju
in Ean Club, People of Rongelap

Guam

- Mr. Raymond Vincent Lujan, Guahan Coalition for
Peace and Justice

The Philippines

- Ms. Corazon Valdez Fabros, Secretary General,
Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition
- Mr. Magiting Fabros, Volunteer Information
Technology Trainer, Ditto
- Mr. Guerrero M. Saño (AG Saño), Teach Peace,

Build Peace Movement

- Ms. Irene De Vera, Head of International
Relations, Pangasinan State University

- Ms. Mary Therese Norbe, Communication and
Media Officer, Mindanao People's Peace
Movement (MPPM)

- Mr. Valtimore Borjel Fenis, Deputy Secretary
General, MPPM

Republic of Korea

- Mr. Koo Jung Sung, Vice President, Korean
Atomic Bomb Casualty Association

- Mr. Cha Moo Nam, Ditto

- Mr. Gong Kee Yun, Ditto

- Ms. Park Jung Eun, Deputy Secretary General,
People's Solidarity for Participatory
Democracy (PSPD)

- Mr. Lee Jun Kyu, Research Associate, University
of North Korean Studies

- Mr. Kim Jung Geun, Korea Civic Network for
Justice in Sport

- Mr. Kim Yongjin, Co-Chair, Dentists for Healthy
Society

- Mr. Jun Jinhan, Policy Director, Korean Federation
of Medical Groups for Health Rights

- Ms. Lee Bora, General Secretary, Associations of
Physicians for Humanism

- Mr. You Ki Hoon, Student, Seoul National
University

- Mr. Kim Joon Hyung, Student, Catholic
Kwandong University

- Mr. Kim Seong Rok, Student, Keimyung
University

- Mr. Yoo Hyoung Seob, Student, Catholic

University of Korea

Mr. Bae Ki Tae, Student, Seoul National University

Mr. Ko Eun San, Student, Yonsei University

Ms. Lee Seo Young, Student, Dankook University

Ms. Lee Ji Yae, Student, Yonsei University

Ms. Jung Ji Hyun, Student, Chung-Ang University

Ms. Kim Gyung Ah, Student, Ewha Women's University

Ms. Lee Miok, Associations of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. Kim Hyun Sook, Associations of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. Kim Mi Jung, Associations of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. Choi Young Ah, Associations of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. An Eun Sun, Journalist for Dentists for Healthy Society

Vietnam

Ms. Bui Lien Huong, Executive Secretary, Vietnam Peace Committee

Ms. Nguyen Diem Huong, Secretary General, Hanoi Peace Committee

Nepal

Mr. Shreedhar Gautam, CC Member, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal

Mr. Dhyana Bahadur Subba, Member, Ditto

Mr. Purna Bahadur Maharjan, Member, Ditto

Mr. Rabindra Adhikari, Coordinator/ Chief, Nepal Peace & Solidarity Council

Mr. Sudarshan Basnet, National Council Member, Ditto

Mr. Ram Janak Katwal, National Council Member, Ditto

Mr. Narayan Pyakurel, National Council Member, Ditto

Ms. Puja Raut Adhikari, National Council Member, Ditto

Mr. Shankar Prasad Shangroula, National Council Member, Ditto

Mr. Bishnu Kumar Shrestha, National Council Member, Ditto

Mr. Suman Kumar Shrestha, Secretariat member, Ditto

Mr. Jaya Ram Thapa, National Council Member, Ditto

India

Ms. Arundhati Roy Choudhury, Freelance peace worker

Ms. Anasua Roy Choudhury, University professor

Mr. Arup Kumar Das, Freelance peace worker

Europe

Russia

Mr. Oleg Bodrov, Chairperson, Green World

Lithuania

Mr. Gediminas Rimdeika, Green Policy Institute/ Lithuanian Green Party

Ms. Angele Rimdeikiene, Member, Ditto

Mr. Danas Rimdeika, Chernobyl Fund "Our Coast"

Ms. Gintare Lebzentyte, Ditto

Norway

Mr. Frode Ersfoord, Managing Director, No to Nuclear Weapons

Mr. Vidar Birkeland, Head of Oslo, Ditto

Ms. Oda Sofie Helen Larsen, Member, Ditto

Mr. Syver G. M. Zachariassen, Member, Ditto

The Netherland

Ms. Selma van Oostwaard, Program officer, Humanitarian Disarmament Team, PAX

France

Mr. Roland Gardien, President, French Peace Committee / French Peace Movement

Ms. Suzanne Catelin, Member, Ditto

United Kingdom

Ms. Carol Turner, National Council Member,
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) /
Chair, London Region CND

Middle East & Africa

Algeria

Ms. Saleha Guerroudj, Teacher, Oleander Initiative
of the University of the Middle East Project

