

Closing Plenary, August 9

Proposal for Action:

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Dear friends, thank you so much for your active participation and discussion during the 3 days of the World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki.

First, my thanks go to the Austrian and other national government representatives, Mayor Taue of Nagasaki City, Mr. Inamine of the All Okinawa Coalition, and the delegates of the world anti-nuclear and peace movements for joining this World Conference. We also thank the heads of states, the Okinawa governor, the many mayors and representatives of political parties and citizens' organizations for sending kind messages of solidarity. We especially express our gratitude and solidarity to the Hibakusha from Japan and other countries who have joined in this conference.

Also, we very much appreciate the hard work of the people of Nagasaki, interpreters and all the others who have supported and prepared for this conference.

This year's World Conference against A and H Bombs called on the people of the world to rise together with the Hibakusha in global actions to make the year 2020, the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombing, a historic turning point to achieve a nuclear weapons-free, peaceful and just world.

The 2020 NPT Review Conference next May will be an important opportunity to urge all governments of the world to implement the past agreements and to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

By rallying the power of the grass-roots movement and efforts of national governments, we must press the pro-nuclear forces to act, or isolate them if they don't. The key is the mobilization of public opinion through the International Hibakusha Appeal signature campaign. Across the world and especially in Japan, let us make a big leap forward in this campaign.

During the workshop sessions held yesterday, determinations for future actions were expressed toward the World Conference in New York. The delegate from Vietnam said that on the "International Day for Peace" on September 21, a nationwide action will be held to call on university students to join the International Hibakusha signature drive, and to send millions of signatures to New York.

The delegate of Peace Action said their branches in 20 universities in New York will join the International Hibakusha signature campaign.

During the “No Nukes! Women’s Forum”, participating delegates shared their determination to change the world through the power of women and confirmed that the signature collection will be held across the world.

The National Promotion Committee of the International Hibakusha Signature Campaign yesterday held a national forum here in Nagasaki to learn the campaigns and efforts in different parts of Japan. We must create a new surge in this signature campaign. With renewed determination and framework, let us work ever harder toward realizing its goals.

Dear friends, both in Hiroshima on August 6 and at the peace ceremony today in Nagasaki, Prime Minister Abe said not even a word about the TPNW but repeated that he would serve as a “bridge” with the nuclear-armed states. But what he should do as the prime minister of the only A-bombed nation is to work as a bridge to reach a total ban on nuclear weapons.

To show that is the will of the majority of the Japanese people, let us take on the following actions:

First, we must learn the content of the “Declaration of the International Meeting”, which was issued based on a discussion with our friends from overseas and rallying the wisdom of the peace movement, which serves as a compass to show our future prospects and direction. Let us learn from the declaration by holding numerous local meetings to report on the outcome of this World conference.

Next, let us hold meetings to listen to the Hibakusha testimonies, A-bomb exhibitions, and displays of A-bomb drawings in every city/town/village, local community, workplace and school campus, which communicate to the people the inhuman consequences of the use of nuclear weapons.

And we must achieve a majority of local government resolutions to urge the Japanese government to sign and ratify the TPNW. We shall also strengthen further the cooperation between the citizens and opposition parties for this purpose.

Dear friends, let us make an all-out effort to respond to the aspirations of the Hibakusha to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons in their lifetime.