Egypt

Ms. Nevine Farid, Teacher, Oleander Initiative of
the University of the Middle East Project

Jordan

Ms. Lubna Al Kababji, Teacher, Oleander Initiative
of the University of the Middle East Project

Lebanon

Ms. Omaima Khoury, Teacher, Oleander Initiative
of the University of the Middle East Project

Palestine

Ms. Samar Musallam, Teacher, Oleander Initiative
of the University of the Middle East Project

Morocco

Mr. Brahim El Mourabit, Teacher, Oleander
Initiative of the University of the Middle East
Project

Ms. Samia Wardane, Teacher, Ditto

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Ahmed Abdelmoeti, Teacher, Oleander
Initiative of the University of the Middle East
Project

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Walid Yasin, Teacher, Oleander Initiative of
the University of the Middle East Project

Tunisia

Ms. Leila Ben Said Ben Yahmed, Teacher,
Oleander Initiative of the University of the
Middle East Project

North & South America

U.S.A.

Mr. Joseph Gerson, Disarmament Coordinator,
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

Mr. Paul Kawika Martin, Senior Director, Policy
and Political Affairs, Peace Action

Ms. Haleigh Copley-Cunningham, President, Tufts
Peace Action / Intern, Massachusetts Peace
Action

Mr. Ray Matsumiya, Executive Director, Oleander
Initiative of the University of the Middle East
Project

Ms. Elizabeth Gruenfeld, Member, Ditto

Mr. Mike Otterman, Member, Ditto

Ms. Michelle Otterman, Member, Ditto

Mr. Era Yuzaburo, Program coordinator, Ditto

Ms. Matsui Rie, Member, Ditto

Ms. Denise Provost, Massachusetts State
Representative/ University of the Middle East
Project

Mr. Paul Styslinger, Student Researcher, Yale
University

International & Regional Organizations

Mr. Jordi Calvo Rufanges, Board member,
International Peace Bureau/ Centre Delàs for
Peace Studies, Spain

Ms. Shibata Masako, Executive Committee
member, Women's International Democratic
Federation (WIDF)/ President, Japan Federation
of Women's Organizations

Ms. Mercedes Llarinas Angeles, Executive
Director, Peace Women Partners

Ms. Patricia Llarinas Angeles, Graphic Designer,
Ditto

Massages of Solidarity from Overseas to the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs

International Institutions/National Governments:

(Please see page 12 for the texts)

Brazil

Mr. Michel Temer, Vice-President, acting as the President

Ireland

Mr. Michael D. Higgins, President

Laos

Mr. Bounnhang Vorachith, President

Mexico

Mr. Enrique Peña Nieto, President

Viet Nam

Mr. Tran Dai Quang, President

International Committee of the Red Cross

Mr. Peter Maurer, President

Ambassador Jorge Lomonaco Permanent Representative/ Permanent Mission of Mexico in Geneva

I have the honor to refer to your letter, inviting me to speak at the 2016 World Conference against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs, which will take place in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, from the 2 to 9 August 2016.

In this regards, I regret to inform you that, due to previously acquired commitments, I will not be able to attend such an important event.

Nevertheless, allow me to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to you and the Organizing Committee for your kind invitation and to wish the event every success.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.

Anti-nuclear and Peace Movements:

Anatolijus Zarovskis, a liquidator of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station/ The President of the Chernobyl Fund, Lithuania

Dear participants of the conference,

I am glad to congratulate you to have come here to commemorate the anniversary of the bombarding

the Japanese cities. This fact is very important to remember and contributes to the history of all humanity creating a happy and peaceful future.

Admiring your aspirations and the results when fighting the usage of nuclear and hydrogen weapons against the humankind, I wish you all the success in such a necessary activity.

Tomas Magnusson, Local activist in Gothenburg, Sweden/ Former President of the International Peace Bureau

To all friends in Japan,

Please accept this greeting from Sweden on the annual memory days of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

As we arrange the traditional memorial ceremony in Gothenburg on the 6th of August, with speeches and music, our thoughts goes to the victims of the a-bombing in Japan, to the relatives, and to all peace loving people in Japan.

During the recent year, our engagement for the abolition of nuclear weapons was strengthened by the visit from Japan in October, by a delegation from Hidankyo and Gensuikyo: Reiko Yamada from Hiroshima, Osamu Sato from Fukushima, together with Rieko Asato (we welcomed her on her second visit in Gothenburg) and Yutaka Akiyama. Once again – many thanks for a wonderful program in Gothenburg.

The slogan of our memorial ceremony is “Let us never forget” – and not only do we remember, but we continue our common effort to rid the world from Nuclear weapons.

On behalf of the Peace movement in Gothenburg

Andrew, Jacqui and the Coordinating Committee, Greater Manchester & District CND, U.K.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Dear all, around this time every year, we make space to remember the victims of the atomic bombing of Japan during WWII.

The below event will be held in Manchester on Saturday. There will also be an event in Heaton Park on Sunday.

This event is co-organised by Manchester City Council, University of Manchester and local peace groups. Please share this information far and wide.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings 71st Anniversary Peace Commemoration Ceremony (6th August 2016)

Location: Old Quadrangle *and* Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, University of Manchester
Order of Service

Assemble in the Old Quadrangle

- 10.00am Official welcome from a senior representative of the University of Manchester.
- 10.02am Why are we here today?
Reading on what happened on August 6th 1945.
- 10.07am The Peace Declaration 2016.
- 10.12am Laying of memorial wreath by the Lord Mayor of Manchester and two minutes silence for all innocent civilian victims of war and terrorism.
- 10.15am Readings of Hiroshima poetry from the 'hibakusha' (A-bomb survivors).
- 10.30am All read the UN Peace Affirmation.
- 10.35am Transfer into Manchester Museum to see the 'Peace' exhibit in the Museum, with an opportunity to fold paper cranes and write messages of peace which will be sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The Museum will encourage children, families and all who visit on the 6th August to fold paper cranes, the symbol of peace from Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Prof. György Köteles, President, Hungarian Peace Association, Hungary

Dear World Conference Organizers,

I am writing to you as President of the Hungarian Peace Association, a civil society organisation based in Budapest, Hungary.

We will organise a conference in Budapest on 6 August 2016 where we remember and pay tribute to the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki atom-bombing on 1945 and support firmly the global public demand to create a peaceful and just world free from nuclear weapons.

Take our letter as a sign of support for the important international conferences what you organise these days in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

At the same time we would appreciate receiving a message from you what we would read to the participants of our Hiroshima Day conference here in Budapest, Hungary on 6 August 2016.

Wishing you a successful conferences,
Sincerely yours,

Andrea LeBlanc (September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, U.S.A.)

Dear Friends in Japan,

It is with horror and sorrow that I acknowledge that Atomic bombs were dropped on innocent

people by my country. It is with profound gratitude that I bow to the Japanese people who patiently, persistently try to teach us about the real and enduring harm Atomic weapons cause and why they must never be used anywhere for any reason again.

You have my everlasting admiration,

Phyllis Creighton (Science for Peace, Canada)

Dear Taka-san,

I hope you are well. We will be thinking about you as we hold our annual commemoration of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, on August 6th. Setsuko will be our keynote speaker and I am to be the MC once more.

Through you, I want to send my good wishes for the Gensuikyo conference soon to take place in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I hope you can pass my message along.

I wish the participants in the 2016 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs every success. Many of us around the world join with you in spirit. We must all work to achieve a treaty outlawing nuclear weapons, the most barbaric, immoral weapon of mass destruction. Through the witness of the *hibakusha*, we know the horror, devastation, and pain inflicted by atomic bombing. We must demand this threat to all our lives be ended. Tell the world the time for a ban treaty is NOW!

Theresa Wolfwood, Women in Black, Canada

Dear Friends,

Please find below the leaflet that Victoria BC, Canada, Women in Black prepared and passed out on August 8 at our vigil in Victoria. Also several photos from the event. We send you best wishes and solidarity in the hope for peace and nuclear disarmament.

Remembering Hiroshima- Nagasaki, August, 1945- 2016: VICTORIA WOMEN IN BLACK is part of a world-wide movement for peace & non-violence

On August 6, 1945 the USA dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima; on August 9, another bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. British pilot Leonard Cheshire, on board the plane with that bomb, described the bombing as, "*Obscene in its greedy clawing at the earth, swelling as if with its regurgitation of all the life that it had consumed.*"

200,000 people died immediately & within days of these bombings; 69 years later people continue to die from the radiation effects of these toxic bombs. Canada provided the uranium for those bombs; the native people who worked at the uranium deposit died and continue to die from radiation-caused cancers to this date. Canada provided most of the uranium for the bombs that were dropped on

Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 with devastating effects on the Dene people of Great Bear Lake. In the 1940s they started mining it using local people for labour. At the same time the Dene gave them caribou, moose and fish. *"They were strangers living among us on our land so we took care of them."* In return, the locals helped extract and transport the deadly ore with no knowledge of its dangers. The southern miners left the people with toxic waste dumps in their community and radiation ticking in their bodies.

Canada is the 3rd largest producer & exporter of uranium in the world. USA, Russia, China, Britain, Israel, France, India, Pakistan (& maybe others) have more than 17,000 nuclear bombs, many made with Canadian technology & materials. They are moving around the globe everyday on land, in the seas & the air. Canada continues to be complicit in nuclear development by selling uranium and technology for nuclear energy (which also contaminates the world with harmful radiation) and for bombs. Canada provides so called & highly radioactive 'depleted uranium', to 22 nations for weapons – bomb casings, guns, tanks and other steel-hardening military uses. Depleted Uranium weapons were tested in Panama & used in Iraq, Afghanistan and former Yugoslavia.

The Canada Pension Plan, mandatory for all working Canadians, invests our contributions in the 5 largest arm makers in the world which make nuclear as well as non-nuclear weapons that are sold to and used in many countries again civilian populations.

Nuclear weapons and radioactivity continue to threaten the health of all life systems and undermine the security of human society. Wealth and resources wasted on war-making are needed to create a peaceful and sustainable life for all humanity. It is time to call for nuclear disarmament and a moratorium on uranium mining; to call for cuts in our military spending and an increase in social, health and education budgets. Our precious resources and energy should be directed to the creation of a peaceful, just and healthy world. Nuclear nations & a handful of men can destroy all life on earth & that unspoken threat is behind wars waged by nuclear powers today. Setsuko Thurlow, (in photo), one of four Atom Bomb survivors in Canada says that climate change from most sources is slow & we can reverse it; climate change caused by nuclear explosion is instantaneous and irreversible. Women in Black joins her and peace activists worldwide in supporting the UN based alliance of non-nuclear nations and citizen groups that are calling for global nuclear disarmament.

Rene Wadlow, President, Association of World Citizens

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Association of World Citizens, I wish to send you our warm wishes to advance in our common cause of abolishing nuclear weapons. Together, we work for the dismantling of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Together we urge the creation of the necessary legal and political commitments to assure compliance with prohibitions on the threat and use of force. Together we work for the development of acceptable approaches to settling international disputes by peaceful means providing for justice and redress of grievances.

We agree together that progress along these lines requires the development of effective norms, procedures and institutions that can provide the needed foundation for a just world society. We agree that such progress requires the relinquishment of attitudes and behavior that in the past have been stumbling blocks to progress.

Thus, now we need to examine our priorities for this critical period as we move into the emerging world society with adequate means of settling conflicts among States. We are on the threshold of a new era. The wave of the future is with us as we walk under a banner of common purpose and speak with a common voice. With a strong sense of common responsibility for the wellbeing of humanity, we advance together in a spirit of Oneness.



Program of Events of the 2016 World Conference against A and H Bombs (August 1 to 10, 2016)

August 1 (Mon.)

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 (2F, Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

August 2 (Tue.)

Visit to A-bomb Hospitals (Hiroshima Red Cross A-Bomb Hospital and Funairi-Mutsumien nursery home for A-bomb survivors)
Opening and Plenary Sessions I & II, International Meeting (Prado Hall, Hotel Century 21 - Hiroshima)

August 3 (Wed.)

Plenary Session III, International Meeting (Prado Hall, Hotel Century 21 - Hiroshima)
Workshops, International Meeting (Hotel Century 21- Hiroshima)
Drafting Committee Meeting (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

August 4 (Thurs.)

Closing Session, International Meeting (Prado Hall, Hotel Century 21 - Hiroshima)
Opening Plenary, 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs - Hiroshima
(Green Arena, Hiroshima Prefectural Gymnasium)
Ring! Link! Zero! - Youth Rally 2016 (Small Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)

August 5 (Fri.)

Workshops/Field trips (Different venues throughout Hiroshima City)
International Forum: For a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons – Dialogue between Governments and NGOs
(Prado Hall, Hotel Century 21 Hiroshima)
No Nukes! Women's Forum 2016 (Small Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)

August 6 (Sat.)

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony (Peace Park)
Closing Plenary, 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs – Hiroshima
(Green Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)
Lantern Floating Ceremony (Motomachi River Park)

August 7 (Sun.)

Move to Nagasaki by chartered bus; Visit to A-Bomb Epicenter Park and A-bomb Museum

August 8 (Mon.)

International Forum: For a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons -- Grass-roots Movement and International Solidarity (Nakabe Auditorium, Nagasaki University)
Visit to Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital

August 9 (Tue.)

Nagasaki Day Rally, 2016 World Conference against A & H Bombs (Nagasaki Shimin Kaikan Gymnasium)
Nagasaki Day Street Signature Campaign (Hamanomachi Shopping Arcade)
Farewell Party (Nagasaki Washington Hotel)

August 10 (Wed.)

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 2016)

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
OGAWA Seiryō	Professor emeritus, Japan College of Social Work
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
NAKAMURA Yuta	President, All Japan Federation of Student Unions
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
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 December 2016

